

Essay Follow-up

10-08-16

The description of the “asylum” in the essay is so on point as it seems that truth is all but absent in our society in any form. We know that Satan is hard at work in the world as his time is growing shorter by the day. We know he is the father of all lies (**John 8:44**) and in the end times many shall be deceived. (**Mark 13:6**)

“All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.” - **Psalm 25:10**

Jeremiah 7:28 – “But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the Lord their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth.”

A fractured form at best makes its way to the evening news depending on who owns the network and forget the political arena. As citizens, we are no longer offered viable candidates of character and integrity running on achievements but we are now forced to select one who is likely to cause the least amount of damage and with the shortest criminal history. When a candidate has no accomplishments of their own to stand on, they resort to mudslinging or rely on statements made by the other from 20 years ago. The irony is both profess to be a Christian. (**John 8:7**) After being involved in these Bible studies for some time now, I think we know the definition of a Christian is a bit more involved than the mere professing to be one. From some of the previous essays, I found the guidance encouraging not to focus on such worldly things as I can find myself getting caught up in the trappings of the political and “patriotic” concerns and lose sight of being a “monarchist” as one article described.

Also this week, we had our first close call hurricane in a decade with Hurricane Matthew. I actually listened in on a conference call for the Collier County EOC. Unreal. Even with the storm track predicting the track miles off the east coast, some on the call were almost hoping for a crisis to “come our way.” Some of the questions being asked by those on the call would certainly make you question their competence to be in such a position. Even watching the Weather Channel reports this week, some reporters couldn’t resist the chance to embellish their report. One actually changed the radar trajectory to go into hypothetical damages. Granted, where it did hit further north it caused significant damage as it was a category 3 initially. But the insanity and hype is rampant. “Behold, they are all of vanity; their works are nothing: their molten images are wind and confusion.” – **Isaiah 41:29**

Back in the 60's, there used to be a television seal of good practice. It was actually done away with in 1983. There were TV news standards as well. Today, anything goes on TV. I've also seen it from a law enforcement perspective over my career. No matter what you tell the press, they'll spin it in a direction to get more excitement out of a story, regardless of truthful content and without consequence. You may occasionally see someone get caught up in a scandal but rarely unless they can make the exposure a bigger story.

But God will not tolerate this conduct forever, quite the contrary. **Romans 1:18** – “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;”

There will come a time in the not too distant future where the truth of God's Word will all but disappear. It has become so diluted and watered down we must not succumb to the confusion of the world we live in. It is all but absent now in our schools, our government and in actuality, our churches. This chaos will only get worse, the confusion and persecution of our faith will only intensify. But Christ's prayer to The Father in **John 17:17** solidifies our position, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is **truth**.”

As we prepare to depart next week for the Feast of Tabernacles, let us keep focused on God, His Word and purpose for us, edifying one another, the service of those in need and remaining faithful and true in our walk with Him in all aspects of life. Easier said than done, I know. I used to tell the troops that “some of us are stronger than most of us but none of us are stronger than all of us.” Well, as we are all part of the body of Christ, in Him we can accomplish all things together according to His will. **Phil. 4:13, Romans 12:5, 1 Cor. 12:12, 1 Cor. 12:27**

I know we all face storms and trials every day. How we face and deal with them individually is in reality how and what God is teaching us and working into and removing from our lives. A character overhaul if you will. We are all a work in progress for His Kingdom. Most times these lessons are not enjoyable and if we do not learn them we get to repeat the course until we pass. It may take us the rest of our lives but the best part is if we get a passing grade we get the first trumpet call!

Lately, we have had the heat turned up a bit on us a group. We can groan as “how much more can we take” or like Paul and Silas, we can have that “hanging on the wall faith” (**Acts 16:23-30**), PRAISE GOD FOR THE STORMS. Stand fast in the faith! **Phil. 4.1, 1 Thes. 3:8, 2 Thes. 2:15**. We must be on the right track. To God be the glory, now and forever, Amen!

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