

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Many people believe that the Old Testament is not relevant today, but to the contrary, even though we live under the New Covenant, the Old Testament is recorded and God breathed for our instruction and example

* Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written in times past, were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

* Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8

Declare that God is the same always and never changes. He is always good, always loving, always all powerful.

No matter how the world changes around us, we can trust that God is consistent. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

* 2 Peter 3:8

Beloved, do not let this one thing escape your notice. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a day

We suggested that you all read the Book of Esther before our class to get the complete history, but we are only going to focus in on a few verses.

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Read Esther 4: 11-16 (~~if~~^{we} may ask how an incident written in the 4th Century can apply to ^{us})

Let's switch gears for a moment. From the beginning of time, after sin entered the world, God had a plan to redeem mankind.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray "Thy Kingdom come - Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven"

What is His Kingdom? What is His will?

Imagine for a moment, a red cord and a golden cord entwined and running from Genesis to Revelation.

The gold cord represents the will of God and His Kingdom - the red cord represents the blood of Jesus Christ

As a born again, baptized believer, you are a member of Christ's Kingdom. We are in His Kingdom and Christ is our King.

* Luke 17:21 The Kingdom of God is within you

* Matthew 16:28 Some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom

God's will is for everyone to be saved and added to His Kingdom. God's plan was to save us by the Supreme sacrifice and blood of Jesus Christ

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428- Read 2 Peter 3:9

Through the ages, God has raised up ordinary people of Faith to carry out His Divine Plan & WE ARE ORDINARY PEOPLE.

1. He raised up Abraham, a man of Faith to seek a far country and to be the Father of a nation -
2. He raised up Noah, a righteous man, to prepare an arc and save 8 souls.
3. He raised up Moses to lead His people out of bondage in Egypt, even though Moses resisted, saying he was Not eloquent in speech.
-- But when God calls us to do His work He will provide what we need to accomplish that ~~work~~ CHALLENGE.
4. He raised up Jonah to preach to the people of Ninevah -
When Jonah protested, God brought him into submission -
Sometimes God leads us to places we don't want to go to accomplish His will

5. God raised up Esther to save her people

6. God raised up Joseph to save his people from Famine

7. We read about Job, who through terrible agony, did not lose his Faith in God (Sometimes we think we can't be used by God because of ill health or other

- We have some brothers and sisters ^{circumstances} here today, that in their suffering, inspire us to live better lives

Their endurance and faithfulness make us Ashamed at times. They teach us to Love more - ART & MELODY. (BLANKET)

(IEB BERRY) STARLING E. MANY OTHER HERE TODAY INCLUDING MYSELF

8. God raised up the Apostles to write the Good News about Jesus Christ.

9. He raised up Paul to write the greater part of The New Testament

Step forward in Time to The 21st Century where we live -

This world we live in today is full of unrest - fear - murder - Violence -

Our Society praises and celebrates what God calls Sin - Especially

* There is a Spiritual Battle going on for the souls of mankind

God's will has not changed.

We are the people to work God's will "IN Times like these -

THIS SUNDAY
WILL BE A
COUPLE THAT
COULD STAY
HOME & WATCH
THE TV

What is God's will for us
"IN a Time Such as This" ?

We are Not here by accident -
God has a plan for our lives.

(3) 559 Read Matthew 22:36-40

God's will for us is To love Him,
and His children

(1717) (4) 568 Read John 21:15-17

(5) 568 Read Matthew 25:34-46

(535) (6) Read Matthew 10:42

(934) (7) Read 1 John 4:7-12

So in conclusion ---

Let me Remind you

To Bloom where you are planted.
The Holy Spirit will guide you and
God will Bless you as you continue
to Bless others.

And we can say with Esther ---

Perhaps "I am here for such
a Time as This"

NO MATTER WHAT FORM OUR CHALLENGES TAKE, WE MUST
NOT FORGET THAT EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE IN LIFE IS LOVINGLY GIFTED
THROUGH OUR FATHER'S FINGERS BEFORE REACHING HIS
CHILDREN. - KEEP IN MIND, HE ALWAYS PROVIDED A WAY
OF ESCAPE.