

Wendy's Christmas Prayer Thoughts

Free Book has recorded an unexpected and moving story from the life of Elon Musk, the renowned Tech visionary, from Silicon Valley in America. It was a cold autumn evening in Los Angeles and Elon had finished a long day at the Space X H.Q. in Hawthorn when he made the decision not to be chauffeur driven, but to do something he had not done for years, to travel by bus...

He had been thinking about how distanced he had become from the everyday life of ordinary people. Not wishing to be recognised, he donned ordinary clothes, and took his place in the bus queue. He boarded it, swiped his card, and found a seat in the middle. As the journey progressed he frequently looked through the window. People had no idea of his presence, because they were either looking at their phones, or busily chatting...

One little girl in a pink coat sitting alone at the back of the bus, clutching her worn teddy bear, caught his attention. Could she be lost? No one seemed to be concerned, but somehow he was. He began to think how he would feel if one of his children were lost or feeling alone... As he glanced again and again, something began to pull at his heart strings. The bus was nearing its destination and still there was no sign of anyone coming to pick her up. He must do something, so he made his way towards her. The closer he got, he could see that she was trying hard to hold back tears. Finally the bus stopped. No one was waiting for her. What should he do? Elton knelt before the child. He could feel his heart racing. Thoughts of her being abandoned were almost too much to bear. "Hey, sweetheart," he said... "I'm here to help. Can you tell me your name? ". "Maddy," she whispered. "My name is Elon, are you lost? Do you know where your mum or dad is?" "No" she said shaking her head. I don't know where my mummy is. I was waiting for her but she didn't come.

The bus driver who had been observing was equally concerned. She needed to be reunited with her family. The police could help. The child now had fear in her eyes, and Elon so wished he could do more. Maddy reached out her hand, and wrapped her tiny fingers round his. Wanting her to feel safe he promised not to leave her. Officer Parker arrived and promised to find her mum. She nodded. They got off the bus. Elon picked her up, and she wrapped her arms around his shoulders. After what seemed an eternity, a police car pulled up, and a woman with tears streaming down her face rushed towards them. Maddy lifted her head at the sound of her mother's voice, and Elon handed her over. Maddy's mother couldn't thank Elon and the Officer enough. She explained that she had been running late after an emergency. She had told Maddy to wait for her at a nearby bus stop. When she had failed to turn up Maddy had panicked and boarded the bus hoping it would take her somehow to safety. Elon felt that there was something more beyond the woman's tears, and indeed he heard a heart breaking story.....

...She explained how her husband had died of cancer, and they had faced great loss. She was working two jobs, one in the day time and the other at night, simply to keep a roof over their heads, she felt she was failing her child. Elon's heart sank. The little girl was facing a life of loneliness and uncertainty. "Let me help. You shouldn't have to do this alone." He provided them with a new home where Maddy could feel safe, and her mother may rest, having no need to worry about rent any more.

This story turned my thoughts to the significance of the Birth of Jesus, Elon Musk working in the scientific world felt disconnected with ordinary people. God's people disconnected themselves from Him through sin, self assertion, disobedience and distraction, forgetting the solemn Covenant they had bound themselves to. However He had promised through Jeremiah that there would be a new and different one. 'I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more'. 31:33-34... To fulfil God's plan, Jesus was born to be a God - man, being both human and divine. Two names were given to Joseph by the angel. The first is Jesus, meaning 'Yahweh saves', or ' He will save his people from their sins'. .Matthew 1:21 the second is Emmanuel, 'God is with us'... v.24... When we believe in Jesus and receive Him into our hearts, He forgives our sins and we know He remains with us all the time.

Lord, each day, I long for a deeper relationship with You. Thank You that as I draw near to You with bated breath, You come close to me. Forgive me for the times when I let myself drift, when my love grows weak; when I go it alone and forget to seek and honour Your will allowing myself to fall into temptation. Restore me again into a loving relationship guarded blessed with Your peace. Amen.

People on the Los Angeles bus were too busy to recognise an important person in their midst. It seems that it was just the same in Bethlehem, the night Jesus was born. There would have been an influx of visitors. Some had returned for the census, since it was the place of their birth. Others would have joined relatives for the Feast of Tabernacles.

Only a group of shepherds were informed by an angel of the arrival of a special child. "I am bringing you good news for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you. You will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-11.

Lord God awaken me to Your presence. Forgive me that in my business I crowd You out of my life, I ignore You, and fail to acknowledge Your omniscience. Jesus You taught Your disciples to listen. Even in my business, may I be attentive to You, and be ready to accept Your lead, so that I may accomplish Your goals in my life. "Be thou my vision, O Lord, of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art; Thou my best thought by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light." Amen...