

Four Words to “Remember”?

It has been said “people need to be reminded more often than they need to be instructed.” There’s a bit of truth in this simple statement regarding reminders. Do you love the ability to learn? We seem to be entering a generation of “watchers.” There are

many new documentaries or “how-to” videos about doing new things that can be found online. However, we may need reminding about core teachings that, having been taught in the past, we need to re-learn again—yes, every once in a while. Rather than learning something new, there is significant value in reviewing something that has already been taught. Consider this event in the life of Christ...

Jesus, in four Greek words, was able to clarify the perception of the Jewish audience He was speaking to. Okay, about what? Let’s take a look. Luke 17:32 is an easy verse to memorize (many of you already have!). Perhaps there’s some irony in learning to “remember it.” When Jesus spoke the ancient language, it would’ve sounded something like: “*mnemoneute tes gunaikos Lot*” or “remember the wife of Lot” or simply “remember Lot’s wife” (the amount of English words depend on your translation). Yep. That’s it.

Contextually, we’d have to travel back to Luke 17:20 in order to understand that Jesus was making this statement pertaining to a day of judgment. The Pharisees were asking when God’s Kingdom would come. Jesus proceeds to tell them “The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:20-21). The day will come

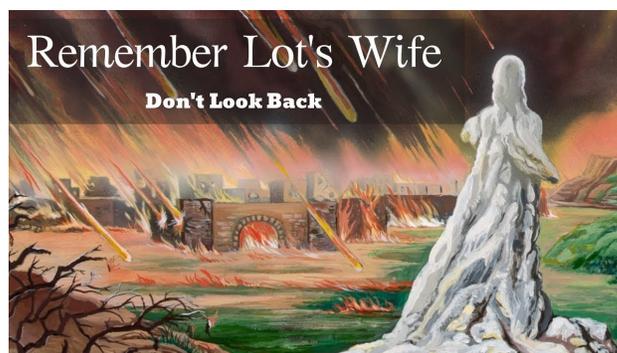
unexpectedly. His main point: every person needs to prepare for it—are you prepared? There will be no time to look back and think of the things that used to be. Time to look forward at the events that are “soon to be.” History proceeds until God ends our time...

When looking at human history, the events surrounding Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19) were re-told time and time again. Told, yes, but was it “remembered?” It’s not every day you or I hear of fire and brimstone raining down from the heavens to burn up and destroy an entire region! The Pharisees were probably very familiar with this passage of Scripture, yet somewhere in their “learning” they forgot the true message.

Have we forgotten? Sometimes we fall victim to the same trap. Will we read Scripture and hear the history only to forget the *real* message? When was the last time we read Genesis 19 and considered the condemnation of Lot’s wife as she looked back? Too much saltiness is repulsive. When was the last time we were making diligent preparation for coming events that a loving and compassionate God has laid out for us? Do we truly comprehend the four ancient words shared by Jesus? Do we “hear” Him?

We may want to consider if this observation is true. Do “people need to be reminded more often than they need to be instructed?” We may well have a life-time ahead of us to learn about God’s Word, but it would be futile if we forgot the things we’ve already learned. Right? What will be the “take away” from the year 2020 concerning COVID-19? What has been learned? More importantly, how will people become prepared for the future?

(Hint: it truly has nothing to do with COVID-19).



Bday/Anniv Lunch: ...when we can!
Bible Study: Consider your study of God’s Word (see **2 Timothy 2:15**) Make time to learn Scripture today...
NMCCH: collecting aluminum foil and kitchen trash bags (pick up is later...) *—THANK YOU for reading!