

Calling: The Journey
December 13, 2008

The journey of your life will help tell you the story of what your calling and purpose is

We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history. - General Conference Daily Bulletin, 2-20-1899

The journey may not be headed where you think

An honest and comprehensive look at it is crucial to understanding where you're at now and where you're going

Israel's supposed journey

Israel was steering its journey toward worldly greatness.

John 6.15 – people were going to force Jesus to be king

Luke 17.20 – Pharisees supposed outward signs of kingdom

Luke 19.11 – disciples supposed the kingdom was immediate

John 18.36 – Jesus says His kingdom is not of this world

“But the Israelites fixed their hopes upon worldly greatness.”¹

The conviction became fixed that their prosperity depended upon their obedience to the law of God. But with too many of the people obedience was not prompted by love. The motive was selfish. They rendered outward service to God as the means of attaining to national greatness.²

In order to supply the place of [the spiritual life] which they had lost, the priests and rabbis multiplied requirements of their own; and the more rigid they grew, the less of the love of God was manifested.

While the Jews desired the advent of the Messiah, they had no true conception of His mission. They did not seek redemption from sin, but deliverance from the Romans.

They interpreted the prophecy in accordance with their selfish desires.

1 *Desire of Ages*, 28.1

2 *Ibid.*, 28.5

The Messiah's journey was different

Micah 5.7

Isaiah 61.1

Softly, silently, without any observation, yet full of life and grace, the people of God are to refresh, and invigorate the world around them.

The Messiah came in *this* manner. The Ruler out of Bethlehem was on no journey of greatness. From the very beginning, it was His mission to bring the blessings of heaven's dew to the people of earth.

And that's were the "confusion" usually lies

It's not that your journey can't be understood.

It's just that it's not what you had planned and hoped for

Mary's Journey

Luke 2:1-19

Confusing elements of Mary's journey

vs. 4-5 traveling while very pregnant

v.7 wrapped her baby in swaddling cloths

v.7 laid him in a manger

v.7 no room for them in the inn

v.16 welcomed by... shepherds

v.19 Mary pondered these things in her heart

The real journey of the Messiah was different then Mary had imagined. By pondering it all, Mary's mind and heart was moved toward understanding

Have you pondered your journey?

What has happened?

Why has it happened?

You must be walking with God

You must have His revelation, interpretation over what's happening

- take these items of journey to Him in prayer
- where you don't have clarity, ASK Him for it
- stay in the Word

Quote GCDB again