

Beloved friend in **CHRIST**, it is my prayer that you are **REJOICING** in the **LORD** (Phil. 4:4). These are days of heavy spiritual warfare that demand a commitment to live a life of **FAITH** (II Cor. 5:7). **JESUS CHRIST**, the only begotten **SON** of **GOD**, who is the **OBJECT** of our **FAITH** & the only faith that saves us (Acts 4:12).

I **PRAISE GOD DAILY** for sending **JESUS CHRIST** & **HIS** perfect plan of salvation. Our celebration of Easter this month is **NOT** a once a year celebration that "**HE IS RISEN.**" We rejoice in **CHRIST'S** victory over the grave. Because of **JESUS**, we have **HOPE** (Rom. 15:13). **HIS** resurrection offers an awesome message of comfort to believers & **EVERY** believer in **CHRIST** is absolutely assured of **ETERNAL LIFE** beyond the grave.

April was another incredible month of ministry. Over 550 who prayed the sinners prayer in 24 services (John 6:44). The **HOLY SPIRIT** moved mightily, as **HE** always does. This was another banner month in prisons. At Wayside, over 150 attend each service with a huge harvest of souls. The same at Lynwood & Chino Women's Prisons. I love how **GOD'S WORD** ministers to the wounded & broken. It's always exciting when new converts come into the kingdom. L.A. Co. Jail services had smaller numbers because of potential racial riots & fights. Chaplain Sally Moreno is doing a great job at the juvenile facility in E.L.A. Whatever happened to our family structure & foundations in our beloved country?

All of the 10 services in the Skid Row Missions had packed chapels, especially with some heavy rainy days. On Easter Resurrection Day, I was one of the guest speakers for Pastor's Ron & Susie Ortiz at Gladys Park where over 400 homeless people attended the service 12 to 4:30 p.m. My home Bible Studies continue to be well attended.

I attended Hugh O'Brien's 86th birthday party (Wyatt Earp & Game of Death with me). It was a good time & I did some ministry. Many of the people talked about our economy & the future. From a human perspective, knowledge in these areas is important. However, there is a greater knowledge & that is far more valuable than the latest news concerning Wall Street. It is the knowledge we gain from studying the **WORD OF GOD** (Heb. 4:12). Once we tap into **GOD'S** mindset, the future of the Fortune 500 companies will not seem as important. This is because **GOD** has a different perspective concerning our world & its daily operation. In fact, the **LORD** admonishes us to seek **HIS** wisdom (Jas. 1:5) over the worlds. While there is nothing wrong with track-

ing the ups & downs of the market & economy, it is more important to track our devotion to **GOD** & the pathways **HE** has laid out for our eternal investment (Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45).

The Thessalonians had forgotten how to view their lives in the light of **GOD'S** eternal plan. Essentially, they had bought into satan's lie (Jn. 8:44) by believing that the resurrection of the saints had taken place & they had missed the event. When Paul received news of their plight, he discovered that many of them had stopped working & were not investing their time & talents in the "Great Gospel Mission."

Paul handles the situations with eloquence. In I Thess. 4:13-18, he writes, "We do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that **JESUS** died & rose again, even so **GOD** will bring with **HIM** those who have fallen asleep in **JESUS**. For this we say to you by the **WORD** of the **LORD**, that we, who are alive & remain until the coming of the **LORD**, will **NOT** precede those who have fallen asleep. For the **LORD HIMSELF** will descend from Heaven with a shout, with a voice of the Archangel & with the trumpet of **GOD** & the dead in **CHRIST** will rise first. Then we who are alive & remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the **LORD** in the air, & so we shall always be with the **LORD**. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

We instantly have hope when we encounter godly knowledge & realize that **GOD** has **NOT** forgotten us (Ps. 139:17, 18). **HE** has a glorious plan for our lives & for the future of **HIS** church. These few words written to the Thessalonian believers were enough to motivate these believers to go back to spreading the gospel message. Too many today only give prosperity messages. I am commanded to preach "**CHRIST CRUCIFIED.**" Paul had them invest their time, money & talents in something that offered an eternal return — the kingdom of **GOD**.

John, like Paul reminds us in Revelation that **CHRIST'S** return is near (Matt. 24, Luke 21 & Mark 13) & our responsibility is to watch, pray & dedicate ourselves to kingdom work. Join me in a commitment to proclaim the gospel message to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible & as irresistibly as possible, telling others about **GOD'S** unconditional love & eternal salvation.

Until next month, may **GOD** bless you & to you, who sent a love offering, **THANK YOU**.

In His Majesty's Service,