

FALLING LEAVES

...we all do fade as a leaf. —Isaiah 64:6 ...the summer is ended. —Jeremiah 8:20



INTRODUCTION:

Very few secular songs ever pleased me. One that did was called "Falling Leaves" by Roger Williams, a gifted pianist. As he played was able to convey the idea of leaves falling to the ground as he ran his fingers over the keyboard.

We're into the color season when the trees around us take on a new look. Beautiful colors are all arranged by God. Remember Joyce Kilmer's poem:

I think that I shall never see A poem as lovely as a tree... Poems are made by fools like me But only GOD can make a tree.

Beautiful colors, and a short time later the leaves fall to the ground. How do the leaves fall? They fall...

SLOWLY:

- "For the days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years...it is soon cut off and we fly away." -Psalm 90:10 –Yes note the word "if." People are called out of this life one by one, slowly at different age levels.
- The leaves of a tree never come down all at one time with a crash, but rather slowly. Humanity does not come to an end all at once, but each goes out slowly when GOD calls. The challenge is to live our years for GOD. See Eccles. 12:1-14

-Leaves also fall

SILENTLY:

• "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved..." -2 Cor. 5:1 -The words "earthly house" mean "earthly tent house." God likens our bodies like as to tents. Tents come down silently, quietly, but they do come down eventually. So with all humanity. We are not getting younger. Some are called into eternity through sickness, accidents, heart attacks, etc.

-Leaves also fall

SIGNIFICANTLY:

- The leaves fall when and where God pleases for... "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1
 - -Departure time comes and it is all in God's timing. Our destination is determined by our <u>earthly decision</u>, and so for the saved God says: "Blessed are the dead which die <u>in</u> the Lord."—Revelation 14:13

For the unsaved God says: "Ye (unsaved) shall die in your sins: Whither I go ye cannot come." - John 8:21

Leaves fall eventually and so must we. We who are Christians, Christ-ones, saved, are PILGRIMS just traveling through this foreign land. The challenge is to be about our Father's business, and to not think that this earth and all of its corruption will last forever. Jesus said of us who are saved:

"They are not of the world as I am not of the world." - John 17:6

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