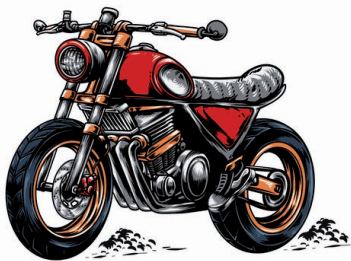


IT WAS
HIS
WHOLE
LIFE



Carl Knott

What a surprise when I read in a San Francisco newspaper, a report about a strange scene in the city's cemetery! A young man who had died in a motorcycle accident had been buried there. This, in itself, wasn't unusual, but what struck me as odd was that the motorcycle he died on was buried with him. His mother, sobbing, explained: "It was his whole life."

And with this, one begins to think. His life...a motorcycle. His whole life...a motorcycle. The motorcycle led him to his grave and was buried there with him. But not one step further. Because the motorcycle cannot accompany him beyond, to eternity, to his encounter with God. Motorcycles are irrelevant in eternity, and the same can be said of many other things.

How tragic that life revolves around a motorcycle! What a multitude of strange things would have to be buried with the dead in our cemeteries! Some would be buried with their golf clubs, fishing rods, and hunting gear. Others would be buried with their soccer ball and tickets to the season's matches. Still others with their recipes, pots, and cooking utensils. The grave of some would even contain their television. For

some, it would be their house, their car, or their boat.

Friend, if you were to be buried with what is most important in this life, what would it be? What is “your whole life”? Perhaps we need to sit down and seriously consider what constitutes our whole life. The Apostle Paul said, *“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain”* (Philippians 1.21 KJV). What constitutes one’s life is, in a sense, that person’s “god.” The word “enthusiasm” comes from two words: “*en*” and “*teos*,” which means god. So, enthusiasm literally means “the god in you.”

The tragedy of our times is that so many have been conquered by “gods” that are not really gods. They are nothing more than fabrications of human ingenuity, but when the small and fragile life of man ends, those gods fail, because they are invented by men. But there is one true God, the living God, the Almighty! I could not bury Him in a tomb, however much I might want to, because He is Spirit, He is eternal, and He is in Heaven.

When death comes, the deceased goes to the grave, but their soul will have already gone to eternity. What will this mean for you? If you are a born-again believer, your case will be as the Apostle Paul said, *“absent from the body, and to*

be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5.8 KJV). But for everyone else, who has not been born again, *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God"* (Hebrews 10.31 KJV). Have you thought about this? Dear friend, it is necessary to know the Savior, the God who is not an image of stone, wood, silver, or gold, and who is not buried in any cemetery. Although He died, Christ rose again, He lives forever, and to all who trust in Him as Lord and Savior, He will forgive all their sins, give them Eternal Life, and take them to Heaven to be with Him. No life is "complete" or "whole" unless it personally knows Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The believer's future is not a tomb or a grave, but Heaven. The only other destination is the Lake of Fire. What will your future be?

Jesus Christ asks, *"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?"* (Mark 8.36-37 ESV).



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