

Tuesday's Touch ...#20

...from Pastor Ed ...June 9, 2009

Our Children's Hope

*Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, **and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings** ... for in Him we live and move and have our being... Acts 17:25-28*

*Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. James 4:13-16*

The world, she is a changin'. It is becoming more prevalent that I hear parents of young children express deep concern about the world in which their children shall live. Young couples struggle with the 'morality' of bringing children into a world such as this. Those of us who have grown up in the western world with its liberties and abundance find it painful and even 'unfair' that our children should not enjoy at least the same measure of 'blessing'. As a grandfather of a four-year-old I certainly understand those sentiments. And in a certain sense, such feelings are indicative of loving concern. But I fear they may also belie our own worldly mindset.

*God himself has appointed the time and place of each life according to the good pleasure of his own will. For Christians, everything about our 'time and place' is ipso facto the venue of our divine calling. We were ordained before time by a loving Father to exist **for his glory and purpose** at the exact point at which we find ourselves in history. This, of course, applies no less to our beloved children. **Their** days are ordained by God.*

As parents, our part is to do all we can by God's grace to bring them up in

the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph.6:4), **not** to prepare them for worldly success and the accumulation of wealth. We must repent, if necessary, of our own carnal aspirations for our children, and set upon doing what we can to bring to them the true riches of Christ and his kingdom as a **priority of life** (Mat.6:33). We must teach them of a loving Father who will prepare his children in every aspect for the life he has ordained. A Father who, through Christ, indwells by his Spirit, equips for his purposes, and impels by his love to bear his image through each day as it unfurls his perfect will before them.

Our **primary** question for our children must not be “what kind of world will they face?” but, “Am I doing my part to prepare them for **whatever** world the Father has determined for them?” It must begin by each of us asking our self, “For what am **I** living?” Do **I** see each day as a mission from my Father who calls me to bear his image victoriously through it?

Soveriegn Father.

*How quickly in 'good' times do the deceitfulness of riches and the cares of this world choke out our fruitfulness (Mrk.4:19) and mar your image in us! How shameful that we tend to project upon our children our own worldly mindset, robbing them of true joy and the lasting riches found only in Christ as we serve our King and his kingdom for your glory! Grant to us repentance and a commitment, for ourseves and for our children, to seek first your kingdom and righteousness. **Then** those things, great or small, which you choose to freely give, we may freely enjoy.*

Abiding in Your Appointed Time,

Amen

To comment, add a friend, or to ask more information about the salvation offered to us in Christ, please respond to: Tuesdays_Touch@SpringwoodChapel.com or [pastored@ SpringwoodChapel.com](mailto:pastored@SpringwoodChapel.com)

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