

# Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Monday, March 2, 2015

## Embedded Microchips

*“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads” (Revelation 13:16).*

Workers at a new high-technology office building in central Stockholm are doing away with their old ID cards on lanyards, and can now open doors with the swipe of a hand - thanks to a microchip implanted in the hand. The radio-frequency identification (RFID) chips are about twelve mm long and injected with a syringe.



Patrick Mesterton, CEO of the building, Epicenter Office said, "It's an identification tool that can communicate with objects around you," Mesterton said, "You can open doors using your chip. You can do secure printing from our printers with the chip, but you can also communicate with your mobile phone, by sending your business card to individuals that you meet," Mesterton thinks some of the future uses for implanted chips will be "any application that currently requires a pin code, a key or a card, **such as payments.**" (Emphasis Mine).

Mesterton said, "I think also for health-care reasons...you can sort of communicate with your doctor and you get data on what you eat and what your physical status is." Lin Kowalska shortly after she had a microchip implanted in her hand said, "It felt pretty scary, but at the same time it felt very modern, very 2015."



## “The Trumpet Shall Sound”

**First Corinthians 15:52,**

*“the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”*

**We are living in the last days!** Wherever we look, whether in the things of the world or the condition of our churches, it is obvious that the time of Christ's return is near. All of the signs that are given in the Scripture concerning His return are obvious. Our generation has witnessed the deterioration of family values. The divorce rate is over 50% in North America. Sodomite marriage and the homosexual lifestyle is widely accepted in our society. Millions of abortions take place every year. Violence has filled the entire world. Media content today is almost completely anti-God. The embedded chip was prophesied 2000 years ago. (Revelation 13:18).

# “The Truth Shall Be Evil Spoken Of”

## **Second Peter 2:1,2,**

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom **the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.**”

We are living in the day Peter preached about when the truth is “evil spoken of;” and in fact truth has become the new hate language of these last days.

## **Consider The Following Verses About Truth**

- **Titus 1:14**, speaks of spiritual leaders who will cause their followers to “turn from **the truth.**”
- **Second Timothy 2:18**, refers to those who “concerning **the truth** have erred...and overthrow the faith of some.”
- **Second Timothy 3:8**, focuses on those who will “resist **the truth**: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.”
- **Second Timothy 4:4**, says “And they shall turn away their ears from **the truth**, and shall be turned unto fables.”
- **First Timothy 6:5**, refers to those who are “destitute of **the truth.**”
- **Second Thessalonians 2:10**, refers to those who “received not the love of **the truth**, that they might be saved.”
- **Second Thessalonians 2:12**, refers to those who are “damned who believed not **the truth.**”

**Our mandate is to “Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth”** (Ephesians 6:14). Standing for the truth will not be popular, and that is why many refuse to preach all the truth. We have become very selective in preaching only that truth that will not offend people.

## **The Scoffers Will Be Numerous**

Many will scoff according to the signs so clearly revealed in prophecy.

## **Second Peter 3:3-4,**

“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts. And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.”

The scoffers say “all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.” The reason they say that is because, “they willingly are ignorant of...the word of God” (Second Peter 3:5).



# “The Time Is At Hand”

## **Romans 13:11-12,**

“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.”

## **First Peter 4:7,**

“But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.”

## **Matthew 24:32-33,**

“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.”

# The Path of The Christian In The Last Days

## 1. We Must Realize These Things Were Prophesied

**We must face the facts and face the future.** What we are experiencing today is all prophesied. Matthew 24 plainly gives us the end-time conditions of the world and the churches. Jude also warned us to be prepared. We should not be taken off guard.

### Jude 1:17-19,

*“But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.”*

## 2. Our Responsibility During The Last Days

### Jude 1:2-25,

#### 1. Building Up Yourselfes

##### Verse 20,

*“But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith.”*

To build something is to put things together. To build up ourselves is to put together what is happening in these last days. The word ‘faith’ here refers to what we believe. To be saved from the influences of apostasy we need to *“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee”* (First Timothy 4:16).

#### 2. Keeping Yourselfes In The Love of God

##### Verse 21,

*“Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”*

#### 3. Having A Genuine Concern For Christians Who Are Being Deceived

##### Verse 22-23,

*“And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.”*

#### 4. Realizing That Only The Lord Can Keep Us From Falling For The Apostasy

##### Verse 24,

*“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”*

*“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark (charama; from the Greek charax meaning to stake down into.) **in** (not on) **their right hand,** or **in** **their foreheads:** And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”*

(Revelation 13:16-18)

# Understanding Why Apostasy Prevails

## **1. There Will Be A Rejection of Preaching In The Last Days**

### **Second Timothy 4:3,**

*“For the time will come when they will not endure (translated “suffer” seven times) sound doctrine.”*

The time has come when professed Christians will not endure sound doctrine. The Greek word translated “endure” here has been translated “suffer” seven times. We are plainly told in **Second Timothy 3:12**, “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” Persecution according to the dictionary is simply “ill-treatment because of beliefs.” Here is a question; Has anyone given you any “ill-treatment” lately because of your beliefs?

## **2. There Will Be Ear Tickling Preachers In The Last Days**

### **Second Timothy 4:3,**

*“They heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.”*

Church members would not be able to “heap to themselves” teachers that will tickle their ears if there wasn’t a “heap” of teachers around to do the job.

## **3. There Will Be A Lustful Leadership In The Last Days**

### **Second Timothy 4:3,**

*“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts (desires) shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.”*

We usually associate “lusts” with something sinful; however, the Greek word translated “lusts” in this verse is “epithymia.” It has been translated “**desire**” three times. The dictionary says a desire is “a strong feeling of wanting to have something or wishing for something to happen.”

## Desires Are Not Always Bad

### **Luke 22:15, Jesus Desired To Eat The Passover With His Disciples**

*“And he said unto them, With **desire** I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer.”*

### **Philippians 1:23, Paul Desired To Be With Christ**

*“For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a **desire** to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better.”*

### **First Thessalonians 2:17, Paul Desired To Meet With Fellow Christians**

*“But now having no more place in these parts, and having a great **desire** these many years to come unto you.”*

### **All preachers desire to see the attendance increase.**

That is a good desire; however, one of the reasons preachers quit teaching “all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27), is they know if they preach like Paul preached they may suffer ill-treatment, as did Paul, who spoke of everyone turning “away” from him (Second Timothy 1:5). And so armed with only those Scriptures that won’t offend anyone ear tickling preachers can preach while still having their desires met, resting in the fact that their desires are good ones.

## “Establish Your Hearts”

### **James 5:8,**

*“Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.”*

This is a time to be “patient” and a time to “establish our hearts.” The dictionary says to establish something is to “set up an organization, system, or set of rules on a firm or permanent basis.” God has a “set of rules.” In these days of apostasy let us be sure we are “stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (First Corinthians 15:58).