

Polly's Pondering

“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23

I don’t know how many of you are history buffs. I know I do not include myself as one. But I do find I am continually fascinated by some bits of history when I come across them.

For instance, did you know that the first Methodist bishop to the United States has a statue dedicated to him in Washington, D.C.? It is true, Francis Asbury was dedicated as the fifteenth rider to Washington. All the previous riders were political figures, but Asbury was a missionary.



Even more fascinating is the fact that President Calvin Coolidge is the one who gave the Dedicatory Address at the Equestrian Statue of Francis Asbury. Here are some of his words:

“[Asbury] did not come for political motives. Undoubtedly, they were farthest from his mind. Others could look after public affairs. He was a loyal and peaceful subject of the Realm. He came to bring the gospel to the people, to bear witness to the truth and to follow it where so ever it might lead. Wherever men dwelt, whatever their condition, no matter how remote, no matter how destitute they might be, to him they were souls to be saved.”

President Coolidge also said: *“The real reforms which society in these days is seeking will come as a result of our religious convictions, or they will not come at all. Peace, justice, humanity, charity; these cannot be legislated into being. They are the result of Divine Grace.”*

This Christmas season we have talked about the mission for which God sent Christ into the world. It is the same mission for which the Angels were sent to Joseph and Mary and to the shepherds. It is the same divine mission to which you and I are commanded to participate. It is a mission of love. One that can free people from the bondage of sin and death. One that can break the shackles of shame and depression. It is a mission that can bring light into darkness, hope into despair, and promised eternity into death. Our mission is to tell the Gospel Good News that we believe in, to speak love to a world filled with hate, to bring hope to confused and desperate people, and to show the way of salvation to a world so desperately lost. These are not works of our own accomplishments they are a result of a Divine Grace given to us in Jesus Christ on Christmas morn. And through Christ all things are possible, even the salvation of the world.

It may seem like an impossible mission but nevertheless we who are courageous enough to believe the promises and power of the Almighty God are called to go forth and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world. It really is not as hard as it sounds – after all one sixth grade peer invited me to church and the Holy Spirit did the rest.

So are you with me? Will you follow in the footsteps of Francis Asbury and bear witness to the truth following wherever it leads? Will you live your faith today for the sake of those who have not yet given their lives to the Christ Child? There most likely will not be a statue of you sitting on a horse at the end of your journey, but just maybe you will hear the Savior say, “Well done Thy good and faithful servant.” Matthew 25:21

Tomorrow is a new day...a new start...a new beginning...so **Saddle Up Your Horses*** – it going to be a great adventure.

P,S, Check out the lyrics to “Saddle Up Your Horses” by Steven Curtis Chapman

The Great Adventure

Started out this morning in the usual way
Chasing thoughts inside my head
I thought I had to do today
Another time around the circle
Try to make it better than the last
I opened up the Bible
And I read about me
Said I'd been a prisoner
And God's Grace had set me free
And somewhere between the pages
It hit me like a lightning bolt
I saw a big frontier in front of me
And I heard somebody say 'Let's go!'

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is The Great Adventure
Yeah...

Come on, get ready for the ride of your life
Gonna leave long faced religion
In a cloud of dust behind
And discover all the new horizons
Just waiting to be explored
This is what we were created for, yeah

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is The Great Adventure

We'll travel on, over mountains so high
We'll go through valleys below
Still through it all we'll find that
This is the greatest journey
That the human heart will ever see
The love of God will take us far
Beyond our wildest dreams
Yeah, oh Saddle up your horses
Come on get ready to ride

Saddle up your horses
We've got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God' Amazing grace
Let's follow our leader into the Glorious unknown
This is the life like no other whoa whoa
This is the Great Adventure