



THE GOSPEL TRUMPET®

"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet." Isaiah 58:1



THE BLOOD CRIES

PAGE 6

Editorial

SIN is the root of all oppression; the fount of every bitter cup of human sorrow. The long corridors of time reverberate with the woeful echos of a groaning mankind. As the waves of an ocean, generations rise and fall, each anew with its oppressive governments, and rich, heartless tyrants oppressing the masses. Yes, Solomon, there is nothing new under the sun.

“The power of darkness” yet works in this world, and that, mightily. The darkness of sin. Darkness that blinds minds and one’s understanding. Oppressive darkness; deceptive, destructive. Darkness that divides the human family. Darkness that is expressly working through unimaginably wicked people. Darkness that has infused its power into governments and systems and beastly religions of men.

The evil of darkness is so evident in our time, that even atheists are repulsed and find themselves being “pushed” towards real Christianity for refuge from sin’s vile flood.

Meanwhile, blinded religious professors sleep, riding on the wave of that vile flood, shouting their anathemas as they go against the holy who boldly declare, on the authority of God’s Word, that He has but one church, replete with holy apostles in our day. The Protestant beast, being infused with darkness, will have none of it!

But thanks be to God, for the hour of His judgment is come, and time is up for the dark halls of Babylon. There is a prophetic appointment set for her destruction and it will not be delayed. “Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.” Revelation 18:20.

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ARMAGEDDON NEWS

REPORTED BY BRO. DANIEL EICHELBERGER



Armageddon News could just as truthfully be called *Outrage News*. The items that come across our feed are indeed outrageous...and ludicrous. To think that such goings-on could, well, be going on is both breathtaking and baffling. Surely modern men and women are more brutish than the beasts. Cows and sows spend their lives being themselves. They chew the cud and wallow in the mud, respectively and respectably. That is what they are created to do. But behold just once the foolish contemplations and pretensions of mankind! He (or she?) doesn't even know whether he is male or female half the time. He thinks himself wiser than the ancients and presumes to play God through the machinations and inventions of his own greatly reduced cognition.

Surely the cow and the sow are wiser in their generations than some of the stupid, tottering genus known as *homo sapiens*. The cow at least looks intelligent when it chews its cud, eyes squinting placidly during its ruminations. And who can question that the sow knows how to relax in its barnyard muck without a care? Humans, however...but we digress. Here is the news:

Three Under Fire

Three New Jersey school districts are being sued by Democrat Governor Phil Murphy's administration for recently implementing policies that require staff members to notify parents if their student requests a name or gender identity change. Matt Platkin, the state's Attorney General (AG) announced the lawsuit against the Middletown, Marlboro, and Manalapan-Englishtown school districts, claiming that these policies could "irreparably harm transgender students."

"In New Jersey," a statement on the AG's website reads, "we will not tolerate any action by schools that threatens the health and safety of our young people. Without question, the discriminatory policies passed by these Boards of Education, if allowed to go into effect, will harm our kids and pose severe risk to their safety. Simply put, these policies violate our laws, and we will not relent in protecting our LGBTQ+ community—especially our children—from discrimination."

A lawyer for the Marlboro school district is nonplussed. According to *Fox News Digital*, Attorney Marc Zitomer responded by saying, "It is our position that keeping parents in the dark about important issues involving their children is counter-intuitive and contrary to well-established U.S. Supreme Court case law that says that parents have a constitutional right to direct and control the upbringing of their children."

Killing Children

"Allahu Akbar!" It was the all too familiar terrorist's cry that stunned frightened students at the Lhubiriha Secondary School in Mpondwe, Kasese District, Uganda on the night of June 16. *Morning Star News* reported that, when the ensuing mayhem was over, "at least 37 students, most of them Christians" lay dead. The girls were hacked to death with machetes, while the boys were burned to death after their dormitory was set on fire.

One surviving student, Edgar Mumbere, described in harrowing detail what he witnessed during the attack. As he and other boys hid under their beds, the attackers threw a bomb into his dormitory. "The whole room was full of smoke, and we couldn't breathe. Some of us managed

to get out of the dormitory but were shot and managed to survive bad injuries." Mumbere was able to survive by smearing blood over his body and playing dead in the choking smoke of the room.

A member of the Islamic State affiliate Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the group that attacked the school, was heard saying, "This school is propagating Christianity in Uganda and getting support from Christians in the West—Islam should be the dominant religion in Uganda."

The DCF is based in the neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo. Muslims make up only about 12% of Uganda's population. Five non-students were also killed in the attack.

Chanting Groomers

"We're here, we're Queer, we're coming for your children!" Thus was the chant of the hundreds of LGBTQ advocates as they marched in the annual drag queen parade in New York City this year. *Blaze Media* reports that the parade "commemorated the Stonewall Riots of 1969, when there was a gay rights protest at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar." Marchers paraded from Thompson Square Park to the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village.

Video uploaded to Twitter shows the marchers chanting the slogan while holding signs, exposing breasts, and dancing. It was a rather stunning display and admission of the true motives of the LGBTQ lobby—to target and groom children.

The chant is in direct opposition to the many claims of LGBTQ advocates in the past which have maintained that they do not target children. In the last few years, however, more and more of them are becoming bolder on social media platforms like Tik Tok, openly avowing that

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THE BIBLE TEACHES:

Godly Sorrow and Repentance
Acts 3:19; 17:30, 2 Cor. 7:10

The New Birth—a Radical Conversion John 3:3-7

Freedom from Sin/A Holy Life
1 Jn. 5:18, Lk. 1:73-75, Tit. 2:11-12

Entire Sanctification—a Second Cleansing
1 Thess. 5:23, Act 15:8-9

Unity of God's People/One Church
John 17:21, Matt. 16:18

Divine Healing James 5:14-15, Isa. 53:5

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Mt. 28:19-20, Jn. 13:14-15, 1 Cor. 11:23-26

Plain, Modest Dress
Dt. 22:5, 1 Tim. 2:9-10, 1 Cor. 11:14-15

Sanctity of Marriage
Mt. 19:5-6, Mk. 10:11-12, Lk. 16:18, Rom. 7:2-3

Non-Violence Luke 3:14; 6:27-29; 18:20

Restoration (Sounding 7th Trumpet)
Rev. 10:7; 11:15

Eternal Punishment or Reward Matt. 25:46

This definite, radical, anti-sectarian holiness paper is published in the name of the Lord for the edification of the church of God. Its mission is to point souls to full salvation through Christ and to expose the errors of spiritual Babylon (false religion). We desire this paper to be used as a sharp instrument in the hands of the Lord, breaking the spiritual silence in this time of restoration.

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they are, indeed, coming for your children.

Charlie Kirk, a conservative voice and the founder of Turning Point USA, tweeted in response, "When they tell you who they are, believe them."

The staff at *Armageddon News* does believe them. And always has. We also believe that these people are brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed by the flaming fire of the righteous judgment of God. Their agenda will fail, for none can best the Word of God astride His white horse with armies of heaven behind Him. Surely the cow and the sow go into heaven before these. 📌

The Sent Elect

BRO. THOMAS TOVSTIGA

"Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." Jeremiah 1:4.

"Being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will." Eph. 1:11.

"Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles." Luke 11:49.

Those who are judges are born judges. Those who were judges from eternity will be judges in eternity. The predestination and calling of God transcends time and space. What is "time" in God's purpose according to election? It is merely the juncture in which the word of their gifting is made flesh.

The great Predestinator has so ordained that His purpose in calling men and women to His very own judicial, mediatorial, and royal office of Priest, Prophet, and King, stands not grounded in time or space, but springs from His eternal counsel and will.

He it is who hangs the world

upon nothing, that spreads the heavens by Himself, and long before the withering accusations flew, eons before any disqualifying reasons were laid out, light years before the foolish "wisdom" of man looked on the flesh and blood of human instrumentality and declared it unfit, infinitely prior to the envious rants, hypocritical charges, blatant lies, and all deafening clamour, GOD TOOK COUNSEL WITH HIMSELF, and by the true WISDOM OF GOD, chose, ordained, and sent apostles unto the nations.

All the railing, websites, channels, pages, texts, videos, and phone calls, yea, combine them all, and they are but as a breakwater of straw against the tidal wave of prophecy.

"And we know that all things work together for good...to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate... Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:28-31. 📌

THE PROTESTANT'S DILEMMA

BRO. DAVID KAUFFMAN

The Protestant is in a predicament; he is a contradiction incarnate. He is forever stuck in a mud hole which he hates, yet loves and is loathe to escape.

He wants a car that drives. He declares he longs for it with all his soul—yet, God forbid that it should have wheels. If only he could have a strong house, but to have a foundation—what a cursed thought! Heresy! What a tragic tangle in which he finds himself. There he wallows, forward and back in a show of desperate desire to escape. There is someone calling to him with a connection that would bring a speedy deliverance, yet he seems equally desperate to avoid the call. Perhaps we must conclude that he loves his mud hole and savours the appearance of seeking deliverance while hating the thought of actually finding it.

He wrings his hands at the condition of the church today. So much division. So much worldliness. What is to be done to save our youth? The world seems to be overrunning the church in a stampede of false doctrines. How will this end? Will Christ find faith when He comes? Did Christ not say the gates of hell shall not prevail? Where is the church of Acts, he repines? Oh, for the glorious days of Peter and Paul! Pray for revival!

Meanwhile, in the midst of all his troubles, at least he can rejoice that he has been delivered from man rule. He is ever so grateful that there is no man ruling over him; no man between him and

God. He shudders at the thought of such heresy. God save us from the antichrist of which the Apostle John warned. God save us from men who claim the power to interpret the will of God for the world today, and he returns to reading the news. He's not sure how this is all going to work out, but at least he is thankful that Elon Musk has taken over Twitter, and surely hopes that Donald Trump or Ron DeSantis will win the next election. They may save the world. That, at least, would help to ease the pain. And there he sits and wallows. Poor Protestant.

Jesus, speaking to Peter in Matthew 16:18 declares, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." This is a



promise of a victorious church built upon this rock. Which Rock? Ephesians 2:20: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone." We find

then that Jesus and Peter are inseparable in this foundation.

Jesus continues in verse 19 without a change of subject: "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Here Jesus gives the keys of authority over His kingdom to Peter and gives him the full latitude of their use in the word, "whatsoever." The pattern was irrevocably set. This was undeniably a condition for the church to triumph over the gates of hell. Jesus knew when He left this earth that the church would not triumph if the keys went with Him.

The Protestant adamantly denies the validity of this pattern beyond the first century while seeking first-century results. He professes to desire the results of Ephesians 4:12-14—the coming together in the unity of the faith, etc., while ignoring the previous order and conditions given for such results in verse 11, "And he gave some apostles." "Oh, no," the Protestant says, "I believe in the apostles, but just the dead ones." Believing it is sufficient to build his house on dead apostles, he expects by some quirk of magic to attain to a living tree on a dead trunk. This is the Protestant's dilemma. He is stuck forever playing pick up sticks from the recent storms that knocked his house down, and, methinks, he likes it so, for he refuses to build on the rock. 📖

“And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.”

Genesis 4:10.

In a small town in a war-torn country, a family huddles around the ruins of what was once their home, weeping over the rubble representing the cumulative history of generations. Their minds flooding with mem-

ories, their broken hearts crying, “Why? Why us? Is there anyone who cares?”

Lying in a filthy apartment, gazing through bloodshot eyes at the squalor that his life has become, a drug addict reaches for the needle. He knows that what he is about to do will only give him a temporary reprieve, but a short flight from reality is all he has to look forward to. While he draws the vile substance into a rusty needle and searches for a vein, he remembers his journey into addiction. He recalls the first time his doctor prescribed oxycodone, the promises of pain relief, and the desperate search for a replacement when his prescription was suddenly denied. He pushes the plunger home, and as he slips into oblivion, his last thought is, “Why? Why me? Is there anyone who cares?”

On a dirty street corner in a major city, surrounded by the hustle and bustle of city life, a woman stands alone. She hates herself for what she is about to do, but her ears are still ringing from the cries of her hungry children, and the ominous



The Blood Cries

BRO. CHRISTIAN SAVAGE, SR.

phone call from her landlord that very morning. She wishes that she could find an honest job, but her previous felonies have resulted in rejection after rejection. She sees the Cadillac turn the corner and slow. She strikes a provocative pose, reveals a bit more skin, and approaches the wealthy man in the driver’s seat. Words are exchanged, and she climbs into the passenger seat. They drive to a cheap hotel. Later that night, her face burning in shame, she trudges wearily homeward to her starving babies. Her soul screams, “Why? Why me? Is there anyone who cares?”

A 12-year-old girl lies crying in a bed in an upscale apartment. Years of abuse by her wealthy father have finally taken their toll. An involuntary shudder racks her body as she hears the front door close. She knows all too well what is coming, the animal-like urges that are surely possessing her father. The pressure in her chest increases, and in a moment of desperation she grabs a knife and draws it across her

wrists. As the world around her fades from view, as she is whisked into eternity, her fading mind repeats her life’s mantra: “Why? Why me? Is there anyone who cares?”

This, dear one, is not a work of fiction. These scenarios are playing out in real time even as you read these words. Millions of souls are walking alone, ever looking for someone

that is willing to stand and fight beside them. Organizations abound, promising help and shelter. And yet, even these systems are failing and falling apart.

The individuals who decide the fate of the struggling ones, the ones that hold the purse strings, are themselves untouched by the common struggles of the so-called “lower class.” The upper echelons of society sit in gilded seats, lining their pockets, profiting from the struggles of the poor, all while promising change. Wicked men, committing criminal acts at every turn, condemn others to life-long sentences.

Words would fail to recount the endless evil that abounds in our world. We could go on and on regarding pointless wars that are fueled only by greed and money, about systemic racism and oppression in our court system, our jails being full of the unjustly condemned, the unfairly tried. We could recount stories of those that have been abused, raped, tortured, and killed while corporate America

and the powers-that-be turn a blind eye, because their place and nation may be compromised should they stand on the side of the oppressed. We could consider the celebrities being maligned, publicly accused and humiliated when they speak the truth or expose the unimaginable

all, and knows all. He is the essence of justice, abiding in eternal love for the down-trodden, and eternal hatred for all things evil. There is a book being written, an account indelibly set down by the very finger of Almighty God of every evil idea, thought, and action. Just as

There is a book being written by the very finger of God of every evil idea, thought, and action. Just as Abel's blood cried from the ground, so the vile acts of the ages have come up before Him. As sin reaches its dramatic finale, so swells the anger of the Most Holy. His judgments will be sudden, swift, and sure.

Abel's blood cried from the ground and commanded the attention of God Himself, so the evil, wicked, and vile acts of ages past have come up before

darkness that lies hidden around every corner. Sin has truly reached a crescendo, wickedness has fully matured, and by all appearances, the devil is at the height of power.

We think of the words in Revelation 17, speaking of a great harlot, drinking and relishing the taste of abominations and the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus. Not only is she guilty of the blood of our brothers and sisters in Christ, but is responsible for all the oppression, bloodshed, and suffering we see on every hand. And we may well cry with all of mankind, "Why? Why us? Is there anyone who cares?"

Who, oh who, will put an end to this long-established reign of darkness? Is there anyone that would stand against the kings of the earth, without fear of repercussions, and tell it like it is? Shall these wicked men, organizations, and corporations be allowed to excel in wickedness, increasing in power and control until we all fall prey to their devices? Must we cower in fear as our lives are torn to bits in front of our very eyes? Will society never again have core values that are righteous? Will our dear children continue to be brainwashed and their thinking hijacked? Must we just admit that we are beaten, and lie down and take this abuse?

Reader, I assure you, these acts, these evil works, each individual hell on earth has not gone unnoticed. There is a righteous God in heaven that sees all, hears

Him, and He takes notice. As sin reaches one last final peak, one dramatic finale, so the anger of the Most Holy swells to the point of bursting. Think not that the tarrying of the Lord is due to indifference. Nay, rather, the judgment increases in direct proportion to the wickedness, and it will be sudden, swift, and sure.

"Therefore saith the Lord...Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies...I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counselors as at the beginning...Zion shall be redeemed with judgment." Isaiah 1:24-27.

Judges as at the first! Oh, what glorious assurance! Oh, what comforting words! Thank God, the time has come when we again have righteous judges. Our evening time apostles now stand with the burden of an angry God. In their hands, they hold all the judgments of the Most High. In their bosoms burns the righteous indignation, shut up in their bones is the fire of Jehovah's wrath. They stand in the authority of the Word of God, and lay judgment to all time. Through the spirit of prophecy, they are able to reconcile the timeline of mankind.

Uncowering, they boldly lay judgment on the tyrannical establishment. As leaders of a militant army, through the preaching of the Word of God, they deal

debilitating blows to the satanic powers oppressing the helpless masses. Exposing the long-standing lies, corruption, and deceit, they instead gently cup the downturned faces of the abused in loving hands, guide tear-stained eyes upward, and show the world a better way.

Lest you be concerned that this is yet another attempt bound for failure, be assured this judgment has already reached an unstoppable momentum. Lift up your eyes and look around! The system, long accepted as unshakable, even now is shaken. Trust in the world's governments is at an all-time low. Never again will they be able to deceive the people into accepting them as the saviours of mankind. Corporations are crumbling at an unprecedented rate, as corrupt business practices come to light. Politicians have become the laughingstock of the common man.

Babylon is fallen and continues to fall! The smoke of her burning increases by the day. And as the kings of the earth stand afar and lament her demise, we turn our eyes to the saviours that have come up on mount Zion (Obadiah 1:21)!

As we prepare for one final battle in this age-old war, our war cries are mingled with shouts of joy, our labored groans mingle with laughter, and a dance creeps in to the orderly march of battle. We will continue to move from victory to victory, our ears attuned for that inevitable sound of the Final Trump of the Lord, when our victorious Leader returns, and we lay down our armour and meet Him

Our evening time apostles now stand with the burden of an angry God. In their hands, they hold all the judgments of the Most High. In their bosoms burns the righteous indignation, shut up in their bones is the fire of Jehovah's wrath.

in the air! As we ascend to our eternal reward, a backward glance would reveal nothing left of this old world but burning ruins, a final testament to the futility of all the well-laid plans of our old adversary, Satan himself.

Oh, my Lord, hasten that day! 📖

Paradise Restored

At the dawn of creation when Adam
rebelled
And partook of the fruit God forbade,
From the tree in the garden mankind was
expelled
And forbidden its life-giving aid.

Through the ages, humanity longed for
the day
When the prophesied Saviour of men
Would appear to crush Satan who led us
astray
And restore us to Eden again.

What a day was the day when our Saviour
was born!
All of heaven rejoiced at His birth;
For the promised Messiah, that glorious
morn,
Had arrived to bring peace to the earth!

In His wonderful plan to restore us again
To ensure the success of mankind,
Our omnipotent Saviour appointed twelve
men
To the thrones of His kingdom divine!

Though for centuries apostasy ravaged
the earth
In the absence of God-ordained men,
At the close of creation, the thrones
have returned
To their former distinction again!

May praise to our Saviour no never abate,
For the fugitive children of men,
Through His angels who guard
New Jerusalem's gates,
May have access to life once again!

—Bro. James Bontrager

IS CHIEF APOSTLE A BIBLICAL TERM?

SIS. CRYSTAL KEIM

CEO, CFO, COO, boss, president, chairman, captain, police chief, principal, captain, general, father, mother, pastor, apostle. In every area of life, someone is in charge. Authority figures emerge in family, community, business, government, military, and religion. In church government, the highest authority is the apostles (1 Corinthians 12:28). Even among the apostles, three are recognized as chief, and one is chief among the three.

Some have argued (or only questioned it in their minds) that *chief apostle* is not a biblical term. This is a legitimate concern and deserves an answer. What is a chief? Is chief apostle in the Bible?

Chief is defined as highest in office or rank, principal or most eminent, most distinguished, having most influence, commanding most respect, taking the lead, most valuable, most important. It is in the King James Version 338 times. Below is a short sample:

Household/Business: Chief butler, chief baker, chief of the house, chiefest of the herdmen, chief among the publicans.

Relationships/Community: Chief of your tribes, chief women, chief friends, chief men, chiefest among ten thousand.

Government: Chief rulers, chief of the princes, chief governor, chief man of the

island.

Military: Chief among the captains, chief of the officers, chief captain, chief and captain, chief of the three, chief among three, chief of the mighty men.

Religion: Chief ruler of the synagogue, chief porters, chief over the chief of the Levites, chief of the congregation, chief Pharisees, chief priests, chief singer, chief Musician, chief of the Jews, chief among you, he that is chief, chief speaker, chief men among the brethren, chief corner stone, chief Shepherd.

Not only is the concept of a chief referring to authority and ability in the Bible, but the scriptures also refer to some of the apostles as being “chiefest.”

“For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles.” 2 Corinthians 11:5.

“In nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles.” 2 Corinthians 12:11.

Peter, James, and John were prominent among the apostles (Galatians 2:9, Acts 15:13, Matthew 16:18-19, John 21:7), and in the preceding verses, Paul puts himself right up there with them. It is no stretch to say that these men were chief apostles in reputation, in authority, and in power. Today we follow the pattern of the morning time church in recognizing our chief apostles. 📖

Called to Change Man's Destiny

SIS. ADINA WIEBE

THE ENTIRE ROOM GASPED IN AWE as the curtain was drawn aside and the loveliest lady they had ever seen moved gracefully into the room. Wherever she went, heads turned. King Ahasuerus was no exception, and the first time he had laid eyes on her, he'd declared her his new wife. But Queen Esther was more than just a beautiful woman. She was a woman of faith. She was a woman with vision. She was a woman with a calling.

In Esther chapter 4, we find her in a crisis. Mordecai brings her the shocking news that she and her people are going to be slaughtered because of evil Haman's jealousy. There is only one person who can change their destiny—her. When he asks her to entreat the king, she protests, knowing that going to the king uninvited is practically suicide. As a matter of fact, the king had not talked to her for thirty days! Besides this, she had not revealed her identity to anybody, so perhaps nobody would know that she was a Jewess.

The temptation towards self-preservation was strong. Mordecai must have sensed this, because he said in verse 13, "Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews." He goes on to predict, "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" And Esther, being the great woman she was, and understanding that she was indeed chosen for just such a time as this, rises to the occasion and makes the difficult decision to go petition the king. Resolutely, she declares, "And so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law, and if I perish, I perish." She would rather die doing what she was called to do, than live a coward.

But Esther was not the only person with a calling. We also have been handpicked for our time. We have more than a "who knoweth." Before we were formed in the belly, we were chosen by God specifically for this time. He chose the family we would be born into, our physical characteristics, our personality, and most importantly, the place we would fill in this end-time work. He specifically designed us with the right talents and tools and life experiences to make us the most effective in our calling. So what should this knowledge cause us to do?

Sadly, many people are like the man who was entrusted with one talent in the parable in Matthew 25. Instead of putting it to use, he buried it. What a tragedy that some will die never having fulfilled their God-given calling!

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none." Ezekiel 22:30.

If we do not fill our place in this work, there will be huge gaps. This is not the time for hesitation, doubts, and fears.

Time is too short for that. We have no trouble believ-

ing that someone else is gifted with a certain talent, but when it comes to believing in our own capabilities, that's where the struggle begins. We have to remember that God placed the calling there, so we must be capable of fulfilling it. Once we realize this, we can go forward boldly and be who we were created to be. It is time to act on our knowledge, like Esther, and fulfill what we were born to do! 📖

Only Esther could change the destiny of her people.

QUOTES

from those Who Lived Through

THE FALL of the

ROMAN EMPIRE



HISTORY IS AN ETERNAL REPETITION. Here are quotes from those who lived through the fall of the Roman Empire:

“The Empire has become a police state, with spies and informants everywhere. People are constantly watched, and their every move is watched by the authorities.”

—Synesius of Cyrene, Greek bishop of the 4th century AD

“The Roman Empire is ruled by a small group of elites who only care about their own interests. They have no concern for the welfare of the people, and will do anything in their power to maintain their power.”

—Salvian, 5th century AD Christian writer

“The Roman government has become tyrannical and oppressive. People are no longer free to speak their minds or express their opinions without fear of reprisal.”

—Ammianus Marcellinus, Roman historian of the 4th century AD

“Courts are corrupt, tax collectors are greedy and officials are incompetent.”

—Zosimus, Greek historian, describing the administrative collapse of the late Roman Empire in the 5th century AD

“The taxes levied by the Roman government are a heavy burden on the people. They cause great suffering and great difficulty, and yet the government shows no mercy.”

—Synesius of Cyrene, Greek bishop of the 4th century AD

“The taxes imposed by the Roman government are unfair and oppressive. People are forced to give away their hard-earned money to support the luxurious lifestyles of the elites.”

—Augustine of Hippo, Christian theologian of the 4th century AD

“Some people have sunk to such levels of depravity that they seek sexual pleasure with animals. This is a sign of the moral decay of our society.”

—Suetonius, Roman historian of the 2nd century AD

“The morals of women have become as corrupt as those of men. They indulge in all kinds of shameful behavior and no longer have any sense of decency or shame.”

—Seneca the Younger, Roman philosopher of the 1st century AD

“Women have become corrupt and immoral. They are no longer satisfied with fulfilling their traditional roles as wives and mothers, but rather seek power and influence in society.”

—Ammianus Marcellinus, Roman historian of the 4th century AD

“The sexual practices of our people have become so perverted that they are now considered normal. Men marry men and women marry women, and no one bats an eyelid.”

—Ammianus Marcellinus, Roman historian of the 4th century AD

“The men of our time have become effeminate and decadent. They are more interested in their appearance and their pleasure than in their duties and responsibilities. They have lost the spirit of self-sacrifice and service.”

—Cassius Dio, 3rd century AD Roman historian

“The men of our time have become effeminate, preferring to spend their days in luxury and indulgence. They have lost the courage and strength that made our ancestors great.”

—Salvian, Christian writer of the 5th century AD

“In our time it is easier to break the law than to obey it, and virtue is more often punished than rewarded. We now love pleasure more than honor and value money more than justice.”

—Jerome of Stridon, Christian scholar of the 4th century AD

“The Roman bureaucracy was like a maze, with countless layers of officials and paperwork. It was impossible to do anything without paying bribes or pulling strings.”

—Procopius, Byzantine historian (c. 500-560 AD)

“The institutions of the Roman Empire were breaking down, its armies were weakening, and its people were becoming less and less able to defend themselves.”

—Salvian, theologian and Christian writer (c. 400-480 AD)

“Government was crippled by bureaucracy and people were oppressed by taxes. Roads were in bad shape and towns were in decline.”

—Cassiodorus, Roman statesman and writer (c. 485-585 AD)

“Roads are no longer safe and bridges are collapsing. Public buildings are in ruins and aqueducts are in poor condition. The public treasury is empty and the army is ill-equipped.”

—Ammianus Marcellinus, Roman historian and soldier (c. 330-395 AD)

<https://vigilantlinks.com/2023/02/history-is-an-eternal-repetition-here-are-quotes-from-those-who-lived-through-the-fall-of-the-roman-empire/>

Obituary



SIS. MARTHA OPPEL peacefully passed from this world to the bliss of glory on May 22, 2023, aged 88.

Experiencing real salvation early in life, she clung to God with unwavering and exemplary fidelity. Her face and spirit consistently radiated serenity and joy. She excelled in patience and kindness, yet confronted evil with burning zeal.

As an excellent cook and hostess, Sis. Oppel was a true Martha, though she embodied the virtues of both Martha and Mary. She did not fail to sit at Jesus’ feet, and “continued in supplications and prayers night and day.”

Our beloved sister was absolutely in love with the Bible and spent hours studying it, becoming very well versed in the doctrines of the church of God.

In the words of her husband, she was a “piece of gold.” Her life was a glowing example of motherhood, wifedom, and sainthood.

She has gone on to Paradise, where she awaits the ultimate reconciliation of all things upon the earth, after which we will meet her again.

Believe the Prophets

SIS. KATHY LOEWEN

“And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.” 2 Kings 4:8-9.

To perceive is to attain awareness or understanding of something. This woman became aware that Elisha was not just any man passing by, but a man with a special calling. A holy man. A prophet of God.

This woman must have known God and the ways of God. She was able to recognize the man of God for whom he was, and her spirit resonated with the spirit of Elisha.

When we are faced with a God-called prophet, do we recognize with whom we have to do? Our response will show whether or not we believe His prophets. This woman convinced her husband to build a guest room for the prophet Elisha. Her actions were proof of her faith.

The Israelites could not escape from Egypt without believing Moses. Their faith was seen in the act of killing the lamb, smearing the blood on the door posts, and preparing to leave at a moment’s notice.

Likewise, our actions prove our faith, or lack thereof. If we believe the preaching of the prophets of our day, we will live accordingly. “Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.” James 2:18.

God has a believing people. Where there is faith, there will be the fruits of it to back that up. “Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.” 2 Chronicles 20:20. 📖



*In thy presence
is fulness of joy.*

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