The Celestial Railroad – February 10th Part 5

In our story, the passenger points out The Interpreter's House as the train he's riding on passes by. You can read it on page 4. <u>Please click here to read the script</u>. Here is the link to <u>Pilgrim's Progress</u> which we'll be referencing, if you'd like to read it.

The story says; "At some distance from the railroad, Mr. Smooth-it-away pointed to a large, antique edifice, which he observed was a lodge of a long standing, and had formerly been a noted stopping-place for pilgrims. In Bunyan's road-book it is mentioned as the Interpreter's House. "I have long had a curiosity to visit that old mansion," remarked I. "It is not one of our stations, as you perceive," said my companion."

On this perceived journey to heaven, there are no scheduled stops to visit the Interpreter's House. Remarkable isn't it. Those on The Celestial Railroad don't stop at the Interpreters House, and the main reason is that they would be not allowed to enter the home after being investigated by the Interpreter, who is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would reveal that they are not genuine Christians, but rather believers in the Bible that have not entered thru the wicket gate, where they would have repented of their sins and been born again.

There are a lot of preachers, people, leaders and 'apparent Christians' who 'believe', who are on the same kind of journey as we read about here, that are in need of being exposed. It's not that they're spiritually blind, but knowing that if they'd visit the Interpreter, they'd be uncovered for masquerading as someone that they really aren't.

Now I ask you this; how is it even possible that someone would want to masquerade that they're a true, born again Christian? Why would you do want to do that? Why not go thru the wicket gate and then get the Helper, the Holy Spirit who will guide you in your spiritual journey to heaven?

In **Matthew 7:13-14**, Jesus says this; "13 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.14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

We know why few find it; it's because the 'many' do not want to repent, they don't want to go thru the narrow gate – who is Jesus.

Jesus has this discourse with his disciples in talking about the need of parables in Matthew 13:10-15; "10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" 11 He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 13 Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; 15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them."

Jesus is very clear here when he says; 'but to them', meaning those who don't have the Holy Spirit living in them, those who have bypassed the wicket gate although they believe...the understanding of parables is

impossible. The Holy Spirit interprets the truth of the word to His children and they are hidden from those who are not His children.

If you're not born-again, you can't receive spiritual instruction or interpretation from the Holy Spirit. That's the reason why Mr. Smooth-it-away makes it seem like Holy Spirit's instruction and interpretation is old fashioned, and for those who are simple minded. But the truth of the matter is, is that those on The Celestial Railroad can not even communicate with the Interpreter (Holy Spirit), never mind receive spiritual instruction and interpretation. If they bypassed being born-again, how are they going to hear from the Holy Spirit which they've already rejected?

1 Corinthians 2:12-14 says; "12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

The Holy Spirit is the Interpreter who reveals spiritual truth. Jesus says this in **John 14:26**; "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

Jesus also says this in **John 16:13-15** about the Holy Spirit; "13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you."

Those on The Celestial Railroad are missing out on this. They cannot receive the Holy Spirit even though they 'believe' in the Bible, may have been raised by its teachings and even gone to church. BUT, they've bypassed the wicket gate who is Jesus Christ. Now, to be clear, we know that the Holy Spirit is the one who brings conviction of sin as it says is **John 16:8-11**; "8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged."

The Holy Spirit will draw and point people to first get born again because they are sinners. When they're born again, then He can inhabit them and be their Interpreter, instructor and guide throughout their spiritual pilgrimage to heaven.

We continue reading in our story, Mr. Smooth-it-away says this; "The keeper was violently opposed to the railroad; and well he might be, as the track left his house of instruction on one side, and thus was pretty certain to deprive him of all his reputable customers."

Isn't it interesting how Mr. Smooth-it-away says that the keeper (Holy Spirit and Interpreter), was violently opposed to the Railroad that deprived Him of His reputable customers (genuinely born-again Christians)? If you're born again, you won't be on and wouldn't want to be on the train. What fellowship does light have with darkness? If you're not born again, you are walking in darkness and are of the kingdom of darkness.

This is a lying spirit that is in operation thru Mr. Smooth-it-away, and the truth is that they having rejected salvation, are now unable to receive personal or individual instruction or interpretation from the Holy Spirit and

have a replaced the Holy Spirit with privileged Bible believing religious tradition. Churches are full of Bible believers that are not born-again, who cannot even receive spiritual instruction and interpretation, simply because they have not repented of their sins, been born again and received the Holy Spirit.

1 John 2:3-6 shows the test of knowing Jesus Christ; "3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

Jesus' commandment is to be born again. So, if you bypass this commandment and prerequisite for eternal life, it says you're a liar and the truth is not in you. If you're not born again, you're still in the kingdom of darkness, and if that be so, God is not your father. You're condemned already.

You see, we enter the world in sin. We don't enter the world as a Christian. That's why Jesus says that until you're born again, you're condemned already.

The story continues; "But the foot-path still passes his door, and the old gentleman now and then receives a call from some simple traveler, and entertains him with fare as old-fashioned as himself." Mr. Smooth-it-away refers to the Christian Pilgrim's as simple, and the need for instruction from the Holy Spirit, old fashioned.

The definition of simple-minded here, is someone who is unsophisticated, foolish or mentally impaired. An example of someone who would be described as simple-minded is a person who cannot understand or grasp most concepts and who is lacking in insight. This is what Mr. Smooth-it-away is saying about born again Christians, the ones who are on the straight and narrow path, who have resisted the fast-track to hell.

The Apostle Paul says this in contrast in 1 Corinthians 1:26-29; "26 For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. 27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; 28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, 29 that no flesh should glory in His presence."

I doubt that if you look closely at those people on The Celestial Railroad, you won't find the foolish things of the world, the weak ones, ones that are not noble, nor not wise. It seems as those on this train are the elite, proud, mighty, noble, ones full of wisdom, and those so puffed up in their career. The Apostle Paul has a whole different perspective on it though that God revealed to him.

God chooses differently than man does. These on the train scoff at the foot pilgrims, they also have no need of the Holy Spirit, nor his instruction or interpretation. You may believe and have gone to church for years and are steeped in tradition, but you've not repented of your sins and have bypassed the narrow gate and have chosen the fast track to hell but thinking you're on the way to heaven. Would it be just of God to let you into heaven when He's made it very clear that you need to be born again through Jesus Christ? It would be unjust wouldn't it.

Matthew Henry's Commentary says this; "God did not choose philosophers, nor orators, nor statesmen, nor men of wealth and power and interest in the world, to publish the gospel of grace and peace. Not the wise men after the flesh, though men would apt to think that a reputation for wisdom and learning might have contributed much to the success of the gospel. Not the mighty and noble, however men might be apt to imagine that secular

pomp and power would make way for its reception in the world. But God seeth not as man seeth. He hath chosen the foolish things of the world, the weak things of the world, the base and despicable things of the world, men of mean birth, of low rank, of no liberal education, to be the preachers of the gospel and planters of the church. His thoughts are not as our thoughts, nor his ways as our ways. He is a better judge than we what instruments and measures will best serve the purposes of his glory."

Are you like those on those Bible believers on The Celestial Railroad? If so, it's not God's will that you die and spend an eternity separated from Him. You can be born again. You and your burden need to get off the religious fast track train to hell, and genuinely repent of your sins and receive Jesus, the Holy Spirit, into your body, and be born again of His Spirit. Get off the train now before it's to late and you end up spending an eternity in hell.

Luke 13:24-28 says this in closing; "24 "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' 26 then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' 27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out."

That is the end for those on The Celestial Railroad. Hell is for eternity. It's amazing that one can believe their whole life, into their 90's, that they're going to heaven, but they've rejected the simple commandment of Jesus to be born again, to repent of their sins and receive the Holy Spirit that guarantees them eternal life.