

August 2020 Newsletter

told the thief on the cross, who had believed on him, *“I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in Paradise.”* Luke 23:43. Again, a statement of profound faith.

We could go back to the beginning, where the Father had promised the Son that he was going to do so many things for him: a people, nations, the earth, the universe; statements that Christ believed! Psalms 2. He even covenanted with the Son over these things. Hebrews 13:20.

There were many things written in the old testament that applied to Christ; and many things in the new testament that he had said, that were all reflective of the faith that Christ had and lived by, while he was here on the earth. Even Galatians 2:20 has been translated by some as, *“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live **by the faith of the Son of God, or, because of the faith of the son of God.**”*

But any way you look at it, **Christ lived by faith**. Before his incarnation, he believed everything that the first person of the Godhead (the Father) said. In his incarnation, he believed the old testament scriptures, and put his complete trust in the Father's plan, provision and power in regards to his life here on earth. It was his faith in the Word that took him up to the cross; and it sustained him on the cross, even when his Father had forsaken him. **And he is now seated in heaven with perfected faith.**

Did the Lord live by faith? Some say no; he was God they say, he didn't have to live by faith. Well he was God, and still is, but we still see statements of his faith in the Father. But there were statements that he had made that tell us a lot about these things. The statements that he had made about the Father point to the fact that he had a first hand knowledge about the Father. He was with his Father in glory; his Father spoke the words to him that he wanted us to hear; and many other statements that spoke of Christ's knowledge, rather than faith. Now remember, one has the knowledge of something by seeing, hearing, experiencing, etc.. The things that Christ spoke in the gospels about these things came from his first hand experience of being there with the Father prior to his incarnation. But these things all had one thing in common, they all dealt with the past! He had been with the Father, seen him, talked to him; received the words from him that he wanted him to speak.

But now he's facing a different situation in the present, in his humanity, and **regarding the future**. And, it is as he is facing the many things that he was going through at the moment, and the things that he would go through in the future; **it was those things that he would face with faith in the Father's promises. Christ lived by the very concept that he began- faith.** The *Archegos* was the one who began a project and brought it to completion; the one who originated a concept and perfected it. **And Jesus was the one who originated the concept of the faith and perfected it.**

Now it was not that faith began in the new testament, for we see it all the way through the old testament. But we see it **as the means by which the believer is perfected; and we see that it was implemented by Christ as the manner in which all believers on earth are to live their lives; faith in the Father, his promises, his plan, his provisions and his power.**

Jesus Christ was the first of a new species of humanity, the prototype after which all other believers would be patterned. He was the **Chief of a Tribe; the Prince of a Nation; the Founder of a School; the King of a Kingdom; the Head of the Church; the Originator of a concept,** thus instituting the concept of living by faith in the Father. **He participated in it himself, and brought it to**

completion and perfection. Thus paving the way that he himself has established for us to follow, as members of this elite body of new humanity.

Concerning the future, a future that Christ had not come to yet, the Lord had faith in the Father's plan, provision, power and promises. So he could go on and face the things that he had to face, each and every day of his life; the rejection of his nation, Israel; the sneers and jeers of the crowd; the humiliation of a mock and unjust trial; his friends abandoning him; the horror of crucifixion and his own death; and Hell. He could do this because he knew, by faith, that the Father would protect him, and provide for him everything that he would need, every day of his life, so that he could accomplish his Father's plan. And he did this all the way to the cross, trusting that the Father would raise him from the dead.

But, as I've said before, the significant and interesting things that happened was his statement in Acts 2 and Psalms 16, where he said that *“His heart was glad and his tongue rejoiced”*, and that, *“His body would also rest secure”*. And note Christ was concerned about his body, as we are, showing how human he was.

Christ experienced inner joy, (a joy not based on circumstances); an inner happiness, where he was comforted, assured, had a deep sense of inner well being; and the basis of that, what brought that state about in him, was Christ believing that he would be raised from the dead by the Father's power and faithfulness. He knew that he would come back to life, in this life, in three days; and that his body would not decay. This gave him that moment by moment sense of well-being, security and inner joy.

And more than this, this was the validation, the vindication, the proof, the overt demonstration to all the rest of these new creatures that God would create on the earth, that this new concept of metabolized faith in the promises of God, that he, Christ, had originated and brought to completion; that this metabolized doctrine in the soul would create a state of peace and inner happiness in the soul, that would so strengthen the soul, that the believer could endure any trial on earth; death, suffering, rejection, grief, abandonment, etc.. This is the legacy, the doctrinal system that Christ has left behind for all his new brothers created by God. That faith in the Word of God is not only sufficient enough to take us through life and it's trials, but is the concept regarding life on earth that all of us are to live by.

Christ had to live by faith so he could receive from the Father all that the Father had promised him. The promises of God are believed by faith, and are appropriated by faith. We may have to go through certain trials in the process of getting them, but they still are received by faith. That is why endurance is needed in the trial, so that we can go through the trial to receive the blessing of God on the other side.

The pattern is: God wants to bless us; he has established a plan whereby he can bless us (established upon the principles of grace, faith and truth); he has established every provision to bring it about; he has the power to accomplish it; and he has ordained the principle of suffering that is, apparently, needed to bring it about.

Now God is the one doing it for us, all we need to do is trust him as he brings it about. This trusting is based upon: the believer's need for the Word of God, so he can have something to put his faith in; patience because of the time factor; and endurance, because of the trials and sufferings that he will have to go through.

Now we're starting to see this factor for the entire body of Christ on the earth and ourselves, **but we also need to see that this pattern was there for Christ.** The Father had promised him certain, and many things, all of them fantastic blessings; and he came to earth to get them, as well as accomplish the Father's will and plan.

Certain things happened to Christ on the earth as he was here in his humanity; certain things that he went through; and **certain things were attempted against Christ by the devil and his people, but were all thwarted by the providential power of his Father.** And all during this time he moves forward in the plan of the Father (forward momentum); utilizing the dynamic he instituted for the rest of the people of God, metabolizing the Word of God by faith. And as he was moving forward in faith, accomplishing the Father's will, he was defeating the powers of darkness, and gathering in his train, his trail, his wake, the body of people composed of those given to him by the Father; having to go through that major step that was necessary to appropriate what was given to him by the Father; atoning for the sins of the elect. Then after his death and resurrection, he was taken into heaven to be at the right hand of the Father on high.

Although there were many wonderful aspects about Jesus Christ, while he was here on earth, his forgiveness, his mercy, his patience, his love, his faithfulness, his graciousness, his commitment, his relaxed mental attitude, his love of the truth, etc.; **the single sole ingredient that stood out above the rest was his total orientation, commitment to and faith in the Father and his will.** And this is the manner in which we are to live our lives here on earth in the flesh, as Christ did. We have to start with a premise: that God saved us by his grace, and if he did, then for what purpose? Just to get us into heaven? Or did he also have something in mind for us while we're here on earth? A plan whereby he could bless us now and for all eternity? And if this is the case, and it is, then he already has an established plan for each of his children, (Christ being the first of us in the Royal family), and is seeking to see it implemented in our lives. He is the one doing it, and we are to simply move forward in it by faith.

This concept of faith in the Father's plan was originated by Christ as its Author, and is to be the dynamic for the whole Church of Christ! A concept that most Christians are ignorant of because it has never been taught to them. They instead, look at the Christian life as going to Church, singing songs, being entertained, being good, being involved in programs, activities of all kinds, and the rest of it.

When Christ said to take up our cross and follow him, **he was telling us to follow him by following his example of faith in the Father and his plan.** You say you don't know what it is! **You don't have to know what it is!** All that matters is that the Father knows what it is! All you need to know is that you're to go by faith! Don't you think that the Father is capable of leading you in his plan, as he did his Son, through the leading ministry of the Holy Spirit? Faith and trust comes in, when you don't know what it is!

What we have to understand is the necessity of being oriented to, and understanding this concept. **The concept that Christ both originated and perfected, the concept of faith in the Father and his will;** the concept that he has a plan for our lives, just as he had a plan for Christ's life, his own Son. And we need to see as well how doctrine, faith and grace are all a part of this. So many Christians plan their own lives and activities; their ideas, their plans, their works, (and their own self-glorification), and then look to God in some concept of faith to have him bless them and make their works come to be. Instead of looking to the Father in faith and adjusting their lives to the concept, that the Father has his plan for our lives. Not our plan for our lives, but his plan! And be living our lives by faith in him, as he unveils

his plan for our lives daily.

In Isa.50: 4, the Lord said that the Father woke him up each morning for instruction in the Word. Can we not see the Father actively working in the Son's life, leading him along in his plan? Did not the Father's spirit lead him into the wilderness to be tested by the devil? Can we not see the Father at work in our own lives? Or do we have such little faith? Do we think that the things that befall us in life are but happenstance, chance, coincidence? Or can't we see an eternal, omniscient, all-present God working all things out in accordance to the good-pleasure of his will? Faith in the Father and his plan is the legacy given by Christ to all the members of this new species of humanity; and is to be the sole and dynamic drive for all of us in our day to day living before God.

As we had mentioned, **suffering is a part of this package of the Father's will**, even though it is unpleasant for us. In Isaiah 53:10 it says, "*Yet it was Yahweh's will to crush him and cause him to suffer*". The translation that says it was his "*good pleasure*" does not imply that *Yahweh* got some kind of perverse pleasure out of seeing his son suffer, or any of us for that matter. What it speaks of is the will of the Father, which suffering, was necessary to accomplish the objective of redeeming the lost souls of those under judgment.

In Isaiah 53:7 where it says, "*He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth, he was led like a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.*" And the reason why, is that he knew by faith that all this was ordained for him in the Father's will, it was necessary to go through all this to redeem us. As he said, "*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own why; and Yahweh has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*" Isaiah 53:6.

There is an objective that the Father is seeking to accomplish. Not something that he wants to do and is trying to do, but an overall purpose determined by him in eternity past, and to attain to that which he has purposed, certain things had and have to be done. And that is where suffering, sometimes is necessary.

The Lord Jesus was absolutely sold out and committed to the will and plan of his Father for he saw the wonder of his will, and the absolute wonderfulness of the person of the Father.

Subjectively, he did love the Father, objectively he knew about all the wonderful things the Father had planned, and saw how delightful they were. So that, when it came down to doing the Father's will here on earth, he was 100% committed to it.

Now we come down to ourselves. **Do we have faith in the Father?** Do we have faith in his plan? His power? His provision? His promises? Do we believe that the Father is moving us along in his plan, even in ways that we do not understand, or know about? Can we see the need for faith and his Word in all this? Can we not see a parallel between the sheep of Christ and their Shepherd in all this? Are we not to have faith in the Father, as the son did? Shouldn't we have faith in his plan for our lives? Is it that we are afraid, because so much, if not all, our lives are out of our control? Or do we think that we have the illusion of control? But are they out of the Father's control?

What about Ephesians 1:11, "*In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.*" Here we see that **we have been chosen**; we did not choose him, but he chose us! As Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 1:9, **God saved according to his grace and his purpose**. And seeing that we were predestined to this election and salvation according to the plan of God; and that, God works out everything in conformity to the

purpose of his will, are our lives then out of control? Well to us, they seem to be at times, but not to God! He is in control of everything in our lives, so that it will be in conformity to his will for our lives.

And from this position, can we not also begin to apply 1 Thessalonians 5:18, which tells us, *“In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* If we believe that God has saved us by his grace, through faith in Jesus Christ; and that God has a plan for our lives; and that God is in control of all things; and that he works out everything in our life in conformity to what his will is for our lives, can we not begin to start thanking him for all things? This is where we really start having faith in the Father, and faith in his will for our lives, as the Lord did. **Remember, that the Father is working according to his plan, not our plan!!!**

One can thank God mechanically for all the things (circumstances) in his life, or he can thank God, because he really sees and believes that the Father is in control of all the things that come into his life, orchestrating them in accordance with his predetermined plan to bring that believer to completion of faith and maturity.

Faith in the Father means that one has confidence in the Father to not put you, or allow you, to be put in a situation without the sufficient grace provision to handle it. It means that **you have confidence in the Father's perfect plan, in his power, his provision, and his promises**. You have faith that he loves you, that his intentions towards you are the absolute good; that he has a wonderful future planned for you now, and in eternity, that he is in control of all things (circumstances).

Faith in the Father therefore **develops into submission in true humility to the Father's dealings with you, without argument or resistance**. It is truly the response of a trusting child submitting to its Father in trust. It goes back to not what we are doing, but what God has done, what God had decided. *“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight,”* Ephesians 1:4. The all things (circumstances) that God has control over are designed to do that!

Faith in the Father is developed in the area of confidence in regards to his intentions towards us, and brought out by the fact, that, *“In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.”* Ephesians 1:5.

Christ showed us the way that he wants us to follow. He showed us the results of it, he showed us how perfect and good the Father's plan was, how perfect his provisions were for every circumstance; how mighty his power was to protect and provide as well; and how the soul was sustained and strengthened, how the soul survived and was matured, by applying the concept of faith in the Father.

63. Faith towards our priesthood function.

Not so much in our circles, but one that is often overlooked in many of the churches today, is the fact that **Christians are the priests of God**. *“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”* 1 Peter 2:9. And faith in regards to this concept believes that this is really true; and that it is an effective function. That is to say, that God wants us to function as priests, and when we do function in our individual priesthood's, we have tremendous impact!

I don't know whether we have thought much about it, but when God saved us, he could have left us as his pardoned subjects and left it at that. But he didn't! **He went beyond that** and adopted us, so that we are now his children. Obviously, this was a tremendous elevation in position, from being raised from

one of the subjects of a King, to being brought into his household as one of the members of the royal family. Then we could talk about the nature of the new man in the act of regeneration and the glory to be given to us. But something else was going on here, because God wanted us to be priests as well! A position and function that is totally different from all others.

We had been studying on **Melchizedek and his priesthood** and how it was perfect for us, for **it had no generalized requirements**; and race, sex, family ties, lack of nobility were also not a factor in gaining admission into it. In fact, **one gained admission by appointment**. Not like the Order of Levi, which was only open to males, and of the Tribe of Levi. God wanted us to be priests, but the problem with the majority of the people in the royal family of God, is that we were either of: the wrong sex, the wrong race, of lowly birth, or had some defect or problem about us. This would have barred us from any access to the Levitical priesthood. But God wanted us to be priests too, as well as his children, and the bride of his son. So he had to have a priesthood where these things were not a factor that could prevent us from admission into the order. (One must not confuse his position as a priest, with his position and function in his spiritual gift function in the Church.) So the Order of Melchizedek was perfect, because it had no such requirements for admission. Admission to it was by appointment only, and the Father is the one who does the appointing.

When we say that **functioning in our priesthood is an effective function**, we say that it really works, that it has impact on: our lives, on other people's lives, on our society. A priest represents (acts on behalf of) himself to God; and he also represents others to God; and he represents God to others. He also enjoys the status of being closer to God than the rest of people in the society. He offers up gifts and sacrifices; he worships and conducts worship; and speaks directly to God in prayer. One of the areas we have tremendous impact in, is in the area of representing others before God, and this is in our prayer life; especially other believers.

We know that each believer has the privilege and responsibility of representing themselves before the Lord, but so many fail to do this due to: their ignorance of the matter, their own immaturity, their involvement in the world system of Satan, their flesh nature activity, their rebellion against the Lord, their negative volition (-V) against doctrine, etc., etc.. Objectively we could say their own misery has been brought upon themselves due to their wrong choices. They made their own bed, now let them lie in it! But because our hearts are moved by compassion, love, mercy, or because they impact our lives personally, we are moved to represent them before God in prayer! We, as priests, are now performing in an area that they should be performing in, but aren't, due to various reasons. So we take up their situation before God; functioning as priests; praying along doctrinal lines. Sometimes they are so beat down, they can't even pray for themselves.

Faith in your priesthood means, that you have the confidence that when you pray and function as a priest, which entails also the giving out of divine viewpoint (DVP), doctrinal information, that it will really have an effect. You know that **God has made you a priest, not to have a meaningless title, but to function in, with dynamic results**. To have tremendous spiritual impact in your own life, in your family and home, in society, your friends, neighbors and relatives, to the glory of God and the spreading of his will and reign on earth. Operating not by anger, but by love.

As the **Apostle John** wrote, *"You have made them to be kings and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."* Revelations 5:10. And the **Apostle Peter** wrote, *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood (a priesthood of kings), a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."* 1 Peter 2:9.

We are priests; God has made us to be priests, we will have tremendous spiritual impact if we function in our priesthood. **Our priesthood stays with us all through life and eternity and cannot be taken away from us.** No one can stop us from functioning as priests, only we can fail in that area. One may not play a major role in society, he may not even play a major role in the church that he or she attends, but they can play a major role in their priesthood function. They just need to see that, believe it, and act upon it.

Some people crave to be in the limelight, to be the center of attention; others want to be at the head of political and religious movements. **But there is an invisible area, seen only by God, that all Christians are to be actively functioning in, and that's the area of their priesthood.** The Church in America has gotten off track to this degree, that the emphasis for the instrument of change has been money, politics, TV, and other similar concepts of crowd control, rather than emphasizing the spiritual impact of the believer's priesthood.

A priest had an access to God different from all others; and so, he could pray and put his requests before God; and then it was God who made his requests come to be; instead of the believer going out in his own strength and ideas to make them come to be. The believer needs to have faith before God; and faith that his standing as a priest is not without notice and importance. For God has appointed him to that position; so that, **when that believer functions in the capacity of his priesthood, especially, say in the area of prayers, that God takes special notice of that and grants his requests.** His priesthood is his spiritual access to God, made possible by Christ the High Priest!

You don't have money? You don't have an education? You don't have political power? You don't belong to a political action group? You don't have a position in a church? People don't listen to you; they don't follow your advice, even when it's Biblical? You say, they don't even know who I am? Unimportant! All of these things matter not at all in spiritual matters. **God knows who you are! He has made you one of his priests; and you have access to him.** And what all these people are trying to do by power means, one lone believer can do in the quietness and privacy of his own life in his/her priesthood! And the believer king/priest needs to know that, and be confident in it, so he/she can boldly approach the throne of grace for grace and mercy, not only for themselves, but for those they are interceding for. But you say, "Mike, I know these people, and they'll never get straightened out. They don't deserve it." Quite true. **But since when did any of us deserve God's grace??**

The priesthood of the brotherhood has been designed by God to have great impact in this life here on earth, (as well as eternity), against the devil and his kingdom, if we will use it! And to use it, we have to see that we have it; believe it; and act upon it. And that's why we have to have faith concerning our priesthood and be functioning in it. We have to be able to say to ourselves, "I am a believer, and I am a priest, for God has made me to be his priest. And so, I am to function as a priest, not only representing myself before God in my prayers, but others as well; who, for whatever reason, are not representing themselves before God." See Job in his function, also, for his sons and daughters.

64. Faith in tribulation, apostasy and national judgment.

To say that believer's are insecure and fearful at times is an understatement. Most believers walk around in a state of anxiety, which is a state of fear. Fear concerning health problems, finances, our families, the government, plague us at different times. And to think that we would have to go through tribulation, or apostasy with it's declining social state, or national judgment, is something, that, well, we would rather not think about. **But this is where faith needs to be developed to the place that the believer will have the confidence that he knows that God will take care of him, regardless of what**

he has to go through. He is confident that God will have a sufficient grace provision to meet whatever the believer is confronted with at the moment that he needs it. As he told Paul, *"My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made complete in the area of your weakness."* 2 Corinthians 12:9. This confidence comes about as the result of trials, the exercising of faith in the Word of God, and from the personal experience of having watched God come through for you in the past. These experiences can be "confidence builders" for the believer. And since **God has taken care of us in the past, why then, can we not count on him to take care of us in the future?**

One of the things that is on the mind of most believers, and even many unbelievers, is the state of affairs in our own country and what is going on around the world. What with GATT; the NAFTA treaty; the economy; the currency situation; the destruction of our sovereignty and the move towards a centralized one-world government; a national ID card, health care card, bio-chip cards, a numbering system for all people; the marked increase of UN and foreign troops on our land, and a definite decrease of our own military forces, with a large number of them stranded overseas where they couldn't protect us if needed, all add up to a real concern for the believer's here in America. What's going to happen? Will I lose my home? How will I feed my family? Are we going to go through tribulation? Through the tribulation? (Maybe if I join a pre-trib church, I won't have to go through the tribulation?)

This is where faith comes in. Faith in the Father's plan, his power, his provisions, his promises. Has he not called us to be alive at this time in history? Has he not then also centered his plan for our lives at this time in history? However history unfolds at this time in the Church Age, he has planned for us to be here, to function, and to go through certain things. And if he has planned it, does he not also have the sufficient power, grace and provisions for us to go through it?

Never before in history has the- all things that are necessary - for the concluding of the age been in existence. If they are not completely in place, they are in the process of coming together right now. The worldwide economic system; a world currency, which is right around the corner; a world government; a world military force; a worldwide economic, accounting, and surveillance terminal for spying on all people in Belgium (called "the BEAST", Belgian Economic Accounting and Surveillance Terminal); a one world religion, are already in the making. The only thing that is lacking is the "finishing touch" where all the different components are brought together as a single, efficient operating entity under the control of the anti-christ.

Who will this man of lawlessness be? Is he alive today? Do we know his identity? Not for sure, but we do know some things about him. 1) He will be an Israelite, perhaps from the tribe of Dan; Judah and Benjamin could figure in as well. 2) He will be in one of the esoteric mysteries. 3) He will be allied with the Catholic Roman Church. 4) He will be able to prove his genealogy. 5) Tapped into tremendous wealth and power. 6) He will be European. 7) From one of the dynasties that have ruled Europe.

Karl von Hapsburg is one candidate. His family has ruled for many years in Europe, and carries the dual titles of Ruler of the Holy Roman Empire, and the King of Jerusalem. Another candidate is King Juan Carlos of Spain. He, as with Karl, has all these historic ties and money, and are all, as the rest of the Kings and nobility of Europe, related to one another. And he too carries the title of Ruler of the Holy Roman Empire, and the King of Jerusalem; and has been called the son of David. Some have thought it to be tied to the Royal Family of England. And then there is the Ethiopian called Maitreya, a Sufi-Moslem. We have to understand that there are several groups, call them monarchies, dynasties, secret societies, religions, that are all vying for world domination. I imagine that the Hapsburg's think that their line is the one that should rule Europe and the World. But so does the Juan Carlos line. Then what about British Israelism and their desire to put their throne in Jerusalem, from which it came

according to their tradition. And what about the Roman Catholic Church's age old desire to move the Basilica to Jerusalem? Then there is the Sufi-Muslim's man called Maitreya. We do know, though, this overall plan of what, whom, where, how all this is going to be, and see it in operation right now. The question we have is if, and/or how much, is this going to have an impact on our lives?

This is where, again, the believer has to have faith in the Father and faith in his plan. When we see the whole world being prepared for the rule of the anti-christ, can't we see that it is all necessary? That these things are all necessary for the return of Christ to earth and his rule? Don't we realize that the rise of evil around the world, including America, could not have happened, unless the Holy Spirit had been removing his restraining power, and allowing it? Where does that leaves us? We are here in the Father's plan in all this and he has a purpose for this. If we take the position that Christian's will be going through all, or some of this, and many are going through tribulation (pressure) right now because of the world system, then we have to realize that something bigger than our own personal lives is going on here and we'll have to ride out the storm. Rev. 13:10b tells us that, *"This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints."*

Both of these concepts deal with faith. Faithfulness deals with the concept of staying true to faith in the Word. And patient endurance looks at abiding through the difficulty of the situation, which is only three and a half years long, and the difficulty of the way people will be during these days. **As Paul wrote, the last days will be difficult times to bear, because of the people:** selfishness, boastful, evil, violent, demon induced, etc..

We do see some things about this period of time, *"If anyone leads into captivity, into captivity he will led. If anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he will be killed."* Revelations 13:10. Which gives us somewhat of an approach concerning what are activities are not to be during this time; instead we are to be taking **more of a passive resistance against the whole thing**. We do see that many will lose their lives because of their faith in Christ. *"I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the Word of God and the testimony they had maintained."* Revelations 6:9. But cannot we also see that this too was all part of the plan of God for them? *"They called out in a loud voice, 'How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?' Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed."* Revelations 6:10,11.

But there is something else going on that is more important to us than all these things put together; and that is, that our names have been written down in the Book of Life belonging to the Lamb of God. During that period of time the people of the world will be worshipping the devil, and all of them will take the economic Mark of the Beast, so they can survive economically. But there will be one group of people on earth who won't, and that's those people whose names have been written in the Book of Life