

Volume 6 Chronicle 2018030701 With a stroke

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When I was a young man the thought never entered my mind that as an old man I may not be able to walk, talk or work. I could not imagine such. No one plans to become ill. They don't invite disease.

Today my understanding has broadened because Jehovah taught one of the best known preachers of all time the desire of his eyes could be taken away by a stroke of God. Along with thousands of other Hebrew exiles Ezekiel and his wife were living in Babylon under protective custody of Nebuchadnezzar. She was his reason for living and working. She was the sun in his sky. Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him that is alone when he falleth, and hath not another to lift him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have warmth; but how can one be warm alone? And if a man prevail against him that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 ASV. Suddenly she was gone. It can happen to anyone on earth. I know.

The lesson for Ezekiel, me and everyone reading this message is no man has power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither has he power over the day of death (Ecclesiastes 8: 8 ASV). The great business of life is to prepare for death. Nothing can happen more quickly. God is still in the world, guiding the destinies of men and nations aright in accordance with His wise and beneficent laws, changing evil to good, and bringing mankind steadily forward upon the path of truth and progress, which leads to the goal of human existence which He has appointed.

God in His mercy warns us from time to time. He severs one mooring after another. This is God's right. He gave them. He has the vested power to remove them. Is it not lawful for Me to do what I will with mine own? or is thine eye evil, because I am good (Matthew 20: 15 ASV)? The things in life that become "the desire of our eyes" vanish until we look beyond.

Do not quarrel with God! Be at peace with Him. God does not make a mistake in His schedule for your life. He giveth and taketh. Learn to thank Him for one as you do for the other. Godliness with contentment is great gain: for we brought nothing into the world, for neither can we carry anything out; but having food and covering we shall be therewith content (I Timothy 6: 6-8 ASV). Eternity is the big world and all road signs point in that direction.