

WAY TO SHILOH

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The Burning Building

I saw, in a dark country, there stood a building. It had been set on fire (some said it was arson) and many people were inside. Large cloaked figures stood outside and stoked the flames wishing the people inside ill will.

Inside I saw two people. One was urging the other to get out and be saved. This one could see the flames and feel the heat (we shall call him Spark). However the other could sense neither for he was blind and without feeling, as were many in that place at that time (we shall call him Dull). Spark urged Dull to move from that position and flee the danger but he was met with terrible resistance, for Dull didn't even realize he was blind. "Leave me alone" he would say, but when Spark dejectedly moved away (for he could feel the increasing ferocity of the heat) Dull would call him back, not wanting to be alone. Upon further pleading and persuasion from Spark Dull would assure him not to worry for he new what he was being told already, however Spark could not help but think that if he really did know then he would not hesitate to move, but he just remained where he had always been & sometimes moved closer to the fire. Sometimes the cloaked figures would come inside and direct the people in all kinds of wrong directions. The people were given fine clothes to wear, which they loved, and the largest of all these figures assured them that there was no fire and nothing to worry about. He told them that even if they felt uneasy everything would be fine in the end. These figures wore disguises and at times fooled those who could see! However 'shinning ones' came to their aid and ministered to them.

It got to such a terrible situation around Dull that his clothes began to catch fire. Spark was horrified as he tried to snatch him from the flames for Dull still would not move. Dull's clothes seemed to burn as if they'd been dipped into petrol, where as Spark's seemed to be fire resistant. Spark had often tried to tell Dull about the way out, about how, a long time ago, the architect, builder & landlord of the building had installed a fire escape because of the fire risk the tenants were causing because they didn't like His regulations & were unable to carry them out. The installation was injurious to the builder, who, it is said, was surrounded by the cloaked figures & over powered. The land had become particularly dark at this point & those who witnessed this event were sure that he had not survived. He also provided signs to follow but not many gave thought to the escape route, or even thought they needed one, and they didn't trust the signs. Those who it was given to see were often misunderstood by those who could not & thought extremists or zealots, however they had a hope of freedom & safety & only a desire through love to see their companions safe also.

Within the building there were those like Spark who had been brought to believe and had faith in the escape. These people did spread the word of the only way out and left before the building collapsed, and often those who had been blind came to see. Some of the blind realized that there had to be an original builder of the building but as they had never seen him or looked for him then that's as far as their thinking went.

Many of the blind were overcome in the smoke and flames before the final collapse of the building, & all of those who could see left via the escape. The building collapsed upon the actual return of the builder, but not before His coming was trumpeted very loudly. The sightless heard this & those who could see claimed He had been calling all along, although the blind had never heard that. So it came to pass that this small number of seeing folk found the way and left through the escape, the others perished in the flames.