

## In Times of Trouble

The days seem filled with trouble. Job said, "Man who is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble" (Job 14:1). We have seen COVID-19 take the lives and good health away from loved ones and friends. Many homes and much property were destroyed by wildfires. We have seen cities across our nation ravaged by violence. We have even witnessed the hallowed halls of our nations capital building attacked by rioters. These things have not been seen in our country in our lifetimes.

Many people are saying that our world is coming to an end and the Day of Judgment is soon to come. I don't know if that is true because the Bible says, "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only" (Matthew 24:36). Certainly, we all should be using these dreary and unsettling days to warn men of the day when the Lord will judge the world in righteousness (Acts 17:31).

However, don't let your heart be troubled for, "he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25). God knows how to rescue the godly from trials (2 Peter 2:9). Jesus still loves us and is providing His grace to all who will come to Him. It is time for us all to lean fully upon our faith in the Lord, that in every hardship there is a blessing. "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).

Let us all lift our heads, hearts, and voices in that old hymn by J.P. Webster,

*"To our bountiful Father above,  
We will offer our tribute of praise  
For the glorious gift of His love  
And the blessings that hallow our days."*

And let us pray as the Psalmist did,

"Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil" (Psalm 90:13-15).

- Joe Chase, North Loop Church of Christ, Gladewater, TX -  
(via *Bulletin Digest*)

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." - Psalm 46:1*

## News & Notes

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. only and Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.** The Covid-19 restrictions apply (masks & distancing).

**SYMPATHY:** To Bob and Glenn McMahan at the passing of their cousin, David Wright. May they be comforted at this time.

**MEALS FOR THE WAITE FAMILY:** Schedule is for Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; Sign-up sheet on the desk in the foyer.

**PANTRY:** Pancake mix & syrup.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: TRINITY, Steubenville:** Alex Harless (Send cards to: 103 Eleanor St., Mingo Junction, OH 43938). **Weirton Medical Center:** Mary Johnson (sister of Lois Hissom). **AT HOME:** Randy Waite, Becky McKittrick, Shirley Beagle, Lois Hissom, Peggy Linger, Randy Beagle, Charlie & Barb Delong, David McCoy, Jim Hadley, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Cam Adamson, Rick Beck, John McClung, Josh Morrison, 428 Burnside Rd., Canonsburg, PA 15317. **FOX:** Doris Dunham. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore (Room 210). **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **IN TENNESSEE:** Steve Higginbotham. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

## Jesus Knows & Cares

For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Hebrews 2:18.

"But you don't understand."

It's hard for us to trust someone who is trying to help us when they don't understand what we're going through. I feel unqualified when dealing with someone going through a nasty divorce; someone trying to raise children as a single parent; someone dealing with the loss of a child; or someone who is experiencing chronic pain of some kind.

However, we know Jesus can sympathize with whatever we're going through. He knew physical pain. He suffered the most agonizing death imaginable.

Jesus knew emotional and spiritual pain. He had His closest friends forsake Him and betray Him.

Jesus knew stress. His stress didn't come from a selfish desire for protection, but because He felt an overwhelming burden for other people (thousands at a time on occasion). Jesus experienced sleepless nights when He would pray and find comfort that only God could give Him.

What a blessing that we can carry all of our burdens and share them with Him, knowing that He will listen with sympathy and respond with grace.

- Author Unknown -  
(via *Midtown Messenger*. Midtown Church of Christ, Victoria, TX)