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Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass  
It's about learning to dance in the rain

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July Newsletter

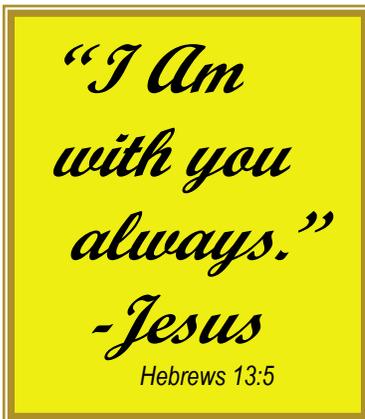
Rx For The Soul

## Whose Side Are YOU on.....?



Our care for those who can Give us nothing in return is A beautiful picture of what Jesus does for us.- Twitter (James 1:27)

**You can change** what you are & where you are by changing what **Goes into your mind.**  
Zig Ziglar (Rom.12:2,3)



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Sentiment is the culprit! It too often can make our choices in life for us. It means “a view of or attitude toward a situation or event, an opinion; a feeling or emotion.” It seems that most people today are led by sentiment only...followed by demands to fulfill those sentiments.

It used to be that people had a ‘base’ where facts played a part in views, or truth. As Patrick Moynihan said some years ago, “We’re all are entitled to our opinion ...but not to our own facts.”

It always amuses me to see when college students are interviewed on TV, facts no longer matter. College is no longer an arena where ideas are analyzed and/or even discussed. Many professors refuse to tolerate ideas or philosophies different than theirs- 6 out of 7 are politically correct liberals, thus suppression of speech is the norm there.

Sentiment is wholly emotional. For hurting people or animals, it’s okay. But the trouble arises when we’re *guided* by it. It leads us astray because it has no base except our opinion, which can change hourly! Thinking people have a fact base, & believers’ base is the Bible - the Source of Truth. It is changeless - God says “I am the LORD, I change not.”<sup>1</sup>

In an ever changing world, it’s refreshing to know *something* doesn’t change! Without a base, it’s easy to fall susceptible to “emotion”.

Once, the Apostle Peter hurried to Jesus to urge Him that it wasn’t *really* necessary for him to suffer and die! .At His elbow, Jesus turned to him and chastised Him: “Get thee behind me Satan, *you are on the side of* man, and not of God.”<sup>2</sup> Satan? Wow!

Then, Jesus said, to be on the side of man was *Satan’s work*- What? Why? Because Peter’s insistence that Jesus not suffer a horrid death left out God entirely! God knew the redemption of mankind demanded the sinless death of His Son. “Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin.”<sup>3</sup>

We’re all grateful for benevolent groups and humanitarian efforts to aid hurting and hungry people, They are sorely needed! That isn’t what this is about. It’s about where our fidelity lies.

So Peter found himself on the wrong side of God’s will here. It’s clear we must take a side! Always first with God... then man himself. God’s intent here was FOR man... In fact, Jesus was the original humanitarian, always in the midst of hurting masses - teaching, praying, feeding and healing their needs.

Question. Why was Peter so wrong in this scene? He simply wanted to spare his friend-Jesus-suffering!Anyone might react this way...! Yet Jesus lived on a higher plane and summoned others to rise to it, especially Peter here. More, he warned that merely living on a human level could be costly, even causing us to end up serving Satan’s purposes! Peter only followed human intuition here.

Without realizing it, **Peter was deceived.**

That’s the thing about deception. People who are deceived don’t know they are deceived....**because they’re deceived!** Therefore, they think they are right - often heralding their view as truth!

If you follow only human intuition- or subjective human opinion- then you’ve already fallen prey to deception!

Why is that? If we look at truth, there’s your version and

my version. Not really! *Both of these* are subjective truth- **subject to our opinion!**

Now Friends, if you can get hold of what I’m saying here, it will completely change your life...and your world view!

That’s because there’s true truth! God doesn’t have opinions! So He doesn’t merely make “subjective” statements, He simply declares unchangeable truth.

This is **objective truth**  
Jesus said “I am the truth...”<sup>4</sup> His very name is **w.o.r.d.** (logos) because He was with God in the beginning <sup>5</sup> and was “the word made flesh & dwelt among us.”<sup>6</sup>

What this means is, if your opinion isn’t based upon fact, or **better**, the truth inside scripture – **it doesn’t mean diddly squat!** Nor mine!

Every word in the Bible is true, but here’s the problem! If you’re not acquainted with scripture, you can’t benefit from it! Or be protected from error, i.e. deception! “You do err **because you know not the scripture** nor the **power of the Holy Spirit...**”<sup>7</sup>

Thanks to technology, we live in the “information age.” Problem is, the stream of it is so massive, it’s difficult to discern what is **true** ...when much of it isn’t.! With all this knowledge (knowledge *shall* increase!)<sup>8</sup>, how can anyone KNOW what is, and what isn’t - Truth?

A daily dose of scripture can make you wise, cleanse from sin, and steer you from deception!

Make your good works inspired by the Holy Spirit.<sup>10</sup>

Prepare for the future. Come out of the herd! Be a person of substance- know the Truth & **knowing** it will set you free!<sup>9</sup> Liberation is yours to the degree you do!

He has saved us & called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

2 Timothy 1:9



Many people ask this question. Many others try to answer it. But Jesus told us, no one knows the day nor the hour - not Him, not the angels-just the Father.<sup>9</sup>

As a result, some people dismiss the topic, thinking we *can't know*. It's true we can't know the day nor hour but scripture commands us to watch the seasons, to wake up and be watchful.

Other people quote the verse that says Jesus' coming will be as a thief in the night – and again dismiss the topic.<sup>10</sup> But if they would read on in that passage, they would find it says but *not to the believer will it come as a thief....* "But you are not in darkness brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief....you are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us keep awake and

be sober...for God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation thru our Lord Jesus Christ." (*This is why the rapture precedes the judgment of the earth*).

However, there's a more urgent topic – the *interim!* TODAY... and You! Jesus spoke of this when He said "Occupy till I come."<sup>10</sup> What are you doing to occupy? It means 'to take possession or control of.' What have you done to stem the rising tide of violence, vitriol & filth....?

When I lived on Treasure Island 30 years ago, there was a convenient store/gas station there where I noticed porn mags in a rack, right out front of the cash register about waist high. I registered my indignation loudly to the clerk who called the owner out to see me. He heard my protest, sparing innocents taking them out! You **can**

make a difference. Just *one!* Clint Eastwood said this week, *if you want change, the best way is to get up & DO it!* Register your dissent PUBLICLY– the enemies of good already did, & we've yet to join the battle! Here's a true story, told by Jesus.

He said people will come to him at the end, but He will say, 'Depart from Me, I never knew you.'<sup>11</sup> Who was it Jesus spoke to? Religious folks announcing their good works! Their religion was not the 'narrow way' to gain heaven! It is *grace thru faith!*

When you do good works, learn to 'walk in the spirit' in Romans 8 and do God's bidding in your world, not the unfruitful works of the flesh! You are here for a **His** reason! "When you arrive in hell, the very first moment you will realize how stupid you were!" Spurgeon



## "Surprise!" –Ask Agatha

References 1)Mal. 3:6 2) Matt. 16:23 3) Heb 9:23 4) John 14:6 5) Heb.1:2-3; John 1:1 6) John 1:14 7) Matt.22:29 8) Dan. 12:4 9) John 8:31 10) Luke 19:13 11) Matt. 7:21-23 12) Col. 1:28

*Look to the cross,  
& hate your sin.  
For sin nailed your  
well beloved  
to the tree.* Spurgeon

**Dear Agatha:** It can't just be me, Agatha! I recall Jimmy Carter banned all Iranians-even shipping them back home, yet *he* wasn't called a racist! I'm so sick of the race card – It's just like political correctness, used to shut down Free Speech in my mind. Will you address this for me? **Nate.**

**Dear Nate:** Yes I will, Nate. But realize that *Freedom* always had enemies! In fact, Gal 5:1 says "it is *for freedom* that Christ has set us free." So racism isn't just a superficial. It's insidious. Those with a sinister agenda such as globalism hate it. I will address the seat of racism in my mind.

I live in Florida, but I came from the North decades

ago, and I have to tell you, it was my belief only white people were prejudiced. I was a snowflake then when it came to prejudice, always siding with poor blacks – Then, we had wonderful neighbors who were black!

Moving to the South then was a huge culture shock! Once there, I was quickly introduced on a job to prejudice *directed at whites* just because they **are** white! A young fella took a dislike to me because I didn't enjoy his vulgar comments in the lunch room. So he started directing them at me...! I was the brunt of his bullying & threats to have his girlfriends beat me up in the parking lot... I went to management! He was demoted...then broke his leg!

Recently, I learned of a friend who was *indirectly* attacked on Facebook by Alice, a friend who defended her democrat views. My friend said she warmly responded: "Alice, this view reflects an all too common mindset ignoring the fact God will hold people accountable for supporting a GodLESS platform (2012) & the shed blood of abortion. We can't approve what God disapproves! I am a watchman, so I warned her just as Paul warned men!<sup>12</sup> "The greatest element found in Hell is **Surprise**, & I don't want you there!" Alice was *grateful* & apologized.This tough kind of love leads to *repentance!*

