

sep 16

fence man

yesterday we talked of fences. perhaps today's would be a good time to elaborate a little more of the danger of hoping to straddle one. just going along to get along, not wanting to offend anyone. too many are attempting that now, perhaps out of concern for other's feelings and perhaps to make their way easier.

you know, i really believe the Lord guides me each day as to what the message should be. though today's might not be for you, it is meant for someone. please join me in prayer for those who are attempting this "easier" way. it is not the way that leads to our Lord.

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there was a large group of people gathered. on one side of the group stood a man, Jesus. on the other side stood another, satan. separating them was a fence running through the group. the scene set, both Jesus and satan began calling to people in the group. one by one, each having made up his or her own mind, went to either Jesus or satan. this kept going for a time. soon enough, Jesus had gathered around him a group of people from the larger crowd, as did satan.

one man joined neither group. he climbed the fence that was there and sat on it. Jesus and his people left and disappeared, and so too did satan and his people. the man on the fence sat alone. as this man sat, satan came back, looking for something which he appeared to have lost. the man said, "have you lost something?" satan looked straight at him and replied,

"no, there you are. come with me." the man said, "but i sat on the fence. i chose neither you nor Him."  
satan said, "that's okay; i own the fence."

"whoever is not with me is against me." - Jesus in  
matthew 12:30

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indecision is a decision. one cannot sit on the sidelines as an innocent bystander and you cannot serve two masters. "either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other." matt 6:24

"but be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. for if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was."  
james 1:22-24 one cannot just safely listen and observe both sides. action must be taken. truth must be defended, even at great cost.

our Lord warned us there would be consequences of those who were lukewarm. have you asked Jesus to be your savior and yet refused to let Him be your Lord? "then you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him." mal 3:18

decide this day who you will serve, then let your decision give birth to action. it is time to bear fruit or like the fruitless fig tree Jesus encountered, we too may be in danger of being cursed.

merciful, patient, loving and forgiving - yes, He is all of those things. He is also holy, righteous, just and the great avenger. He answers those who cry out all day, "how long, o Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" rev 6:10

yes, there is the one sitting on the fence, the one who owns the fence and then there is the One who has the power to destroy the fence, and all else along with it. "'you are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord for yourselves, to serve Him.' and they said, 'we are witnesses!'" jos 24:22 if one has chosen God and still not served Him, one day their own words will testify against them. may we all set our conversation aright.