

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this to be an encouragement as we watch, with amazement, the world struggle with all the financial troubles going on! It can cause us to be overwhelmed with what comes next! Then when we read the Apostle Paul's comments on the 'last days' of the world, as we know it, things can be really scary !!

Paul says-

2 Timothy 3:1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. The King James Version says-"perilous times"!

According to the Greek word used here it can mean any or all of these—

Thayer's Definition: difficulty

- 1) hard to do, hard to take, hard to approach
- 2) hard to bear, troublesome, dangerous
- 2a) harsh, fierce, savage.

So, with this in mind, it is important to focus our thoughts on scripture and how we can be a witness and live in confidence that Jesus is truly in control, even when bad things are happening!

Amplified Bible-

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God.

And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].

John writes that Jesus is aware of trouble in the world but is prepared to be our help when trouble comes.

ESV-

John 14:27 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 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

So none of these problems are a surprise to Jesus! So we can place our confidence in Him to provide what we need during dark times.

Thank you so much for your prayers and help as we teach folks about God's way of faith and victory.

Richard.

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