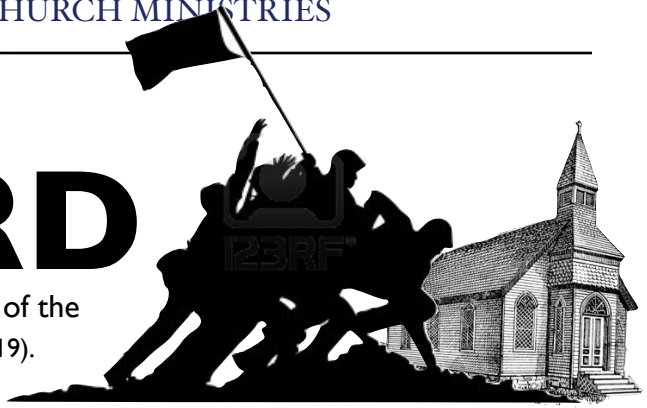


Lifting Up The STANDARD

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

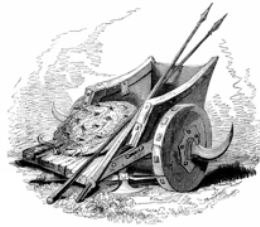


Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Monday, July 20, 2015

“Men That Had Understanding of The Times.”

“And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.”
(First Chronicles 12:32)



- Verse 23, “Ready armed to the war.”
- Verse 24, “Ready armed to the war.”
- Verse 33, “Expert in war.”
- Verse 33, “With all instruments of war.”
- Verse 35, “Expert in war.”
- Verse 36, “Expert in war.”
- Verse 37, “With all manner of instruments of war.”
- Verse 38, “Men of war, that could keep rank”

But They Needed Something More

First Chronicles 12:32 they needed,

“Men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel **ought to do.**”

We Also Need To Know What We “Ought To Do.”

In our present day, we have many men and much machinery; however, we are losing the battle. We are not losing because of a lack of equipment or mighty men. We are losing because God’s “people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6).

It is not enough to understand “the times” in which we live, it is also necessary to know what we “**ought to do.**”

(Continued on page two)

Israel Was In Trouble

The situation in Israel was very serious mainly because the leadership of God’s people, much like today, was in a mess.

Their Leader Was Dead Because of His Disobedience

Chapter 10:13,14,

“So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not...And enquired not of the Lord: therefore he slew him.”

Chapter 10:1,

The Enemies of Israel Were Attacking.

“The Philistines fought against Israel.”

Israel Had Men And Machinery

- Verse 2, “Armed with bows.”
- Verse 7, “Men of war fit for the battle.”

“These things write I unto thee...that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

(First Timothy 3:14,15)

Understanding Our Times

Second Timothy 3:1,

*“This know also, that in the last days
perilous times shall come.”*

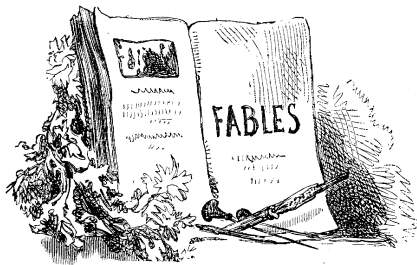
A Time of **Anarchy** In The World

We need to face the fact that we live in a world of anarchy. Anarchy is the non-recognition of authority. We live in a time when the average person in the world rejects all authority and wants only to “do that which is right in his own eyes.”

A Time of **Apostasy** Among God’s People

We need to face the fact that the **majority** of what we call Christianity is apostate. Apostasy is simply turning from revealed truth. In the 60s I saw what we call the *evangelical movement* promoting apostasy. Now, over forty years later, I am witnessing the *fundamental movement* promoting apostasy at an alarming rate. Leaders who call themselves fundamentalists are now turning from revealed truth.

- a. What we call Christianity, fundamentalism included, is turning “unto fables” (Second Timothy 4:6).
- b. We are living in the Laodicean age that was prophesied in the Book of Revelation.



“And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”
(Second Timothy 4:4)

A Time of **Apathy** Among The Remnant

All through the old Testament, when God’s people went apostate, God always had a remnant. The same is true today. Romans 11:5 says, “Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant.”

- a. **Our greatest danger today is the possibility of apathy among the remnant.**
- b. Apathy is the loss of concern for our responsibility.
- c. Israel’s remnant was hiding in caves when the flood of apostasy came.
- d. Seven thousand had not bowed the knee to Baal; however, they were nowhere to be found when Elijah faced the enemies of God alone.
- e. Another 100 prophets were cowering in caves.
- f. If our remnant does not take their responsibilities seriously, we will go into captivity with the rest of God’s people as the enemy comes in like a flood.
- g. We must not let that happen.

Understand The Facts Concerning The Last Days

1. When Jesus Returns He Will Find Few Who Are Truly Saved.

Luke 18:8 - Jesus said,

“When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”

2. Few Christians Will Be Walking The Narrow Path.

Matthew 7:14 - Jesus said,

“Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

- a. Matthew 7:14, has absolutely nothing to do with a few unsaved people finding the road to Heaven.
- b. From chapter five to the end of chapter seven, Jesus was speaking about the walk of the believer.
- c. If we study these chapters in the Bible rather than believing what we read in Bible commentaries, we will see that to be a fact.
- d. When Christ said “few” would find the narrow path, He was talking about *Christians* walking the narrow way. Few Christians are finding the narrow way because few Christians are looking for it.

3. Jesus Said When He Returned It Would Be Like The Days of Noah.

- a. Only eight people were saved.

First Peter 3:20 says they,

- a. “Were disobedient...in the days of Noah...wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved.”
- b. In Noah’s day people were calling upon the name of the Lord.

Genesis 4:26,

“Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord”

Matthew 24:29,

“The flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

We Can’t Make Them Drink!

Paul spent his life as a Christian with one major purpose and that was to help others. Writing to the Corinthians he said it was his desire “That we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God” (Second Corinthians 1:4).



To the Corinthians, Paul said “I wrote unto you with many tears...that ye might know the

love which I have more abundantly unto you.” He continued, “I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you” (Second Corinthians 7:3).

Paul continued saying “And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved” (Second Corinthians 12:15).

“Ye Would Not”

The phrase “**would not**” is in the Word of God 118 times. The phrase “**ye would not,**” came from the lips of Moses four times. He wanted to be a helper to their joy but they would not listen. The prophet Isaiah said, “In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and **ye would not**” (Isaiah 30:15).

The prophet Jeremiah said, “Because **they have not hearkened to my words,** saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but **ye would not hear,** saith the LORD” (Jeremiah 29:19).

Jesus said, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and **ye would not!**” (Luke 13:34).

In John 5:40 Jesus said, “**Ye will not** come to me, that ye might have life.”

They Must Choose

It is discouraging for a pastor or a parent when the people they care about refuse to listen; however, they must make their own choices and face the consequences of their choices.

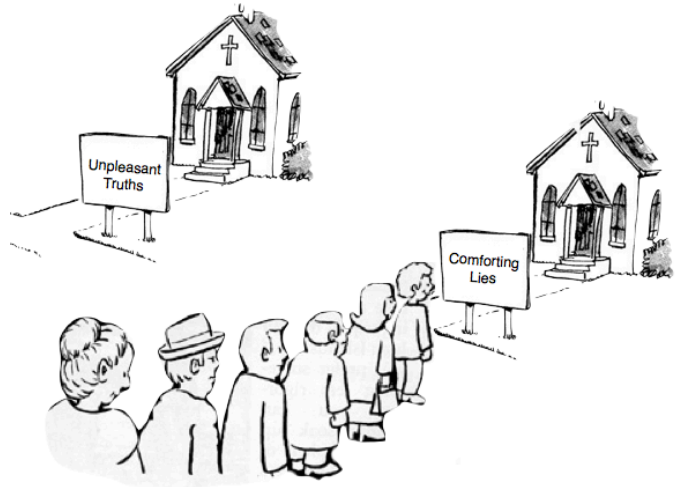
Paul said “I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart...for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh” (Romans 9:1-3). Paul also said, “Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:26).

We must realize that we do not have “*dominion over the faith*” of our listeners we are simply “*helpers of their joy*” (Second Corinthians 1:24). **Do not put a guilt trip on yourself because people will not listen.**

You can point them to the Bible but you can't make them drink from the “*well of water springing up into everlasting life*” (John 4:14).

Swelling Is Not Growth

You can smack your thumb with a hammer and you will have swelling, however, swelling and growth are two different things. There is much swelling in the ranks of some churches today.



Paul's Final Message

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

(Second Timothy 4:1-8)

A Successful Church Cannot Be Determined By A Crowd

A church that has hundreds of people sitting in a building getting their weekly fix of religion while remaining spiritual pygmies is not a successful church in God's eyes.

God wants people who are capable of, “Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers” (Titus 1:9).

A successful church is a church that teaches the truth of the Word of God and its doctrine without compromise.

Daily Fifteen Minute Internet Broadcast



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