

# “A Trumpet Call to Saints and Sinners!”

Micah 2:10; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

**Intro.** – There is a tragic tendency in people today to cling to “things” – things that are seen. Let me illustrate what I mean. Frank Hayes lived in Brooklyn, NY in 1923. Frank was a horse trainer (straight and steeplechase), but he had always dreamed to be a jockey in a winning race. Frank was 35 and understood the age factor. If he didn’t race and win soon his obsession would never be realized. Frank begged his horse-owner, his employer for a chance. Finally, the opportunity was given. On June 4, 1923 at Belmont Park there was a steeplechase. Frank was scheduled to race an aged bay mare named *Sweet Kiss* who would be retired after this race. Sweet Kiss had a less than distinguished career... The race came. The trumpet called, as it does in all races, and two “has-beens” made their way to the starting gate, poised and ready to race. Before them was a 2 mile course with 12 jumps. They didn’t have a chance. The odds were 21 to 1, but Frank was finally getting what he’d dreamed.

I tell you later what happened to Frank and Sweet Kiss, but for now let’s focus on “things seen.” Don’t these things lack substance and permanence; yet, we all struggle in giving our hearts to them and are easily ensnared by their false glitter and glamour.

At such times in our lives the most useful words for us to hear are these found in our text – “*Get up, go away. For this not your resting place.*” God intends for His Church to be separated people on earth. Our citizenship is in heaven; yet, too many if not most at times forget where “home” really is?

“This World is Not My Home!”

*This world is not my home, I’m just a passing through,  
My treasures are laid up, somewhere beyond the blue.  
The angels beckoned me form Heaven’s open door.  
And I can’t feel at home in this world any more.*

A trumpet call is being sounded in our Micah text, and a trumpet call will sound in 1 Corinthians text. No, it’s not a call to a horse race to fulfill a dream. It’s a call to a far more important race – the race of life. Thus, it is a call to saints and sinners:

*Purpose: to listen more intently to the trumpet call from God to Saints and Sinners*

## I The Trumpet Call to SAINTS

- as a trumpet calls horses to line for the race – even so may all assembled here hear these words: “Arise and be ready for service!”
- A. Occasions Upon Which This Call Comes
  1. Needs to be sounded when Christians are “comfortable”:
    - a. comfortable with their blessings – God has given many blessing, but these can be turned into a curse when they become gods to us...
    - b. comfortable with their relationship to God and each other...
    - c. comfortable with the way the world is... Illus. – Israel got to the point where they could not blush... proclamation made by President of US “...LGTB pride month”
    - d. must take heed, when all goes well that we not become glued to the here and now, that we not be comfortable!
  2. Needs be sounded when Christians become world’s friend:
    - a. 2 Corinthians 6:14 “...*what fellowship can light have with darkness?*”
    - b. 1 John 3:1 – world doesn’t know Xtians because they don’t know God = ie. world loves own!
    - c. nothing but ill results in being friends of the world!
  3. Needs to be sounded when Christians think of this as if “home”:
    - a. good health gives tendency make us think things will simply continue on and on...
    - b. longevity in the family huh?!... modern medical science can do all it wants, this life still temp.
    - c. Illus. – been said, “Wood for your coffin may already be sawn and linen for your shroud already sown...” – may sound morbid but it is so very true...
    - d. let none of us make permanent roots here!

I sound for myself and my church family – “Get up, go away for this is not your resting place.”

## B. The Logic Behind This Call

1. This world is not our rest or our home.
2. This world is “defiled” or “polluted” (KJV)
  - a. can’t go into world without seeing/feeling world’s pollution.
  - b. grabs and clamors for our attention and we continue to wrestle with it, don’t we?
  - c. no rest until we get where there is no sin...!
3. This world is ruined
  - a. reason behind the intensity of this call – world is defiled and those of it will be its final ruin!
  - b. world is not friend of God’s grace... were it not for God’s grace world lead to our ruin!
  - c. look at the temptations all around us... how deadly are its influences upon us just now!
  - d. how grateful we must be to Christ for delivering us from this onslaught... He gives us redemption... sanctification (church) = fellowship, study, worship, service!

Thus, call to Christians waxes loud and long: “Get up, go away! This is not your resting place because it is defiled, ruined and beyond help! I pray we heed this call today and until Christ returns!

## II The Trumpet Call to SINNERS

- this call is to sinners to thoughtful sinners in particular. Listen to the reasons they ought to heed this trumpet call:

### A. It’s a Call to Turn from Sin and Self

1. Sin, self-righteousness and follies involved must be abandoned.
2. Must begin wrestling/grappling with sin through divine GRACE...!
3. Escape with your life! – don’t look back but heed the call of the Father to come back to Him through Christ His Son...
4. You who are in a state of guilt, confusion, dissatisfaction get up and seek the ancient paths that lead back to God...
5. Seek the Lord, His desire/ability to forgive and sustain...!

### B. It’s a Call to Find Real Rest

1. You haven’t found it in the world, I’ll bet!
2. World puts up a good front – pleasure, happiness, fun etc. but sooner or later the front must come down and the real truth realized!
3. What if you had to leave the world right now? How would eternity be for you?...
4. One breath, one heartbeat away from eternity without God... dear friend, can you face it?!

I pray right now that you would not be brazen or lax to God’s trumpet call. I bid you get up!

**Conclusion:** Remember Sweet Kiss and Frank Hayes, June 4, 1923, Belmont Park Steeplechase? In the final leg of the race, Frank and Sweet Kiss were leading. Suddenly, Sweet Kiss veered to one side. Valuable ground was lost, and it looked like that error would cost them “the race of their lives.” Sweet Kiss, straightened out in the stretch and won the most exciting horse race ever run in many peoples’ minds. Why? Because two “has-beens” came back to beat 21 to 1 odds!

Not really, for when Sweet Kiss crossed the finish line, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1923, it was the only time prior to and even until now that a horse headed for the glue factory and a dead man won a big race. Yes, Frank Hayes died in the middle of that race. Did he realize his dream? More importantly, did he heed the trumpet call of God – Trumpet Call to Saints and Sinners!

Get up, go away! For this is not your resting place!