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## **BE STRONG AND OF GOOD COURAGE**

NO.293

### **THE JOSHUA MANDATE**

*“Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.*

*Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses...There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee nor forsake thee.*

*BE STRONG AND OF GOOD COURAGE; for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. ONLY BE THOU STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee; turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest.*

*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? BE STRONG AND OF GOOD COURAGE, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” (Josh.1: 1-9)*

This was a memorable day in the journey of Israel to their promised land. It was a complete change of

command. Moses was eighty years old when he began to lead the people through the Sinai wilderness. For forty long years, he was the one who instructed them, counseled them, disciplined them, prayed for them and comforted them. He was the visible flesh and blood representative of the Rock that followed them. And the Rock was Christ.

*“...all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same SPIRITUAL MEAT; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.” (I Cor. 10: 1-4)*

On their way out of Egypt, God had directed them to take materials needed for the Tabernacle such as gold, exquisite fabrics and precious jewels. Each day, God faithfully provided them with manna for their physical nourishment. Howbeit, it was Christ who was their source of life, spiritual strength, faith and stamina to continue their strenuous walk toward the land that God had promised to them. Christ was the Rock that followed them and gave them the good courage to face each day.

They were traveling through an endless desolate wilderness with no visible conveniences or resources for life whatsoever. This was their home, the place where they raised their children and nursed their babies. It was a grueling and exhausting journey. For forty long years, every day, they awoke to the same barren and terrible scenery, yet life went on and although they certainly murmured

and grumbled, they kept going with hope in their hearts. They are the example for our spiritual walk through the wilderness of this world. We first had to leave the ways of the world, be baptized into Moses and learn to submit to God's Law. Many of us went through a church, or more, and were taught the literal letter of the Word. This was God's plan for us, for a time. Some of our independent self had to be tamed. The Law would lead us to Christ.

But the day came when we heard another voice. It was the voice of our Joshua calling us to follow Him and to be of good courage. He became our Guide to bring us to our promised land.

We followed Him, some through denominations, then through non-denominations and anti-denominations. We gathered in large groups or in small groups just to hear if others were hearing the things that we heard. These have all contributed to our growth in Christ, but mainly it has taught us that we live in tents, and nothing is permanent in this world. When He says, "Move on", we follow Him, no strings attached.

I remember a song that we sang at one stage of my walk, "*We're going a way, we've never been before, to Canaan land, where we shall sin no more. Sanctify yourselves...*" Indeed looking back at my journey, it has been a way I never knew nor would I have ever conceived on my own.

For some of us, the ways of the flesh have been silenced. We find ourselves in a quiet place, no longer seeking the thrills and chills of festive mountain-peek gatherings. Now, we desire His peace and His joy unspeakable and full of glory to flood us. We desire fellowships with one another where we can share our hearts, but we must quickly retire to our quiet and peaceful place in Him. We are cherishing this behind-closed-doors experience with Him. It is no longer a pumped up, exuberant high that leaves us empty when we leave. It is the real thing that edifies and builds us so that we impart Him and not ourselves to each other.

In this walk, there are a lot of hurdles to cross. There is a dragon speaking to our own carnal minds.

When our own brethren call us "deceived" or "deceivers", are we able to remain silent knowing that they just don't know what they do? It was not the multitude who accused Jesus of following Beelzebub; it was the religious order of Judaism of that day. And so it is for us. We have been called "deceived" and "deceivers" by those who believe their word is infallible. Do they not know that we are moving from glory to glory, and that what we believed at one time was only to bring us to the higher truth? Do they not know that truth is a living Person who is shrouded in mysteries until He reveals another part of Himself to us? This is why Paul told the church at Ephesus that he "*..preached the unsearchable riches of Christ.*"

Unbelief stopped a whole generation of Israelites from entering their promised land. The unbelievers are mentioned with the abominables and murderers who cannot enter New Jerusalem. It takes good courage to follow Him all the way. One must not be fearful and undecided. One must not be influenced by the old traditions and the literal word keepers. One must TRUST the voice they hear from within.

As Joshua of old, our Joshua within is leading us to defeat the enemies of our land of promise. The promise is the same as the one God gave Abraham. It is the promise of a seed that would bless all the nations of the earth. "*And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*" (Gen.22:18) We may think we are following His voice when we are following the Law of Moses. If Jesus had done so, He would not have gone to the cross to accomplish His Father's will.

Abraham obeyed the voice of God and Jesus was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. "*And being found in fashion as a man, he (Christ) humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*" (Phil.2:8) This is the calling of those who hear His voice. It seems simple and easy, but our obedience will be tested to its utmost, even unto the death to ourselves.

And so the words of the Lord to Joshua resonate within us continually. BE STRONG AND VERY

COURAGEOUS. BE NOT DISMAYED FOR I AM WITH YOU. I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU. Not only do we know these words by the verses in the book, but He speaks them in our hearts and minds daily.

The Lord told Joshua of old to meditate in the book of the law that Moses gave him. Our book is the living Word that is written in our hearts and minds by the Christ within. We are to turn to Him continually for our strength and wisdom. And He is so faithful to give us wonderful experiences when we need a boost.

When I hear of the experiences that some have had with Him, I am reminded of His promise to never leave us nor forsake us. Recently, a young man also named Joshua, had an experience that touched his life forever. Joshua and his brother John have had type one diabetes since they were toddlers. Now in his thirties, Joshua had been suffering from a sore on his foot that would not heal. He and his family are believers. Daily, they petitioned the Lord for healing of this foot, but there was no answer.

Recently, things were going from bad to worse. Not only was Joshua's foot not healing, but his leg was extremely swollen from top to bottom, so much so that the skin of the foot began to burst open. Then the infection worsened so that Joshua was taken to the emergency room and immediately hospitalized. A severe septic blood infection ran through his entire body. His kidneys were shutting down; he was at death's door.

Joshua was in and out of consciousness as his wife sat by his bed. Then she describes what suddenly happened. "A great peace entered the entire room." Joshua became aware of someone touching his hand and he heard him say, "COME WITH ME, YOU WILL BE ALRIGHT." From that moment on, Joshua was no longer the same. Fear was gone and perfect peace flooded his entire being. The next morning the fever was gone and the infection was receding; Joshua was no longer at death's door.

However the leg was still terribly swollen and the doctors decided to wait a few days to see if the

swelling would go down. Indeed a few days later, the swelling was gone and the leg was its normal size again. However, a decision still remained, "the sore was still there. Should the leg be amputated?" There was an alternative of several surgeries with reconstruction that would possibly work or not.

Joshua who was now in perfect peace, decided that they should go ahead and amputate the leg. He would be rehabilitated with a good prosthesis and would be reminded of the day that Jesus saved his life. This would be his testimony. And so as I write this, Joshua is being rehabilitated to walk with his new leg. Jesus kept His promise, "I will never leave you nor forsake you, only be of good courage and go and possess your land." Joshua possessed his land that day. His body was saved and he entered into God's peace and love. The Lord does not just reveal Himself by beautiful revelations of His plan and purposes, He reveals Himself as abundant love in times of great need.

When I was twelve years old, I had an experience with my leg as well. I had hit a coal truck head-on while riding my bicycle on the streets of Paris. I was twelve and it was wartime. Available doctors and medicines were in short supply. After several months in the hospital, gangrene had set in and it was decided that amputation was the only way. There were no such prosthesis as there are today at the time.

The night before the surgery, I was alone in my bed, restless and scared. I did not know the Lord. I had been through some of the rites of the Catholic Church but they did not mean a thing to me. I cried and called out to God, "*Oh God! If there is a God, help me with my leg!*"

The next morning I was prepared and waiting for them to come and take me to the operating room, but by lunch time no one had come and instead I was served lunch. I asked if this was an error, but was told that the surgery had been canceled because the surgeon had been called out somewhere else and another doctor would replace him. As it was, my new doctor was an older man and he decided to try and destroy the gangrene with what he called "silver

nitrate pencils” that he still had in his possession. This was very painful but it destroyed the dead tissue in the leg and a few months later I walked out of the hospital on my two legs. I never forgot this experience, nor my desperate prayer that night.

The Joshua or Christ seed has been in us from the foundation of the world. We were called and sent with a purpose. We are not called to be very smart or know the Bible by heart, we are called to be **STRONG IN THE LORD AND VERY COURAGEOUS**. Many of us have passed through extreme situations, and have also experienced His great love and tender care. Through it all, we have learned to trust Him. Yes, He leads us through the fire, but He brings us through with more refined gold showing in our lives. He is faithful and changes not.

### THE JUDGMENT OF THE WORLD

First and foremost we have a sure foundation in Christ. And we know that *“The earth is the Lord’s, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.”* (Ps.24:1) This leaves no one or nothing out. The Lord is the possessor of heaven and earth and all that it encompasses and contains. I may think that I own a piece of land upon which my house is built, but in truth, this land belongs to the Lord, just as I belong to Him.

Paul was very clear about that, *“...whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end, Christ both died and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord of both the living and the dead.”* (Rom.14: 8b-9) God is the creator and the indisputable, absolute owner of the world, yet He delegated it to man and gave him dominion over it for a time. So when the devil cleverly usurped man’s authority and dominion, Jesus Christ redeemed it, (bought it back) in order to return it to the Father. He will not give up until He has fulfilled His Father’s will, brought every man to repentance that God may be all in all.

*“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that **all should come to repentance.**”* (I Pet.3:9)

Jesus Christ will return the entire creation to the Father, not one iota less. Judgment is a necessary part of that work. The serpent is at the root of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, for this reason, man has ignorantly called evil good and good evil. The Law has laid the ax to the root of that tree, but it is the judgment of Christ that is destroying it by fire. Christ is the tree of life that is replacing the tree of knowledge of good and evil in you and me. It is Christ who owns the living and the dead and it is by His standards that judgment proceeds.

David shouted by the Spirit, *“Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof. Let the field be joyous, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord: for he cometh, for he cometh **to judge the world with righteousness, and the people with truth.**”*(Ps.96: 11-13) The trees (people), the sea (the multitudes of unsaved) and the field (those in whom the word is sown), all are called to REJOICE BEFORE THE LORD because of His judgments.

**FOR HE COMETH TO JUDGE THE EARTH WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS AND THE PEOPLE WITH TRUTH.** What a wonderful promise this is! Even as we speak, Christ is judging the world with righteousness. In the language of the Bible, the world speaks of the nations that do not know God while the people speak of those who know Him. Judgment by truth has begun long ago at the house of God. This is what we, His church, have been going through each day. By His Spirit, Christ has arisen within us and has corrected our errors and deceptions; He has replaced them with Himself who is truth.

The dictionary defines righteousness as “acting in accordance with accepted standards of morality, justice or uprightness.” We know that our “works of righteousness” cannot save us, *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”* (Titus 3: 5)

Our own self-righteousness is measured by man’s standards. But the righteousness of Christ is in ac-

cordance with the standards of God's codes of morality, justice, uprightness and love. Those who hear His voice and believe, no longer come into condemnation, *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."* (Jn.5:24) The truth has made us free indeed. The judgment that is taking place in the world is according to the standard of Christ's righteousness.

It is obvious that the time of God's judgment has now fallen upon the entire world. All things are now measured by the standards of God's righteousness. All of man's standards are being smashed to pieces. The violence that we see is exposing the hearts of men who are enraged because they are losing the power and authority that the world had given them. Man without God has nothing to look forward to. They may think that their world will someday be rebuilt as it was before, but we know that God is making all things new. It will not be as man has known it before and this is really something to rejoice about.

### **THE SAINTS SHALL JUDGE THE WORLD**

Paul asked the church this question, *"Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matter?"* (I Cor.6:2) They must have stood baffled and befuddled by what Paul said. They were having trouble judging small matters between themselves, and he advanced the idea of judging the entire world. But Paul knew this to be true, *"the saints shall judge the world."* And if the world is judged by righteousness then it is true that the saints will be the righteousness of Christ in the earth.

Peter tells us that, *"Judgment must begin at the house of God."* Because the saints are judged with truth, we have seen most of our old doctrines corrected, and our ways of looking at things and of worshiping God totally reversed.

The word saint comes from an old French root meaning "sacred" or "consecrated." The Roman

Catholic church uses it to designate persons they deem to be of great holiness, virtue and benevolence, but a saint in Christ is one who has been chosen for God's purpose and who is made holy through obedience to the truth.

According to the Word of God, His chosen saints have been called, justified and glorified. They have also been "sanctified," which means they have been set apart for a godly purpose. Concerning the saints, Jesus told the Father, *"And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth."* (Jn.17: 19)

The Spirit proclaims that God's judgment will bring joy to the entire creation. The Psalmist declares, *"Let them ALL, the heavens and the earth, rejoice and be glad before the Lord because He is coming to judge them all. This cleansing by fire is a great deliverance to all. Christ is destroying the evil that man has called good. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!...Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."* (Isa.5: 20-21 and 23-24)

This is such a perfect description of the scheming, deceiving and fraudulent ways that men of power have set up their ways among the nations of the world. And the fruit of it is obvious in our day. Even men of good will have no defense against the evil of men in power today. The rulers of this world have corrupted their ways and have become absolutely corrupt. They have surrounded themselves with weapons that threaten our world with utter destruction, while they present themselves as pure and righteous ready to bring peace and wealth to the nations.

But in these last days, God has raised up His stan-

dard of righteousness and they will no longer be able to stand and fool and mislead the people. When you think that things have become impossible, remember that *“God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.”* (I Cor.1: 27) This is so obvious in what we see happening in the places of power of our country today.

Indeed, the saints who have become Christ's righteousness are already positioned to judge the world. This may seem like foolishness to the world but it is the power of God to confound the things that are mighty. Jesus said, *“And when he (the Spirit of truth) is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. Of sin because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.”* (Jn. 16: 8-11)

Since the Holy Spirit has been given to the saints, the prince of this world has been under God's judgment and the saints are being made ready to execute the final blow.

### **THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT**

God's judgment in righteousness is seen in various visions of John, none more graphic than this one: *“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”* (Rev.20: 11-12)

This judgment takes place at the end of the age but is not a one day event as we might believe. The throne depicts the irrevocable authority of God's righteousness. This authority is forever ingrained in the nature of His saints. It is set in the earth to establish and enforce the will of God. This throne is white, which denotes the power and total authority of God's "righteousness." This is the standard set

for all who come into God's judgment. Being that the saints have become the visible, living righteousness of God, they are in full authority of judging the world. They judge by just being who they are. This white throne is none other than the judgment seat of Christ in the saints. It is part of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Paul was pressing toward this prize. To attain it, he suffered the loss of all things, *“Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.”* (Phil.3: 8-9)

Paul had quite a resumé of accomplishments in Judaism. He introduces himself as having followed all the proper rules, *“..of the tribe of Benjamin, and Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.”* (Phil.3: 5-7)

The things that he counted loss were the positions of power, prestige and recognition that he had gained through his impeccable following of the law and of the traditions of Judaism. He also won many points as he sorely persecuted the Christians. He confessed to the Lord Jesus, *“...I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: and when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.”* (Acts: 22: 19-20)

Paul had earned many points among the Pharisees of his day, but when Jesus called him, he became a humble, repentant man who no longer desired the accolades of his peers but lined himself up with the rejects and persecuted of this world. Paul suffered the loss of his former identity and became even as His Lord, *“..despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief..”* (Isa.53: 3a)

Are those who have earned the adulations of the people and peers in the church or in the assemblies of Christians, willing to suffer the loss of all these things? This is what it takes to attain the high calling of God in Christ. It is no wonder that we are witnessing the crumbling of the days of glory when we met by thousands to praise the Lord and hear His word. These days are behind us now, and a new day is dawning. Do not expect more of the same.

Those who follow the Lamb all the way to the top of Mt. Zion (higher dimension in Christ), are those who attain to ruling and reigning with Him. They are part of the first resurrection and as they rule and reign with Him, they are part of the Great White Throne judgment that is set up in the world.

How can we determine the times of this taking place in our world today? *“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servant the prophets.”* (Amos 3:7) This being true we know that God revealed many things for our day to His prophets of old, and that He is still revealing His secrets to His prophets today. Many who claim to be prophets in our day, are counterfeit, but our God has His true servants too.

Furthermore, Jesus said, *“Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?”* (Lk 12: 56) Today, the signs are screaming at us to let us know that we are farther ahead in times than we might have thought.

By the power of communication that God has allowed man to use today, we are seeing the falling of the last vestige of man's kingdoms or rule in the world. Anything that is established in the minds and hearts of men and does not meet the standards of God's righteousness is crumbling and falling to the ground. Any system of men, whether they be social, political or religious that do not meet the standard of God's righteousness can no longer stand.

As the writer of Hebrews warned us, *“...but now he has promised, saying, 'Yet once more I shake not only the earth but also heaven. Now this 'yet once more,' indicates the removal of those things that are*

*being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.”* (Heb. 12: 26b-27 NKJV) It is obvious that the judgment of the world's kingdoms has already begun. It began when Daniel interpreted the king's dream (Dan.2) about the stone that was cut out of the mountain without hands. God who does nothing without revealing it first to His servants the prophets gave the dream to the king of Babylon, who could not remember it until God revealed it to His prophet Daniel who also understood its meaning.

The mountain is God's Christ in the earth, and the stone is Jesus Christ the Son of God in His body, who is cut out of the mountain for the great purpose of bringing down the kingdoms of men and returning the creation to God. The image that was set up in the dream clearly represents the mighty kingdoms and empires that men have erected in the world even to our day.

Daniel explained in detail, *“You, O king were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors and carried them away that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”* (Dan.2:31-35 NKJV)

Daniel gave the interpretation. He explained that the head of the image represents the mighty kingdom of Babylon; the head of gold denoting that this was the mightiest and richest kingdom that ever was in the earth. Then the kingdom of the Medes and Persians represented by the silver, which was somewhat less powerful, yet still a mighty ruler in the earth. Then came the Greek empire represented by bronze which is lesser in value than the silver or the gold. Then the legs of iron which is a very

strong metal but of less value than the first three represents the Roman empire from which the rest of the kingdoms that have been formed in Europe and from which the Americas stem out. These are the toes of the image which are still in our world today but are made of iron mixed with clay. Just as iron and clay do not mix, so the kingdoms of today can never become one unit and stand. The ideal of a global world that some try to proliferate today, can never be realized.

The Americas have been great powers in the world, but at this moment, they too are being shaken until nothing will be left except that which cannot be shaken. We must not be deceived into thinking that even our great country that we dearly love, will be rebuilt the way it was before. Nothing that is not of God can remain and as God is revealing in plain view today, what has been ruling even this country has been a swamp filled with the beasts of the fallen nature of man.

It is my strong belief that God's plan for this country is the same as the plan for the kingdoms of this world, howbeit, God has always had a special calling for us. It is from this nation, under God, that Christianity flourished in the world. And it is because of the freedom to worship that we have been granted, that the sons have been nurtured and truth has spread.

The sons are now underground, in strategic places that only God knows about. It is from these that the deliverance of creation will proceed. At the same time, as we are already witnessing in our cities, all that is not of God is being destroyed. Evil is destroying itself.

The man of sin that has been sitting in the temple of God, making himself to be God is being revealed in all his ugliness. The righteousness of man is corrupt and is being unveiled before our very eyes. The news media is spreading the venom over the airwaves for all to see and hear. The social media is one of the greatest tools of God to reveal the hearts of men.

This country is the melting pot of all that the image

that was seen in the times of Daniel represents. It is *"the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold that have been crushed together and have become the chaff from the summer threshing floors, carried away by the wind so that no trace of them can be found."* (Dan.2:35) These things are already taking place in our world today. Wonder no longer as to when the manifestation of the sons of God will take place. It has been taking place right under our eyes. The manifestation is seen by the fall of all that man has established in the world.

Yet have no fear, God is not in the process of destroying His creation, He is in the process of saving it for Himself. This is the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who is commissioned to turn everything over to the Father. *"Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."* (I Cor.15: 28) Christ now rules through the saints (His feet) until all His enemies are under His feet. *"For He (Christ) must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet."* (I Cor.15: 25)

What is happening in our day is all part of God's plan for His creation. And so we rejoice greatly, although for a time we may weep and grieve at the horrible suffering of humanity that is taking place among the nations. Yet we trust our God and we stand strong in the power of His Word. We know that we must endure to the end and see the full salvation of God for His creation.

Indeed, it is not only the Christians who are yearning to see God's deliverance, it is the WHOLE CREATION. *"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now."* (Rom.8: 22)

Oh! Father, we thank you that You so loved the world and still so love the world that You sent your Son to save the world. May you all be blessed and encouraged by His Word.

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*