

Starting Too Late

To be too late by an hour is as bad as to be late by a year, and an opportunity once lost is gone forever.

During the time when there was an insurrection in the North of Scotland, William III issued a proclamation to the effect that all who laid down their arms, and came and took the oath of allegiance by the 1st January, 1692, should be pardoned.

Maclean (sometimes spelt Maclan), a chieftain of a prominent clan (the MacDonalds), resolved to return with the rest of the rebels, but had some pride in desiring to be the very last one that should take the oath. He postponed starting for this purpose until two days before the expiration of the term.

A snow-storm impeded his way as he travelled through almost impassable mountains, and before he got to take the oath, and receive a pardon from the throne, the time was up and past. While others were set free, Maclean was later miserably put to death, along with 38 members of his clan, in the Massacre of Glencoe, 13th February, 1692. He started

too late, and arrived too late.

In like manner, some are in prospect of losing forever the amnesty of the gospel, granted to all who repent of their sinful rebellion and entrust themselves to the mercy of King Jesus. Sadly, I fear, many are going to be forever too late as far as that pardon is concerned.

Remember the irreparable mistake of Maclean.....

"Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (2 Cor 6:2)

"Today, if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts" (Heb 3:7-8) "He limiteth a certain day" (Heb 4:7) "Why tarriest thou?" (Acts 22:16) "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found" (Is 55:6)

"Woe unto thee...Wilt thou be made clean? When shall it once be?" (Jer 13:27)

"Distress and anguish cometh...Then shall they call on me, but I will not answer" (Prov