

Grant them mercy

Hebrews 11:4-39 = the hall of fame

11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

How can I make Enoch perfect? How can I make Noah perfect? How can I make Abraham, Sara or Isaac perfect? How can I make Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, David and Samuel perfect? They are all dead or gone! What can I do? There is something better for us. But they cannot be made perfect without us.

Wait! Daddy is in heaven. I thought because he is in heaven that made him perfect. Guess not. How can I make Daddy perfect?

I want to tell you a story. I have a husband his name is Jeff. When Jeff was 5 years old his Daddy died. His mom raised her children by herself. She told her children stories about their father. , good stories always. He was like a saint. He had never done anything wrong. His love for his family was perfect. She had put him on a pedestal. No one else could ever compare.

When I began to hear the stories, I didn't believe that he was so perfect because I knew he was human. But now I think that is what we are supposed to do. We can make our memories perfect. Just forget anything bad.

Now this is pretty easy for me to do with my Dad. He was a good father and grandfather, a super bible teacher. It is easy to make him perfect.

Daddy taught us that heaven was a bunch of rings with God in the center. Bad guys were in the outer ring with good guys closer to God. He didn't know if heaven was like a sweet roll forever spiraling inward or like an onion ring with 7 different rings. But the entire great cloud of witnesses is there in those rings.

I believe they are all there waiting for us to make them perfect.

Now I can make Daddy perfect in my memories easily. But what will I do with Hitler, Pilate and Pharaoh? Are they all there? Or not?

Well I remember that God hardened Pharaoh's heart. What a difficult script to walk out. Pharaoh wanted to let the Hebrew children to but God hardened his heart! Pharaoh submitted to God's will even though he didn't want to. How hard would that be?

Remember the story of Esther? Her Uncle Mordecai told her if she didn't go to the King, deliverance would arise from another place. Esther 4:14. She didn't have to walk out her script. Maybe Pharaoh didn't have to either. Maybe what Pharaoh did was harder than we originally thought.

Someone had to kill Jesus. It was part of the big plan. Pilate didn't want to do it. Pilate sent Jesus to Herod. Herod was excited to see Jesus. He wanted to see a miracle.

Remember Pilate tried to release Barabbas instead. His wife had a bad dream about it. He washed his hands in front of everyone. Saying he didn't want to kill Jesus. But God is sovereign and even though Pilate didn't want to, he delivered Jesus to the soldiers to be crucified. I can't hold Pilate's actions against him. Jesus had to die on the cross for us! What Pilate did was a very hard thing to do.

Hitler had to do what he did for the fulfillment of prophecy. Maybe these guys walked out their script perfectly. And like Esther's Uncle Mordecai said if they didn't do it someone else would have. Maybe Stalin or Lenin. Maybe these bad guys were more perfect than someone else because they did what God wanted. This is hard. But I think we need to grant them mercy. When we grant them mercy we make them perfect. Which will provide some better thing for us?

You see it says in Romans 11:8 God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear.

Those poor, dumb, bad guys.

Romans 11:23 if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.

They can come to Christ even now!

Romans 11:28 they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers sakes.

Why would they be enemies for our sakes? So we can grant them mercy! And the Father loves them anyway.

Romans 11:31 that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy.

Romans 11:32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

God wants to grant all of them mercy.

If I can grant mercy to Pharaoh, Pilate and Hitler, than I can certainly grant mercy to the mean man who used to live down the street. I think we need to only remember the good for all the dead guys. And grant them mercy.

Ezekiel 23:19 Yet she multiplied her whoredoms, in calling to remembrance the days of her youth, wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt.

That says, she multiplied her bad experiences by remembering them.

1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

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We need to pray thank you God that you gave me such a good script. At times it seems a little hard but, it could be a lot worse! Thank you for the easy script you gave me.

Love

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2