

Something that Endures

My mother sent me an article from my hometown newspaper a few months ago which she thought I might be interested in. The article was reminiscing about a club in Lincoln called 'the Drumstick'. She knew me and my brother's band played there a few times when I was a teenager. It was indeed a blast from the past to read about the place.

This article referred to some of the national acts that had performed at the Drumstick before they were famous: R.E.M., Pat Benatar, Red Hot Chili Peppers – punk bands like Black Flag.

But, if someone drives down 48th Street today looking for the Drumstick, it's not there. It was torn down and replaced with a McDonald's! Later, I suppose that will be torn down as well. Given enough time, we will see the crumbling of all earthly buildings.

Archeology is the study of ancient civilizations and their cultures. We dig up their tools, their weapons, their chariots, their bricks and buildings, their religious altars, etc. We see the remains of the past. There is an undeniable message in such findings. This is all temporary. Given enough time, people will look back on our culture, our houses, our activities, our pursuits and wonder what it was about. The Bible often reminds us to keep such things in perspective.

The prophet Isaiah once said: 'The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever.' [Isaiah 40:8]

The apostle John added this insight: 'the world is passing away . . . but the one who does the will of God abides forever.' [I John 2:17]

In Christ, we find something that does not crumble and will not fade away. That something is called eternal life. When the years of our earthly sojourn come to a close and all our earthly activities fade - - - there is one thing that endures – our relationship with God.

Psalm 103:15-17 – 'As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. When the wind has passed over it, it is no more; and its place acknowledges it no longer. But the lovingkindness of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him.'