

**“He make my mouth like a sharpened sword,
In the shadow of His hands He hid me; He
Made me into a polished arrow and concealed
Me in His quiver. He said to me: “You are my
Servant in whom I will display my glory.”**

Isaiah 49:2-3

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NEWSLETTER

“HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN (PART X)”

We are going to pick up where we left off in our last “Highway to Heaven article” last year. We were talking about the signs that we encounter as we travel along the highways and how they are types and shadows of how God many times gives us signs as we travel in the highway of our life to guide us with brand new information, to confirm something that we already know or to warn us of some danger ahead. We also were talking about dangerous conditions that we sometimes encounter as we travel in the highway such as storms and downpours, however, that is not the only danger that we may encounter as we travel on the highways!

It is my experience that when I have been traveling on the road for a long period of time and I am starting to get tired and sleepy, if I am not careful, I can wind up in the ditch very fast. It does not matter how good a driver you are, or how experienced you may be, *when you are tired and sleepy, you will put yourself and those who are with you in the vehicle in a very dangerous position!* You will start to get groggy and miss important signs, miss an exit, or worse yet, may be involved in a wreck. Sleepiness, tiredness and stress cause us to make wrong decisions because our minds and bodies are not as alert as they should be, and therefore respond very slowly. I have learned that when I am tired and sleepy it is best to take a break and get some rest and wake up, then I can proceed on my journey!

It is the same way as we travel on the highway of life! If we devote too much time to work, entertainment and daily cares of life, and we do not spend enough time with the Lord, reading His Word and other Godly Christian material, we may begin to suffer from spiritual slumber and burnout. *These things can happen very slowly without you realizing that they are taking place!* Before you know it, you start loosing your joy, peace, love and sensitivity for the things of God you once had, and wonder what went wrong? When we are going through that kind of season in our lives, feeling hapless and

disoriented, we can't afford to make any important decisions that we may regret later. This is when we need to take some time out of our busy schedules and go to some watering hole or well, so we can be refreshed spiritually, mentally and physically. Then and only then can we continue on our journey, confident that we are better prepared to handle any situation that we may encounter on our journey.

Another very dangerous time to travel is at dusk, when the sun is setting, and darkness is starting to cover us. It is my experience that at these times I get awfully sleepy, the shadows start to play tricks on me, and I loose my sense of perception. Objects may appear farther than they really are, and sleepiness and fatigue becomes extremely difficult to overcome. It is neither day nor night. It is bright enough that you can see without your headlights, and yet not bright enough that you can see clearly. It is at these times when most of the passengers in the car take a nap. All talking, noise and activity cease, as it becomes deathly silent. It is at these times that I make an extra effort to be awake and alert.

When you are entering a time of testing and tribulation, it usually gets very quiet and peaceful, right before night sets in! This is when we need to be alert, much more so than in the daytime, when everything seems to be going our way, when all is well and you can see everything so clearly. I think someone said: “We are most of the time either entering, leaving, or in a time of tribulation, with very few moments in between.” We need to be aware of the fact that during these extremely dangerous times, we are to be more alert, awake and discerning than usual. So it behooves us to try to stay sensitive and close to the Lord, since we do not know with a certainty, which time and season we happen to be in. We must always be ready, so that when our kairos time arrives, we may be able to take advantage of it, and go through the door (exit) that appears before us unexpectedly. Let's go on our journey with love, peace and joy in our hearts!