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The Near-Miss

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THE NEAR-MISS

INT. I. Lesson involved in a sad incident in the ministry of Jesus. * Mk. 12:28-34.

A. Some observations about this Scribe:

1. Scribe: man of letters, teacher of the Law. Ambitious of honor-power.

They

2. Had reduced piety to an external formalism. Life a burden (a drag).

3. Had become obstacles in man's way to God. Lk. 11:52---Lawyers!!

This one

4. Challenged Jesus! V. 28. Had heard the Pharisees put down (v.13-17) and the Sadducees (v. 18-27.) 1st Command

5. Jesus rated him "Close" to the kingdom. Near the truth. Near enough to find his way in--if wanted in!!!

6. Close is not enough! Not IN. Not OF Outsider. Stranger. Matt. 12:30.

Enemy?

7. Story ends: He is ONLY close. OUT!!! Lost. If he stayed this way, his most bitter memory in Hell will be:

all

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen.. these saddest are: IT/MIGHT/HAVE/HEN He remained among the many. M.22:14.

Near-miss.

II. THE NEAR-MISS IS AS GOOD AS HAVING NEVER TRIED AT ALL---IN ITS RESULTS.

A. Ill. Old story. Man chased ^{A.M.} train out of the railyard. Just touched the hand rail and ran out of strength! Lady: "Miss your train?? Answer:"NO, lady I chase a train out of this station every morning for exercise."

B. Ill. Know the futile feeling. Missed the Blue Cannon Ball out of Texarkana. Missed it less than a block. Good as 189 miles. Sincerety didn't help. Being kind & loving didn't help. JUST DID NOT GET ON OR IN THE TRAIN!!!

Near-miss.

189 mi miss!

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

"NOTEAR" ®

III. WE ARE TOYING WITH SOME NEAR-MISSES TODAY.
A. I11. Article, THE NEW DENOMINATIONALISM
by Bro. Ed. Wharton, F.F. 2-2-73.

B. Listed what some "CHRISTIANS" no longer
believe:

No longer believe!

1. N. T. is THE sufficient guide in Rel.
2. Baptism is absolutely essen. to sal.
3. In the Organized church. (Cells)
4. Elders govern church. (Democracy).
5. A pattern for TIME of L. S. (Thurs.)
6. Inst. Music is taboo in ch. worship
7. A NT pattern for giving in church.
8. A format for worship in N. T. church.

CONCLUSION: These folks inadequately taught
and only near-the kingdom. Not IN or OF!!

Sometimes asked: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?? 8 above are right!!! *Near-miss!!!*

INV: I11. King Agrippa was as close as MANY ever
get. * Acts 26:19-29.

1. The king was well-educated. v. 2-3.
2. The king was human. Right and truth
does appeal to human-beings. All!
3. *His* Response: A question or comment??
My judgment: A comment. Convinced!
4. The king was weak. Loved the world &
power in world more than God/& his soul
5. The king was very close: A near-miss.
6. The king was never CLOSE ENOUGH!!!
He believe? Yes! V. 28.
He repent?? No! No change.
He confess? Sort of. Not enough.
He baptized? No. Then no sal. Acts 2:38

SERIOUS QUESTION for this fine audience:

ARE YOU "NEAR"/BUT ONLY NEAR???

What good THAT do you? Sal. is IN Christ
II Tim. 2:10. Gal. 3:26-29.

Is a delinquent member IN Christ or just
NEAR Him somewhat. To what profit??
Acts 8:22.

Identify.

MT 12-16-73

2 B

1 R-I