

getting ready to move

"for we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." 2 cor 5:1

the owner of the tenement which i have occupied for many years has given notice that he will furnish but little or nothing more for repairs. i am advised to be ready to move.

at first this was not a very welcome notice. the surroundings here are in many respects very pleasant, and were it not for the evidence of decay, i should consider the house good enough. but even a light wind causes it to tremble and totter, and all the braces are not sufficient to make it secure. so i am getting ready to move.

it is strange how quickly one's interest is transferred to the prospective home. i have been consulting maps of the new country and reading descriptions of its inhabitants. one who visited it has returned, and from him i learn that it is beautiful beyond description; language breaks down in attempting to tell of what he heard while there.

he says that, in order to make an investment there, he has suffered the loss of all things that he owned here, and even rejoices in what others would call making a sacrifice. another, whose love to me has been proven by the greatest possible test, is now there. he has sent me several clusters of the most delicious fruits. after tasting them, all food here seems insipid.

two or three times i have been down by the border of the river that forms the boundary, and have wished myself among the company of those who were singing praises to the King on the other side. many of my friends have moved there. before leaving they spoke of my coming later. i have seen the smile upon their faces as they passed out of sight. often i am asked to make some new investments here, but my answer in every case is, "i am getting ready to move."

"the words often on Jesus' lips in His last days express vividly the idea, 'going to the Father.' we, too, who are Christ's people, have vision of something beyond the difficulties and disappointments of this life. we are journeying towards fulfillment, completion, expansion of life. we, too, are 'going to the Father.'

much is dim concerning our home-country, but two things are clear. it is home, 'the Father's House.' it is the nearer presence of the Lord. we are all wayfarers, but the believer knows it and accepts it. he is a traveler, not a settler." - r.c. gillie

the little birds trust God, for they go singing  
from northern woods where autumn winds have blown,  
With joyous faith their trackless pathway winging  
to summer-lands of song, afar, unknown.

let us go singing, then, and not go sighing:  
since we are sure our times are in His hand,  
why should we weep, and fear, and call it dying?  
'tis only flitting to a summer-land.

we are all on a journey, destination to be determined. we have a clear road map but still, many venture off the trodden trail as detours and distractions avert one's goal. "enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." matt 7:13-14

Lord, make me a better me. may i never hear you speak these words, "I never knew you." know me, Lord, even as i seek to know you more.

i look around and continue to see many mighty saints shedding their earthly tents. we know it is to reach a better destination (our true home) and yet, we feel somehow "left behind," perhaps with a purposed yet unfilled. tom horn was such a one who reached home in recent days and we pray for those he left behind. he will receive his crown to toss at the master's feet.

it is said "the moment we are born, we begin to die." i would argue the fact that the moment we die, we begin to live. this facade of time is merely an illusion obstructing one's clear view of reality.

we who know the saving grace of our Lord view our reality with the eyes of faith and we are persuaded our Lord's parting prayer will be granted by the Father. "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world." john 17:24

