

Bike Lift Demonstration

I know I've had items from the Milwaukee Rally in here before, but there were so many things happening that I decided to spread them out over time. One thing that was going on during the rally was a demonstration put on by Tony "Pan" Sanfelipo in front of the Michael Hupy Tent, www.hupy.com. The demonstration showed the safest way to pick up a bike on your own when it tips over. The lift was shown how to do by Tony on his wife and founder of Accident Scene Management, Inc www.accident.scene.net Vicki's bike. (Bet she loved that) After seeing how it's done it was pretty cool watching some of the women bikers picking up the bike while some of the big guys struggled. The way I see it if you ride alone a lot like I do, all the extra knowledge I can grab will be useful in the future. So if you ever get a chance to catch the demonstration, do it. It's worth the 20 minutes of your time.



The Ideal Ride for Life

If we can see that the ideal life is a reality, no matter how far from it we are, we are on the road to attaining it. We are all aware that, in order to reach a destination, we have to do more than sit down and read the map. We've got to go crank up the scooter, climb aboard, and hit the road. When it comes to the ideal life, it seems that everyone has their own ideas about how to go about getting it. "Religion" has come up with so many ideas of what one has to do, that it seems impossible that anyone would ever be able to find this ideal life. In fact, when we think we are getting close, somebody changes the rules.

When I bought my bike last year without a second gear, I thought about goin' back to see the guy I bought it from - just to see what would happen. Then I realized that no amount of pain inflicted on him would put a second gear in the bike. I thought about rolling the bike off into the lake, but that wouldn't be very satisfying. Finally, I checked to see what it would cost to have the tranny rebuilt, and it will be a long while before I can afford to do that! It seems that the cost of religion is also way too high for any of us to afford. If we check out the requirements of most religions, it seems impossible that we could ever do enough to appease the Supreme Being. There is an endless list of "dos" and "don'ts" for us to keep, which seems to be designed to keep us in bondage, not to give us what we want and need most - freedom.

To say the least, this doesn't seem to be fair. For starters, every real biker knows that it's not just about the destination - it's the ride that matters. Organized religion seems fixated on the destination. Nirvana, heaven, the New Jerusalem, over into "Gloryland," or whatever you want to call it is the prize that we can get if we toe the mark and pass the test. The focus of most religious people is to go to heaven when they die, to find relief from all the hassles of this present world. But for those pursuing the ideal life, the ride is the prize, and the destination is where you turn around and start back, or head off for somewhere else. The reality is that, for someone who gets in on the ideal life, eternity starts right now. We don't have to go to heaven to live, we can experience the life of Jesus right now. We don't have to physically die to be free. Jesus said, " If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (John 8:36)

If we can get a clear picture of REAL religion, we can avoid the hassles of the religious system that wants us to dress right, act right, and talk right in order to be right. We will come to see that what we do is the result of who we are! We can never do enough good stuff to actually change who we are on the inside. But God is the Master Creator, who can easily change what we are, from the inside out. He is not interested in us being conformed to a system, but in being like His Son, Jesus. When we get things right with Him, we will find that the "ride" of life becomes at least as important to us as the destination. We will find that second gear -and all the others - will be engaged. By faith in Jesus Christ, we will embark on the ride of our lives. What a ride!

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