



LifeSpot ... Legacy

Peace

We get a legacy from our parents—long before they die. Parents fill our memories. They mould our personalities. They shape our anxieties and aspirations. We're responsible for ourselves, yet to a large extent our parents are us, and we are our parents. God help us! So here's a good question. What legacy are you now forming, that will measurably shape your children, friends, or close associates, for the rest of their lives? When you're gone, these people won't remember the stuff you bought. They will remember the time you gave, and the character you demonstrated. Jesus set a superb example with his legacy. "I leave my peace with you," he declared. "I give my peace to you." John 14:27 (NIRV).

Holiness

"Those who betray their own friends leave a legacy of abuse to their children." Job 17:5 (MSG). Stunning wisdom from early human history. Good people who do not physically hurt their children can still damage their sons and daughters by patterns of dishonesty, selfishness, and pride. Want a "selfie" of your character? Look at those close to you, because to a discernible extent, they are developing into photo images of you. Now, if this doesn't drive us to our knees for Heaven's forgiveness and help, nothing will. "Lord, cover my sins with your grace! Place your Spirit in me for obedience to you! Imprint your holiness on me. May your character be my legacy for those I love. Amen."

Resurrection

Sometimes famous people are obsessed with their legacy. "How will people honour me when I'm gone? Will history think of me well? Will history think of me at all?" So people patch up their past, and put on a nice show for their final years. But ultimately, legacy with the world is no big deal. It's our legacy with God that matters. This is a life-changing reality. If all we have is "a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot. But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries." 1 Corinthians 15:19–20 (MSG). Legacy secure and strong in Christ! Real life ahead, when we leave the cemetery! Fantastic news for your day.

Share

Displacement. It's a massive issue in our world. People left without homes, without security, and with their cultural heritage undermined. Whether in a wealthy society or a poor one, displacement produces painful lostness. We've strayed from God's ideal of legacies built, protected, and passed on through generations. But here's hope. "God gives lonely people a family." Psalm 68:6 (NIRV). God becomes "our Portion forever." Psalm 73:26. "Portion" is the Hebrew word for legacy. It's our share. We're included! If you are blessed with security or a strong family heritage, is it time for you to act like God and extend his blessing to one or two displaced or lonely people in your neighbourhood?