

Alpha Counseling Service

20730 Bond Rd/Suite S-180
Poulsbo WA 98370/360.779.3624
Website: alphapoulsbo.org

Dear friends,

I've had a difficult time lately! October has been filled with plenty of responsibilities that have taken priority over writing to you. I try to operate with the plan of only focusing on the very next project and not add stress by fussing over things too far out in the future but sometimes it means not getting things done that I want to do.

One of the projects I refuse to postpone is my daily time to read my Bible. I have just finished reading the Old Testament and wading through the Major and Minor Prophets has been a chore. They were badly treated, asked to do very unpleasant things, and never taken seriously by the majority of the people they were trying to help. These wonderful men were asked, by God, to warn of coming floods, droughts, wars, and disease if people didn't start worshipping the true and living God. Jeremiah was accused of being unpatriotic and a traitor for telling his countrymen to surrender to their enemy and they would live or resist and die in many nasty ways.

Part of my difficulty, lately, has been the parallels I see going on in our country and those scriptures I've been reading. Several high profile Christians were quoted on TV saying the recent weather disasters could be related to 'End Times' and one prominent news program featured a doctor, of something, mocking the foolishness of such an idea. Many of the O.T. Prophets had to contend with 'False Prophets' who always contradicted the message authorized by God.

Then just the other day the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a new decision to remove a 10 Commandment statue from government property in New Mexico and then another court declared a 90 year old Cross honoring fallen WW-1 soldiers as in violation of the U.S. Constitution! (?)

Well, you can see where I'm going with these thoughts. Is this trouble we are experiencing really God working to bring our country back to Him? Is it too late for national repentance? With all the turmoil in the world, and in our country in particular I have seen my work increase a lot! We seem far from the gunfire, floods, fires or the political unrest in the other Washington but families are coming apart anyway. Normally people don't seek counseling until problems get really bad and there seems an attitude of fear that is driving people to God or to the Devil in a way I haven't seen since September 2001.

Please pray for Alpha as we try to help those who are struggling with sin, fear, and conflict.

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27- ESV.

Thank You for Caring! We could not do this work without YOU!

Richard & Debi