Wondering About Others

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church John 21: 20, "Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? ²¹. Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?"

Isn't that the way that things are to this very day? So many people watch others and wonder what they are doing, or are going to do. I guess that what is going on in someone else's life is more interesting than what is in their own lives. Possibly they look to see and compare with what others are doing. Instead of watching others, we need to watch our own selves and to try our best to follow the Lord.

Taking care of our own responsibilities is a full time job. Who has time to try to manage the lives of others when it takes all the effort to keep self on the right path? Still there are those who, like Peter, want to know what someone else is going to do. Jesus had commanded Peter to follow him. We are not told what Jesus had in mind for Peter to do on this occasion. He might have wanted to talk to him privately, maybe to teach him something, or to talk about his denial of Jesus at the trial. We don't know and to us it doesn't matter, Jesus said for Peter to follow him and that is what Peter was to do.

Peter noticed John following and his curiosity made him ask about him. What shall this man do? An innocent question we might suppose, but Jesus wanted him to focus on his own duty. Each of us has a work to do for the Lord, and each of us will give account unto the Lord for ourselves, not for someone else. **Romans 14: 11**, *"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.* ¹². So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." While we may have an interest in someone and might even be able to help, or en-

courage, them, or they may help us. We still have our own task to do.

Jesus spoke to Peter that it wasn't his concern what John was to do. I wonder at the tone of his voice, but however he said it, Peter got the message - he was to tend to his own business. Do you think that he said that just for Peter, or for us all? For us all, no doubt.

Many times throughout the scriptures a person was told to go, "looking neither to the right, nor left." The emphasis was on completing the task and staying focused of what he was to do. There are enough hindrances and distractions in life without our being nosey and interfering in the life of another. Jesus said, "Follow me!" This is what we are to do and it takes all of the faith and effort that we have to stay close to him. Remember in Matthew 14 Peter got in trouble by looking around at the storm, instead of looking to Jesus. Let us look to our redeemer and follow him - that is the way to life eternal.

