



Monday Matters

April 6, 2015

Ready or Not, Here I Come

Anthony Burger was a fantastic pianist, traveling with the Gaither Vocal Band for many years until his unfortunate death in 2006. He would often tell the story of his son, Austin, who at the time was 5 years old. The story is especially fitting for this weekend. Below I have summarized his telling of this story.

Austin was playing the part of Jesus in a play at church. The Scripture version had been rewritten to fit for a 4 and 5 year old Sunday School class. Jesus (Austin) was wearing sandals, a white t-shirt of his dad's and a beard. Jesus had knelt down to pray by a large rock on one side of the stage. He said, "Father, I don't want to die, but I will if you want me to. I'll do anything for You."

Soldiers came and put Jesus on a cardboard cross. He had lipstick on his hands depicting blood. He asked for water because he was thirsty. He bowed his head and died.



We Shall Behold Him

Jesus was taken and placed in a tomb on the other side of the stage. The audience could see him in there with his eyes tightly shut.

There were some little girls outside the tomb crying and saying, "Jesus is dead. Jesus is dead. What are we going to do?"

Jesus came out of the tomb and asked, "Why are you crying? Don't cry. I'm alive. I died but I came back. Don't cry. I only needed this tomb for the weekend. Don't cry because I'll be with you always."

Then Jesus (Austin) went back into the tomb. His dad, Anthony, thought something was wrong. About that time he heard Jesus yelling out, "Ready or not, here I come." Austin had heard those words all his life, playing Hide and Go Seek. "Ready or not, here I come."

As Anthony would say, "A five-year-old had figured it out. Jesus is coming back soon."

The story is simple:

- Jesus was born in a manger
- He grew up
- He did miracles
- Jesus died on the cross
- Three days later He arose
- And He's coming back again
- Ready or not, we shall behold Jesus
- Are we looking forward to the day when *We Shall Behold Him?*

Are you ready?

RN

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The Joy of the Dance

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