

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

Vol. X

April 29, 2001

No. 17

The hidden things

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 One aspect of the final Judgment, reflecting the unique power of God, is hidden things will be brought to light. God will “judge the secrets of men” in the last day (Romans 2:16). Occasionally, man hides his secrets from man for a life time. No man can see what we are thinking. But “all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of Him with whom we have to do” (Hebrews 4:13).

God should be feared and obeyed because He “will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil (Ecclesiastes 12:14). The fact that hidden things brought to the judgment are evil and good is both sobering and encouraging.

In the Judgment, every unsolved murder will be solved. Each one will be infallibly connected with the guilty perpetrator. The murderer may have befuddled the experts with craftiness leaving behind no traces, but God is never fooled. He never needs fingerprint, hair or blood traces. He saw clearly the crime when it occurred. He was at the crime scene way before the yellow tape was placed keeping people from con-

taminating the evidence. There is no such thing as an unsolved murder “before the eyes of Him with whom we have to do”.

Man may say he is not jealous or envious. But God knows if he is lying or not. Men may never detect if you are coveting, lusting, or looking at them with an evil eye, but God discerns all these secrets. These works of the flesh are not outward deeds, but are inward thoughts. They may lead to outward deeds such as blasphemy, stealing, and fornication, but God saw these seed thoughts as they occurred and labeled them sin (cf. Galatians 5:19-21, Mark 7:21-23). On the Judgment day, God will bring these hidden things before man for him to answer.

Hidden things brought to the Judgment are also good. The gifts and prayers you offered with no public fanfare, God sees and remembers (Matthew 6:1-15). The private times, when you were disciplining your flesh with fasting, God saw and will recompense (Matthew 6:16-18). Every “good” deed we do in the body will accompany us as we stand before the Judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10). Remember this dear Christian on those days you feel

low, and think no one appreciates the things you do. Look up! God always sees and appreciates the good you do. In the end, this is all that really matters.

Knowing the hidden things whether they are good or evil will brought with us to the judgment should cause us to live more carefully before God. Like Achan, many think that if they can hide their sin from man, then they can get away with it (Joshua 7:21). Achan learned that God sees the hidden things, and punishes the guilty (Joshua 7:25-26).

We should live life from the inside out. Many concentrate on looking good on the outside in the public eye. Some seem to live life as if they are only concerned with what people see in them and their judgment as to who they are. Knowing the hidden things will face us in the Judgment, we should be concerned about the “secret sins” and seek God quickly for forgiveness.

By fearing God and keeping His commandments, we will be making sure that the “hidden things” in our life will be “good”!