

THE WALKING DEAD

Ephesians 2:1-2 ... “And you he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sin, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air [satan], the spirit who works in the sons of disobedience...”

A popular television show, which I never watch, is The Walking Dead. It is about the aftermath of a worldwide event in which much of the earth's population is killed. However, some people survive and become zombies, who must eat other people in order to live. A few people survive without becoming zombies, and the show is about their struggle to stay alive and fight-off the sick cannibals. It is just a sweet, uplifting, joyful show. NOT.

Although the television show is extremely far-fetched, there are, indeed, walking dead people around us. People who have spent their lives rejecting God, cursing his Son Jesus, and making the intentional decision to go to hell. They may not be zombies, but they are like dead-men walking because of their dark spiritual conditions and their hopeless future. The earth is full of people who intentionally reject God, blaspheme him constantly, and ridicule those people who love God. There are people among us who reject the very existence of God and mock us who know for a fact that God exists, that he created the earth and every living person, and that he will judge those who reject him.

It is sad that some people feel so strongly about God that they hate him with all of their being, and despise those of us who live to honor God. They are so focused on their anti-god attitude, that it alienates them from friends and relatives. And, though we are still obligated to demonstrate God's love to such persons, it can be hard when we are continually attacked or mocked for our faith.

So, what do we do about the walking dead around us? First, the presence of God-hating or God-rejecting people in your life, must not influence your own faith. One of satan's weapons is to attack your mind and heart with lies, and he uses other people to accomplish that. He might use a friend or loved one who criticizes your faith, or humiliates you in public about your “foolish belief in God.” Second, you must not stop behaving like a Christian in the face of spiritual attacks. You may be tempted to return the ridicule that an accuser exhibits toward you. But you must stay connected to Christ and be influenced by the Holy Spirit so that you do not return unkindness for unkindness or, in severe cases, evil for evil.

In a sense, many of the walking dead around us are already experiencing the judgment of Christ against them. And, while many still have a chance at being born-again, they may have pushed themselves so far from God that giving in to him is more than their pride will allow them to do. We have spoken before about the sin of pride. In this case, pride kills. If you know someone like this, and your relationship with that person is already destroyed due to their resentment of you, pray that God will send someone they trust to witness to them.

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