

Rising Up Betimes.

by F.B. Meyer

God's eagerness for men's salvation should teach us to rise up betimes and seek their eternal interests.

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 36:15, Matthew 5:14

Topics: "Seeking God", "Urgency in Salvation"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes God's deep yearning for the salvation of humanity, illustrated by His eagerness to send messengers early to call the sinful city to repentance. He challenges believers to reflect on their own urgency in seeking the souls of others, urging them to rise early and prioritize spiritual pursuits just as God does. Meyer draws parallels between God's actions and the need for individuals to actively seek Him, highlighting the importance of overcoming slothfulness in favor of spiritual diligence. He encourages believers to be proactive in their faith, akin to historical figures like Sir Henry Havelock, who prioritized prayer and Bible study before daily endeavors.

Transcript

Rising up betimes. 2 Chron. xxxvi. 15.

WHAT a touching and graphic phrase! How did God yearn over that sinful and rebellious city! Sending his messengers, "rising up betimes, and sending " like a man who has had a sleepless night of anxiety for his friend or child, and rises with the dawn to send a servant on a mission of inquiry, or a message of love. How eager God is for men's salvation!

From God's eagerness, may we not learn a lesson of anxiety for the souls of men? We do not long after them enough, or rise betimes to urge them to repent. Did we realize what heaven is, or hell, what men are missing or incurring, what our duty is, as saved ourselves, we should rise up betimes to seek their eternal interests.

But if God rises betimes to seek men, should they not do the same to seek Him? Think you not, that when Adam heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden at morning prime, he would be up and away to meet Him on the upland lawns of Paradise? Can we wonder that our Master would rise up a great while before day, to meet his Father on some unfrequented height? Let us not cling to beds of sloth when God is awaiting us; let us heed his loving remonstrances, that we may be saved in the overthrow of the world; and let us, like Lot, pass on the word to others enwrapped in fatal slumber around us, bidding them to escape to the mountains, before the sun rise on the earth, lest they be consumed.

It was the practice of Sir Henry Havelock, during his campaigns in India, always to have two hours for prayer and Bible study before the march. If the camp was struck at 6.0 a.m., he would rise at 4. O.

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