



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – June 1, 2008

Heart to Heart...

I need to share something important with you. The majority of the world could care less. The majority of the religious world does not even know who I am and could care less. But for those of you who know me, I am planning on leaving Jefferson City! The years have passed by and I am making preparations to leave. Is that cheers I am hearing? Is that silence from some that things make little difference to them one way or the other? Is that tears from some that well up in the heart?

Let me continue. I do not know what the future holds. As years seem to go by faster and faster, things change at an alarming rate. Is it the quickness in which things are happening that has gotten my attention to make some important planning? Is it because I am aging and see life fleeing? I do not know if the Lord will allow me to stay here for another day, week, months or years. Whatever the Lord wants and allows, it will come one day that I will leave (and so will Carey) and we do not need to act like it would never happen. Preparations are being made as I write!

One day the time will come that I may have to leave Jefferson City. It is for certain that one day I will leave this earth or the Lord will return. I do want you to know that I have no immediate plans to leave Jefferson City but I am always preparing. (Are those groans of disappoint I hear? Is the silence still there? Have tears turned to joy?) The Lord will decide that (James 4:13-17). I pray that if my time here in Jefferson City comes to a close and I move on, it will be seen and said of this congregation that all was built on Jesus and Him crucified. The power is from God and not my energies. The knowledge gained is true spiritual knowledge with insight and wisdom from our Lord and Savior, not man's wisdom or witty, fleshly ways. No one rallied around the preacher(s) as their strength or reason for being here. I pray I have served as an example (even in my faults/failures). If my time on earth ends, I pray that my name and reputation will always be known as one to always uphold the truth, speak the truth in love and caring for the souls of the lost. My family will be proud of what I stood for and reached for as they must continue in my name. If the Lord returns, nothing else will matter except pure joy and delight!

I am making preparations for leaving! I have no clue when but I am preparing. Because I know this, Carey knows this and the elders here know this, we are all preparing to leave at some time. Peter said it this way, *"Looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat. But according to His promise we are looking for a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells."* (II Peter 3:12-13) I am looking for and hastening the day of God! That stirs me to making preparations presently. I do not want to be caught off guard and unprepared. Are you preparing? Think about it!!!

Brent