

DECEMBER 2021

"TRUTH"

**A SURE WORD
FOR TODAY**



Truth is like a mountain,
It cannot be moved and it never changes

IN THIS ISSUE

FEATURE ARTICLE

"Then And Now"

Page 2-3

A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA:

"Time To Stand Tall"

Page 4-5

PROPHECY UPDATE:

"Of This I Am Certain"

Page 6

UPDATE

We want all who read our newsletter to be aware of an improvement we have made for our subscribers. Starting this month our subscribers will get a shoutout from us that will include links taking them directly to a page where with one click, they can choose which article they would like to read or listen to. They will also still have access to a hidden page where they can view more photos.

Many people feel that a subscription will cost them money. I assure you, such is not the case. Subscriptions are free and there are no hidden surprises. Once each month you will receive an e-mail from us telling you what articles our newsletter contains and giving you direct links to the pages I have just mentioned. If you have not yet subscribed we encourage you to do so. Over 1000 readers have already subscribed.

Why not join them today?

FEATURE ARTICLE: "Then And Now"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness.

You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

Christmas... It's the most wonderful time of the year and if you don't believe it just listen to the song Andy Williams recorded in 1963. "It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year" must have resonated in the hearts of people all over the world because over the next 30 years it became one of the top ten Christmas songs ever written. The catchy lyrics talk about things people do at Christmas time; things I would dare say everyone reading this has enjoyed many times.

For me, Christmas has become special. It is not just a day, but rather a season, which I believe brings out the best in each of us. Yes, it has become very commercialized, but we must remember that this is because people buy gifts, not for themselves, but for those they love who mean so much to them. It is a season for giving and remembering the most precious gift ever given, the gift of God's Son given to redeem us from our sin. It is that magical time of pageants, candlelight communion services, and family get-togethers.

One of my favorite memories of Christmas was the year we rode to grandma's house in a one-horse open sleigh. (Yes, I am that old) My dad got out the sleigh, harnessed the horse, and then covered with warm blankets, off we went. It was only about a mile ride, but I still remember it clearly. It was so special.

These are the things that make Christmas special to each of us, but what did the incarnation mean to people back in Bible times? To get the answer to that question we must look at what their world was like. At the time of Jesus' birth, Israel was occupied by the Romans. How this impacted those people is hard for us to comprehend, but something Daniel wrote about the Roman empire might give us a clue.

Daniel 7:7 Living Bible

7 Then, as I watched in my dream, a fourth animal rose up out of the ocean, too dreadful to describe and incredibly strong. It devoured some of its victims by tearing them apart with its huge iron teeth, and others it crushed beneath its feet. It was far more brutal and vicious than any of the other animals....

When the Romans conquered a nation they would seek to control it by allowing local leaders to maintain their positions of authority providing they did what Rome wanted. Many positions of authority were sold to the highest bidder and this practice lead to horrible political corruption. A good example of this would be the tax collectors. They could demand whatever payment they wanted because they had the power of Rome behind them. They collected the taxes Rome demanded and then added whatever they wanted for themselves. They were some of the most deeply hated people in all of Israel.

The religious leaders were also in bed with the Romans. They too had the power of Rome behind them and to cross them meant death. We can see this illustrated at the trial of Jesus. They were allowed to collect a temple tax which placed heavy burdens upon those who came to worship. The thing God intended to be a great blessing became just another burden for God's people. Luke referred to this in Luke 19.

Luke 19:45-46 New King James Version

45 Then He went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it, 46 saying to them, "It is written, 'My house is a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"

"Then And Now"
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

So there you have it, the people at that time faced political corruption and a religious system that only added to their burdens. For 300 years there had been no true prophet sent from God; the heavens were silent. I don't think it is possible for us to fully comprehend how dark and hopeless it was. No wonder Isaiah the prophet said:

Isaiah 9:2 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light; those who dwelt in the land of intense darkness and the shadow of death, upon them has the Light shined.

As I consider all this I see so many similarities to what we face today. The political corruption in our nation makes me want to vomit. Career politicians go into an office with very little net worth and retire decades later with a net worth of hundreds of millions of dollars and no one dares question how they obtained their wealth. It has become so bad that one political leader bragged about withholding huge sums of foreign aid from an overseas government until an investigation into crimes his son had been involved in was stopped. I am convinced many of the leaders of our nation are in bed with those who seek our destruction.

In this darkness, the church should find it easy to shine the truth of God's righteousness and power, but instead, it has no answers. With each year that passes our world grows darker while the church pretends to be the

powerful army that scripture says it should be.

This may seem like a depressing message that does not fit with stories of Christmas pageants and sleigh rides to grandmother's house, but I assure you it does. It does because our God is not intimidated by the darkness. In fact, He seems to delight in finding the darkest situation and penetrating that darkness with His glorious light. **The darkness that held the world captive 2000 years ago did not stop Him then, and it will not stop Him now!** Let that penetrate your soul and become an anchor for you today. Darkness did not prevail then and darkness will not prevail now.

I declare it in the mighty Name of Jesus!



AND THAT MY FRIENDS
IS THE TRUTH!



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



Time To Stand Tall

We all know our posture is important and that is why most parents remind their children to stand up straight and never slouch. We all know there is a right way and a wrong way to

carry ourselves. But, did you know this can also be applied to our spiritual posture?

Today it seems like so many Christians are stressed and burdened about the spiritual condition of our world and their concern often shows in their entire demeanor. They appear to have lost their joy and look defeated and depressed. I will be the first to admit, there is a lot to be concerned about, but is that really what Jesus wants His church to look and feel like?

As I thought about this issue it seemed to me the best way to deal with this question was to see what Jesus had to say about it. In a nutshell here is what He told us: "Don't be troubled, believe in Me, be watchful, ready, and stay strong."

I think the Message translation says it best.

Luke 21:28 Message

28 When all this starts to happen, up on your feet...

Stand tall with your heads high....

Now that sounds like proper spiritual posture! This verse causes something strong to rise up in me that says we must never allow what is happening in our world to intimidate us or cause us to be bowed down with a heavy spirit. To do so would be contrary to everything we find in God's Word. There are so many scriptures that tell us this, but two of my favorites are 2Timothy 1:7 and Joshua 1:9.

2 Timothy 1:7 Amplified

7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity or cowardice or fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of sound judgment and personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind and self-control].

Joshua 1:9 Amplified

9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified or dismayed (intimidated), for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Our world probably isn't going to get any better so in these dark days we must learn to carry ourselves like this. I have to admit that in the last year, I have often thought, "How long can this go on and how bad is it going to get?" It seems like people are getting more weird and ungodly every day.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

"Time To Stand Tall"
Continued from Page 4

The sights John and I see often make us shake our heads in disbelief. What is happening to humanity? When we listen to the news we are shocked by the hatred, killing, and cruelty reported every day. In times past we would hear of a mass killing maybe once a year. Then it increased to about once each month, and now it is not unusual to hear of some senseless act of violence that ends the lives of many nearly every day.

Where are we headed and what should be in our hearts as we consider the future? Like never before we must pray for a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit that will touch this world one more time before Jesus returns. God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. **Only a great move of God can rescue this generation.**

But, we must also realize that at some point in time God will declare that this dispensation of grace is over and the time of His wrath has come. If you don't believe that, you don't believe the Bible. Remember, according to scripture, that great moment in time will come at the darkest time in human history. But, even if we are in that dark time, there is no reason to be burdened down and defeated.

The reason I say that is because the darker it gets, the closer we know the return of Jesus is. Yes, He is coming back and if you don't believe that, you don't believe the Bible. Jesus promised it,

angels confirmed it, and the apostles proclaimed it. Without a doubt, Jesus is coming back!

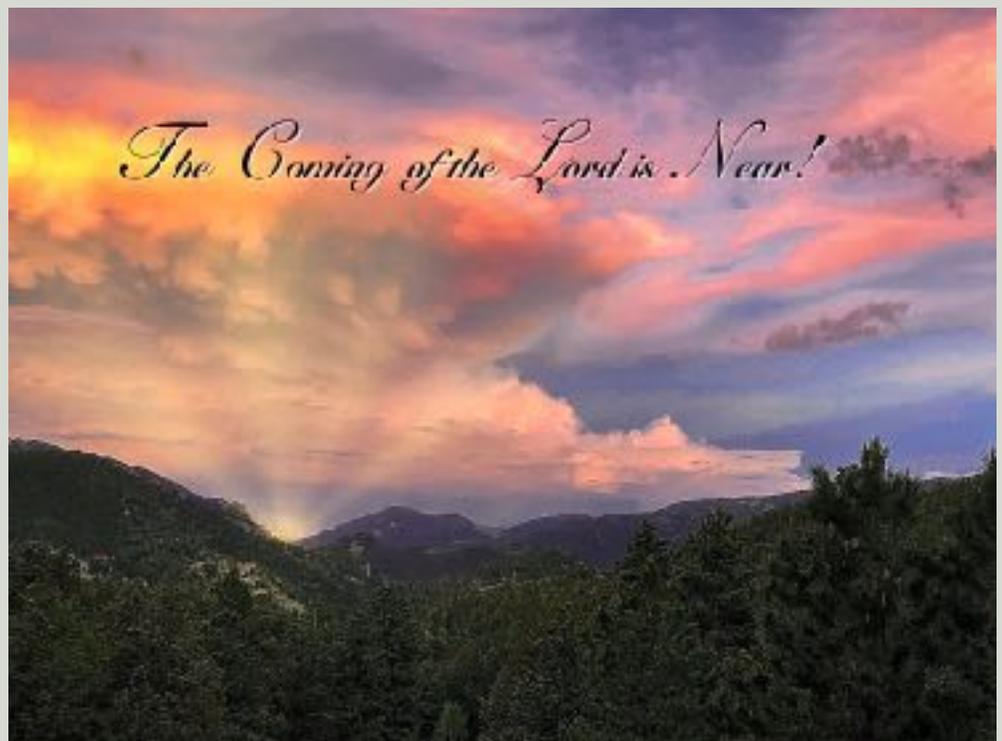
John 14:1-3 Amplified Bible

1 "Do not let your heart be troubled (afraid, cowardly). Believe [confidently] in God and trust in Him, [have faith, hold on to it, rely on it, keep going and] believe also in Me.

2 In My Father's house are many dwelling places. If it were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and I will take you to Myself so that where I am you may be also.

So, listen to your Mother; stop walking around weary and discouraged. Stand up straight and live with the wonderful knowledge that you may be the rapture generation!



AND THAT MY FRIENDS
IS THE TRUTH!

PROPHECY UPDATE

“Of This I am Certain!”

Listening to Bible prophecy teachers can be confusing because each one has their own opinion and as a result, they often disagree. A good example would be the timing of the rapture. Some teach it will occur before the great tribulation, while others teach it will occur in the middle or at the end of the tribulation. I even have some friends who say there is no such thing as a rapture. Each can give a convincing argument to support their view.

This month I want to look at this question from a different perspective. I want us to forget about the pre-mid-post argument and look specifically at something that is said when the sixth seal is opened in Revelation 6. This chapter starts with the first four seals being opened and the four horses of the apocalypse released upon the earth. When the fifth seal is opened we see the souls of martyrs crying out for God to avenge their blood which was shed. They are told to wait, “until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.” (Verse 11)

In the last decade, we have seen a dramatic increase in the numbers of Christians who have been martyred for their faith. The most recent illustration is what we saw happen in Afghanistan after Joe Biden pulled American troops out and handed the country over to radical Islamists. This horrible persecution of Christians makes me wonder if we may be living in the days when the fifth seal has been opened. **If so, we need to focus on what happens when the sixth seal is opened because that is what we can expect next.**

When the sixth seal is opened in heaven the first thing that happens on earth is a great earthquake. (Greek: Megas) I believe this earthquake may be the greatest ever recorded, but instead of focusing on its size, I want to focus on are verses 15-17.

Revelation 6:15-17 New King James Version

15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 **For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”**

I believe the rapture could happen somewhere in this time period and I want to show you why. The scriptures are very clear about the fact that believers will never face the wrath of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:9 The Passion Translation

9 For God has not destined us for wrath but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.

Romans 5:9 Amplified Bible

9 Therefore, since we have now been justified [declared free of the guilt of sin] by His blood, **how much more certain is it that we will be saved from the wrath of God through Him.**

Only an evil sick person would beat their bride up right before the marriage. Our precious Lord loves us too much to do that and that is why He has promised we will never experience His wrath.

Here is what you should be looking for...

1 Thessalonians 1:10 The Passion Translation

10 And now you eagerly expect his Son from heaven—Jesus, the deliverer, whom he raised from the dead **and who rescues us from the coming wrath.**