

## THE LORDS WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Dear Friends; We have now determined to initiate a new religious movement, under the Holiness banner, of course. One of the wonderful things about this new movement is, it will not at all interfere with your present involvement or your current standing with your chosen organization or local church, but rather may significantly benefit them. However, for those holding spiritual membership in the church of the Laodiceans, there will be some spiritual realignment required. There will be no membership roll-book to sign, and no membership dues either expected or accepted and we ourselves will not even need to know that you are a member, the Lord will know and that touches the most basic purpose of the matter. The one and only requirement for membership will be that one sacrifice the first meal of the work-week (Monday morning) or a substitutionary one, in petition to the Lord for his soon return. If you should choose to offer more than one meal per week, that's a potentially greater weight of eternal glory for you.

Fasting is a spiritual necessity and we believe that every Christian should require of themselves a minimum of one meal per week as a religious practice. We believe and really know that mature Christians can gain little or no spiritual momentum, without some fasting. Fasting is a Biblical religious practice and there are plenty of excuses for failing to exercise it. The excuse maker is always the loser.

We will now invite all of our Christian kindred to hereafter join with us in the sacrifice of one meal (minimum) per week in petition to the Lord for his soon return. Do we really believe that we can hasten the Lords return? We should be trying. What about 11Pet.3:9 latter portion? The Lord himself will take care of that. One aspective of the real purpose of this endeavor (dear friends) is to help get us in shape that we may truly "love his appearing". Heb.9:28 tells us that "unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Some may think to say, we have unsaved people and we need the Lord to "wait a little longer" till we can get them in. Friends, we need to quit singing that song and start singing "if your waiting to be invited, Lord Jesus please come." Consider this scenario. Suppose the Father should turn to the Son and say; "Son go bring my children home." But suppose the Lord Jesus should turn back to the Father and say; Father, they are not desiring my coming at this time. They are eating and drinking and otherwise enjoying their lives so much (in the natural things) that they desire no disturbance, even by myself. If I return at this time I will be an intruder and the pleasure of uniting with my elect will be diminished. Although we know that the Lord (when he receives the Fathers indication) will not hesitate in the manner we have suggested, we are still working to alleviate any such feelings of undesirableness which the Lord might have reason to feel when he sees our spiritual slumberings

But some again may say. What if the Lord doesn't even come in our lifetime? To this we say; if you die an active member of the Lords welcoming committee, you will be resurrected a member of the Lords welcoming committee. Let us now clarify one thing. The true welcoming committee of the Lord Jesus Christ at his coming, will be the righteous dead, with the twelve apostles (we feel sure) out front, followed by other apostles and prophets, also the Lords true evangelists "every man in his own order." Those however, who "are alive and remain" unto the coming of the Lord will have the unique privilege of bypassing physical death, as well as the high privilege of being a light to the very last generation, even of participating in this initiative which we are calling the Lords Welcoming Committee. We are only using this name to express the purpose upon which we have initiated such an endeavor. It should be accepted however, that participation in such a "work" will surely be had in remembrance in the rewards assessment judgment of the elect. In regards to this which we are calling the "rewards assessment judgment of the elect" see 1Cor.3:13-15.

We are not intending to advance the notion that the time of the Lords coming can be altered. One purpose of this effort, is to try to make the Lord feel welcome to return at any time henceforward. Also, another objective is to try to get us in shape so that (at the Lords coming) we can rejoice with a greater joy and shine out as bright stars in his celestial constellation.

From time to time down over the years, we have been admonished (from the pulpit) that "if we are ever going to do anything for the Lord" we have no time to waste. As to what manner of guidelines or restrictions these ministers might place upon such counsel we do not know, we do however, feel sure that this thing will be the high point of all that we ourselves ever try to do for the Lord within the allotted time span that we have to work in.

If we were going to fall back upon any particular Scripture, as a scotch for this endeavor, it would be the Lords prophetic statement as recorded in Mt.9:15, Mk.2:20, and Lk.5:35. One of the more logical reasons for the (prophesied) fastings of these disciples, is for the restoration of the bridegroom (examine the context). That also will be one aspective of the purpose of this fasting, thus it will be in direct fulfillment of this synoptically witnessed proclamation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When mankind sinned (originally) by eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge, one consequential result of this was that he then had to deal with a natural god which resided in his abdomen, Eccles.6:7. The only way that we can now build up any significant degree of spiritual momentum is by dealing (strong handedly) with this slave-master which demands to be serviced on such a regular and invariable schedule.

Little children manifest this natural servitude by their vigorous crying whenever hunger sets on, and nursing is undoubtedly the greatest comfort of life for them in this early stage. Many people, it seems, carry this infantile characteristic on into their adult life. This may touch us also.

The Scripture exhorts us to "draw nigh to God". There is really only one way for mature Christians to draw nigh to God and that is through the stomach. If there was an easier way then most of us would probably be so close we couldn't get any closer. It seems that prayer without fasting holds a person about where they are, at least for a while, but only by crucifying the natural appetite will we ever gain the Spiritual ground that we really need to, in our Spiritual walk.

We now invite everyone to join the Lords welcoming committee, in a sincere commitment (with us it is for life) to receive no food elements between the hours of 12a.m. and 12p.m. each Monday. We are not calling for a binding vow, we do further demand that there be no binding vows made as a response to this invocation. On another note we will now say, that we fear, that the spiritual pride which is so plainly visible among our people will not allow many to participate. Spiritual pride was the Laodicean problem. Over>>>

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We had heretofore been doubtful, that an individual who had made a conscious and premeditated decision to accept a life-saving medical procedure, would ever thereafter be able to add anything to their eternal reward, seeing as the medical profession then has a certain type of claim on the persons life. Some may argue that this said claim is invalid, but we say that the aforementioned "conscious and premeditated decision" gives it a certain element of validity. We are now however, entertaining the thought that such an endeavor as this may create exceptional circumstances, for it is hard to see how one could participate in it without acquiring a good degree of honorable recognition in the judgment day of 1Cor.3:13.

The Scriptures warn (prophetically) of different outstanding things to come, including (on an individual order) death itself. However, we are explicitly commanded to "watch" for one thing only, which is the Lords return. The implicit of this factor is that, if we are watching for the Lords coming as we really need to be, we will then be fully prepared and also at our optimum levels of awareness of anything that should appear, which would potentially be a spiritual danger to ourselves and others, including any unexpected appointment with death that we might be compelled to meet. We therefore state thus; While we, as "the children of light" are not to be ignorant concerning all of the other events of which the Scriptures (prophetically) inform us, there is only one thing of which we should be expectantly watching, which is the Lords coming and that in accordance with his own expressed command, as recorded in Mk.13:37 and other Scriptures.

Let us now emphasize in the most explicit manner possible, that this thing must be done as a free-will offering (on the part of the individual) to the Lord himself. We do not say that we have been commanded of

God to do this (it is our own personal "work") and if we should say that we have been personally commanded of God to initiate such a matter, then that would place upon the reader an implicit obligation to respond, which thing would defeat the actual purpose of the said "work". We do however, know within our own heart that the Lord is sovereignly involved in this thing, for he is sovereignly involved in all things, and how much more things which concern own his elect, see Rom.8:28. We can also offer (as a minister of the gospel) the prospect of an enhanced (heavenly) reward and that upon a solid foundation of Scripture.

Any enhanced heavenly reward will always be dependent upon true heart motivations which are pleasing to the Lord, therefore we said "that this thing must be done as a free-will offering to the Lord himself." We therefore say, that if there are any true spiritual kindred out there who would like (in union with other spiritual kinfolk) to show the Lord a small token of welcome as it concerns his return, we feel that we (as one of his most unworthy servants) can nevertheless speak on his behalf, that it would (presently) be much appreciated, and also (afterward) be appropriately rewarded at "the resurrection of the just."

It doesn't matter who I am.