

*"And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called **The Altar Ed**: for it shall be a witness between us that the LORD Is God." Joshua 22:34 KJV*



Pronounced, “ayd,” Ed means, “a solemn record.” Like video tapes that irrefutably record events; this altar was not a service altar, but a monument of remembrance for posterity. There are many “Ed’s” in Washington D.C., carved in stone so children’s children may gaze and learn of our nation’s sacrifices and Godly heritage. There should be “Ed’s” in the lives of believers; visual monuments to God’s ordinances and grace. A framed verse of Scripture commemorating A Divine Prevention Or Provision, so grandchildren may see and know what

experience has not taught them: A gold bordered cloth over a God given piece of furniture: A framed copy of the Ten Commandments on the wall: A framed or embroidered Gospel message. How horrible it will be to watch our children cast into the Lake of Fire when a visual record, an “Ed” might have made a difference. God gives us many visual records of unseen Truth. *“The heavens declare the Glory of God; and the firmament showeth His Handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard:”* Including the Written Word of God! Many never take time to appreciate starry nights, blossomed roses, blue skies, or fields of dandelions. *“For the Invisible Things of Him from the Creation of the world Are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, Even His Eternal Power And Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”* Many never visit the monuments in Washington D.C., testaments to the bloody sacrifices of the liberties we enjoy daily, and many never open and read God’s Word, even though it is the most widely published book in the world. They look at a starry sky and think, “Aliens!” They look at an animal or flower and think, “Evolution!” Oh Believer, will you think to try to excuse disobedience at Christ’s Judgment Seat with flimsy reason? *“For other foundation can no man lay than That Is Laid, Which Is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon This Foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work Shall Be Made Manifest: for the Day shall declare it, because It Shall Be Revealed by Fire; and The Fire Shall Try every man's work of what sort it is.”* You may think, “At least I’ll be in heaven.” But when Christ reveals His Glory, and the magnitude of your depravity and the Depths of His Grace And Love dawn on you, you’ll despair for a way to show gratitude, and you’ll have nothing, but the ashes of a “wood, hay, and stubble” life. You’ll stand weeping with shame while others cast crowns at Jesus’ feet! A single jewel is better than ashes!

Oh will your life an altar be,
Of Christ’s deep Love and Majesty?
When at His feet all crowns are laid,
Will one be yours for debts He paid? –CGP

I’m reminded of words I learned as a child; “Only one life; Twill soon be past. Only what’s done for Christ will last.” Jim Elliot, missionary martyr** to the Aucas of the Ecuadorian Jungle, wrote, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” The only “treasure” you’ll have in Heaven is what you put there now!

“Then Said Jesus Unto His Disciples, ‘If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My Sake shall find it.” Matthew 16:24-25 KJV

** The story of Jim Elliot’s martyrdom is recorded by his wife, Elisabeth Elliot, in her book, “Through Gates of Splendor.”