

Leave a Mark

Acts 15:36-41

March 24, 2024













**“I saw and recognized the shade of him
who due to cowardice made the great
refusal.”**

(From Dante's *Inferno*, III, 59-60)

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**“The Pope of Rome, named Celestine,
who for cowardice of heart, fearing
others, refused the great apostolic office
in Rome.”**

(From Jacopo Alighieri 's commentary on *Inferno*, III, 58-60)





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BARNABAS

A dramatic scene of a boxing ring. A bright spotlight from the top left corner illuminates a small wooden stool in the corner of the ring. The ropes of the ring are visible, and the background is dark and moody.

EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE IN THEIR CORNER

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Acts 15:36-41 (ESV): “And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, ‘Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.’ 37 Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. 38 But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work....”

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“...39 And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.”

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Acts 12:25 (ESV): “And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.”

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Acts 12:12 (ESV): “When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying.”

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Acts 13:13 (ESV): “Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem.”

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Luke 7:7 (NIV): “That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.”

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Main Point

WORTHY OR NOT, HERE I COME!

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2 Thessalonians 1:11 (ESV): “To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power.”

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Revelations 5:9-10 (ESV): “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

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Acts 16:31 (ESV): “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.”

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Romans 14:4 (ESV): “Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.”

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Colossians 4:10 (NLT): “Aristarchus, who is in prison with me, sends you his greetings, and so does Mark, Barnabas’s cousin. As you were instructed before, make Mark welcome if he comes your way.”

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2 Timothy 4:11 (ESV): “Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.”

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John 10:32-36 (ESV): “Jesus answered them, ‘I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?’ 33 The Jews answered him, ‘It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.’...”

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“...34 Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in your Law, “I said, you are gods”? 35 If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— 36 do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, “You are blaspheming,” because I said, “I am the Son of God”?””

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2 Corinthians 3:18 (BSB): “We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into His image with intensifying glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

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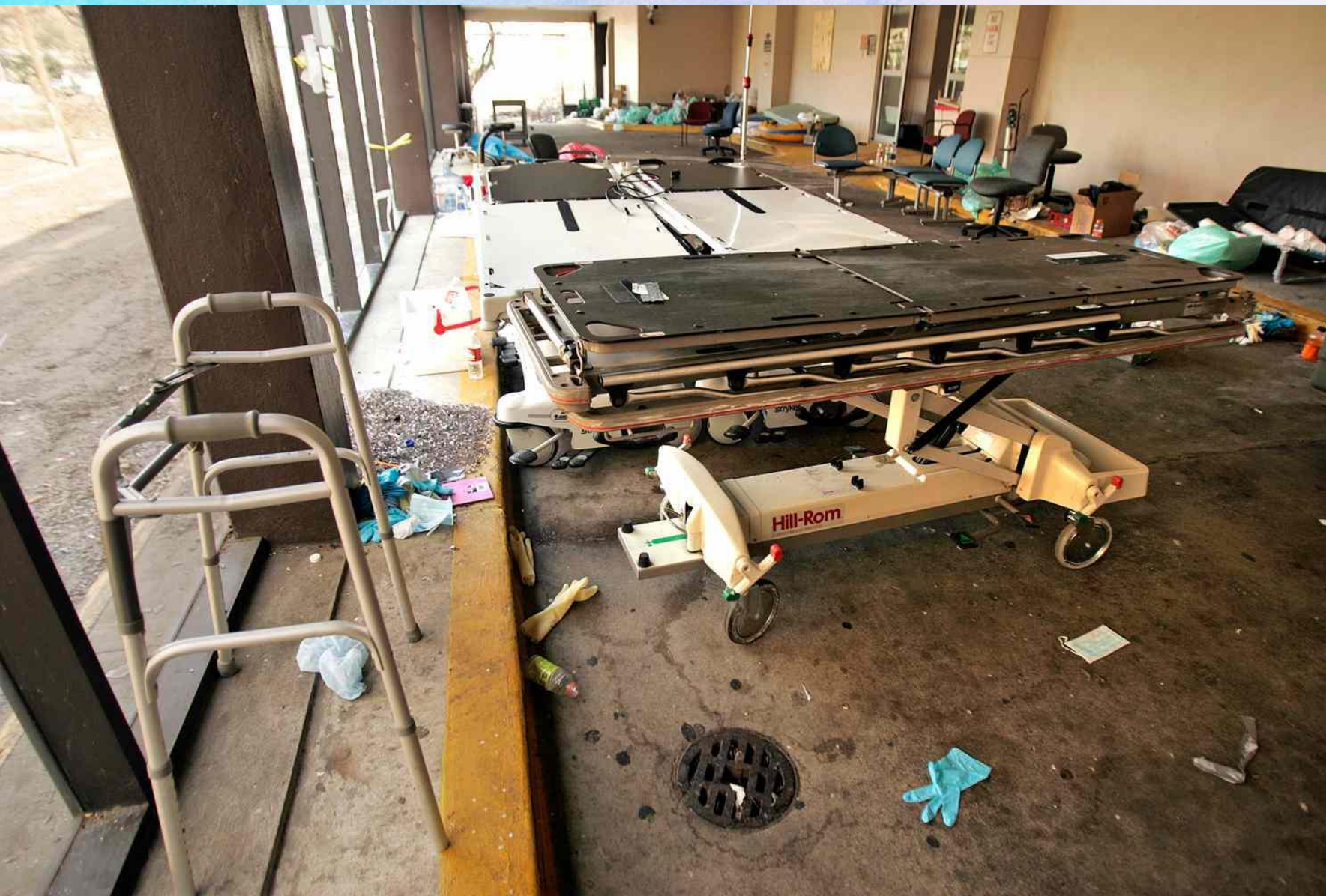
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Application

DO YOUR WORTH.

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1 Thessalonians 2:12 (ESV): “We exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.”

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1 John 3:1 (NIV): “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!”

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