

Now What?

To many the last week has been one of anxiety, confusion, frustration, and some fear. Others see the results of the election as an opportunity to calm down the rhetoric in Washington and “work across the aisle.” There is no doubt that people will question the validity of the vote no matter who wins. If President Trump is able to somehow get the courts to intervene and cast out votes many will say he was not elected but selected. If Joe Biden wins, some will say it is because of voter fraud. Let’s just make the following observations.

We are a divided country in our thoughts, values, and goals. As Christians we must live in the world but not be of the world. This is no different than the Christians in the first century. They were asked to bow down to Caesar and worship him as deity. By the Jews they were told to observe the Law of Moses and treat the Law of Christ as an appendix to their Law. As Christians today we are told to accept things which the Bible plainly identifies as sinful and accept sinful relationships. We should remember the words of Christ, “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. “If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (John 15:18-19)

Our separation from the world makes us easy targets to malign and even hate but it is also what makes us stand out and show who we are and who Christ is. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16). I don’t know what the next administration will do, the laws they will try to pass, or regulations they will enforce, but I do know where I will be the next Sunday, I am able to leave my house. I do know the law I will be observing above all others. But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. “For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.” (Acts 4:19-20). The Law of Christ will be preached no matter who wins or loses an election.

Jesus is Lord! "Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." (Acts 2:36 NKJV). The word Christ means Messiah or Savior. A lot of people want Jesus as their Savior but not as their Lord or Master. Our salvation requires both as our sins are washed away by His blood. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." (Ephesians 1:7). We must also accept Him as our Lord and was fundamental in the preaching of the Gospel. "But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:8-9).

The world still needs to hear the Gospel. We live in the information age, with the internet, our smart phones, laptops, iPad, and other assorted material at our finger tips. But the world is mostly ignorant when it comes to the Bible. It is badly paraphrased, misquoted, twisted, and abused. Mostly it is treated like it was during the days of Judah's apostasy as it was lost in the temple. "Now when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD given by Moses." (2 Chronicles 34:14) Notice the words "found the Book of the Law of the LORD given by Moses" as if it had been concealed or hidden in some dark corner of the temple. Makes one wonder what they had been reading, preaching, and observing. Today the Bible has been replaced by modernism, humanism, atheism, and a bunch of other isms. As a society we are woefully ignorant of God's word. Therefore, it must be preached today with simplicity and fervor.

Finally, we are still children of God and need to be peacemakers. Division and strife are all around us as we see our cities burning and lawlessness increasing. We need to seek the right relationship with God above all else. This is only possible through Jesus Christ. He is our peacemaker, our peace offering to God. "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ". (Romans 5:1). Then we must act like

peacemakers as we do all within our power to have peace with our fellowman.
“Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.”
(Matthew 5:9)

Hopefully by now you realize this is not really about the past election but simply what we are to be doing each and every day. If you are not doing these things then you need to obey the Gospel of Christ. -- Dennis Tucker