

Daily Devotional, November 30, 2020

“Rend Your Heart”, (Joel 2:12-14, NKJV)

*“Now, therefore,” says the LORD,
“Turn to Me with all your heart,
With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.”
So rend your heart, and not your garments;
Return to the LORD your God,
For He is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and of great kindness;
And He relents from doing harm.
Who knows if He will turn and relent,
And leave a blessing behind Him—” (Joel 2:12-14)*

God is calling the nation of Israel to repentance. Unless there is repentance, God’s justice demands that His righteous judgment and divine discipline come. Fasting, weeping, and mourning are fine and good, but they are only spiritually profitable if they are outward expressions of a heart of repentance. *“So rend your heart, and not your garments.”* The Lord has no need of people who make an outward spectacle of themselves for the sake of appearances only. It is the heart that must be broken with sorrow over sin before God can restore it. It is time for you and I, and all of God’s elect, to *“return to the LORD your God.”* It is always the right time to depart from evil and return to the narrow path. Furthermore, it is always the heart of God to bless His people. It may be that if His people get and stay serious about personal spiritual revival, then both personal and national judgment can be averted. *“Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him?”* I’d sure like to find out the answer to that question, and pray that the blessing that God may leave furthers His glory in such a way that more souls be saved from death’s clutches, and that revival sweeps across the churches of God.