

Shipwreck and the “Church”

The following was emailed to me at 2:18 this morning by a trustworthy sister whose eyes, ears and heart I trust. I see this speaking of the institutional church, not of America.

Hi brother, I was awoken at 1:45 this morning with the strong sense that the "Church," as represented by the "Titanic," is sailing towards calamity. By "Church" I mean the institutional church. Below are excerpts from a story written about the final hours of the Titanic. May God have mercy on us all and raise up His people to be all they are created to be. Blessings, Your Sister



“Out of the dark she came, a vast, dim, white, monstrous shape, directly in the Titanic’s path. For a moment Fleet doubted his eyes. But she was a deadly reality, this ghastly thing. Frantically, Fleet struck three bells—something dead ahead. He snatched the telephone and called the bridge.

“Murdoch leaped to the engine-room telegraph. Bells clanged. Far below in the engine room those bells struck the first warning. Danger! The indicators on the dial faces swung round to “Stop!” Then “Full speed astern!”

“Frantically the engineers turned great valve wheels; answered the bridge bells . . . There was a slight shock, a brief scraping, a small list to port. Shell ice—slabs and chunks of it—fell on the foredeck. Slowly the Titanic stopped.

“Captain Smith hurried out of his cabin. “What has the ship struck?” Murdoch answered, “An iceberg, sir. I hard-a-starboarded and reversed the engines, and I was going to hard-a-port around it, but she was too close. I could not do any more. I have closed the watertight doors.

BUT THE PASSENGERS-MOST OF THEM-DID NOT KNOW THE TITANIC WAS SINKING. THE SHOCK OF THE COLLISION HAD BEEN SO SLIGHT THAT SOME WERE NOT AWAKENED BY IT; THE TITANIC WAS SO HUGE THAT SHE MUST BE UNSINKABLE; THE NIGHT WAS TOO CALM, TOO BEAUTIFUL, TO THINK OF DEATH AT SEA.”

Many American Christians are trusting their institutional church and its captains to carry them through the coming trials. They can’t. The only safe place is the Church that Jesus is building and of which He is Captain.

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