

August 26, 2018

Scott's Thoughts



It was a 1963 Dodge and not very pretty to look at. It seemed to run ok but it had big holes in the quarter panels where rust had eaten away at the body.

The front of it was

the worst. The previous owner had somehow lost control and had run into a brick wall. The front needed everything . . . hood, fenders, grille, bumper, lights and radiator. Was it worth putting back together?

Many folks would have just towed it to a salvage yard and let it go. But I was “in the business,” so to speak. My wife didn’t see any hope for it but I did. For weeks, I spent many hours after work each night shaping the metal and welding in the patch panels for the quarter panels and afterwards sanded the areas until they were straight and smooth. The front was somewhat easier because there was no frame damage so once all the bent stuff was stripped off it was just a matter of getting what was needed and putting it all together.

Many hours were spent sanding the paint and masking the entire car to prepare it for the new paint. Care had to be taken at this point because if the preparation was sloppy or incorrect the new paint job would fail very quickly. After it was painted, it had to be cleaned up and detailed. The paper and tape

had to be removed, and the chrome and glass had to be polished. Finally, it looked like a great used car that had lots of useful life left in it and anyone would have been proud to drive it. It had come close to complete destruction but had been rescued.

People are not as easy to fix as cars but putting in the time and effort can yield great results. How far gone does a person have to be before we decide they are not worth the effort? That is a tough question isn’t it. Our own failings kind of get in our way when answering this question. If it is someone I love, well, then, the sky is the limit. Thankfully, when it really counts, God has already answered this question.

God looked at his creation and it saddened him when he saw how far mankind had moved away from him. The rescue would be the most costly restoration ever. The price was His only Son. When someone responds to this sacrifice, as God would have them, they are rescued immediately spiritually, however, the visible changes take many hours, days and even weeks. In fact, it will simply take a lifetime. The good news is God want’s to rescue everyone, but he needs our co-operation. It is ultimately up to us.

Let us know if we can help, and thanks for listening.

—Scott