

We, The Few

It's been almost two months since I distributed one of my penned pearls of wisdom, such as they are. I have truly struggled with what to write. My goal is to try to bring the real world into perspective and encourage folks, through the Light of Christ, to plow forward, no matter what. Over the last 8 weeks there has been more havoc and chaos in the world than I know how to address.

The man-made chaos of mass shootings, riots over the placement of statues, civil unrest in our country and around the world; not to mention the missile testing going on, on the other side of the globe. The natural disasters of hurricanes, earthquakes, wild fires, floods and draught have plagued us unendingly.

Mankind has adopted so much hatred that has almost become the norm and not the exception. My heart breaks for those who have lost loved ones to all of these tragedies. But, I get angry, too. Who wouldn't? It's all such a waste of human life. Christian or not, these things stir emotion even in the calmest, most spiritual, of us.

Some look around the world and ask "Where is God in all of this?" The hurricanes and earthquakes are "natural" disasters. Scientists might argue for the case of global warming. If that truly is the case, then it is we humans who have created some of the chaos around us. Certainly the unrest among peoples is human behavior. The murder of innocents is definitely human evil.

But this is nothing new. It started with jealousy between brothers. Cain didn't have a weapon of mass destruction, he was in a field, and we can only assume he used a rock. Why, because he was evil and Able was righteous.

And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.
Genesis 4:7

Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.
1 John 3:12

In a recent e-mail exchange with a brother in Christ, while trying to encourage him, I posed the following question:

"If it wouldn't be for the challenges in life, how would we know how strong our faith truly is?"

These past 8 weeks have certainly challenged all of us. In my personal life, I have my own challenges and I face them with prayer and faith. This is how we must face the world. Yet, not just with faith, but also hope and charity.

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.
1 Corinthians 13:13

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.... And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:34-36 & 40

God isn't in the disaster; he is in the neighbor who helps his neighbor. He is in those who comfort the grieving. He is in the rescue workers who bring hope. He is in me. And, He is in you.

Today we face many challenges to our faith. But, we only need to look inward to see the true strength of our faith. Look inward and then share it outwardly.

Some folks are in a position to help financially, some physically. We are all in a position to love our neighbors through prayer! Our neighbors are all of those in need, no matter their location or situation.

The challenges of the distraught are many, the faithful are few.

We, the few, must offer ourselves to the many.



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