

What Is Obsolete and Outdated Is Disappearing

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Saga 11. Kingdom Living Today Addenda, *"IF the LORD Had Not Been On Our Side..."* is available for download. In this segment we present further amazing divine interventions in our life at the retreat center. We hope that as you read these Sagas you'll see how the Holy Spirit sent us to the center to effect change: •in clergy, •in retreaters, •in internationals. At the same time, He was transforming us, while at the same time He was revealing the inner workings of the organized religious establishment.

In this Addendum you'll find a specific rebuke that Mike received early in our time at the center because he missed a key truth: that God uses people, not places, to accomplish His will! Once we internalized this fact in our spirits, we sensed a deep responsibility to our heavenly Father in three particular areas: **•to role model for others the reality of our life in Christ; •to instruct others in God's Word with the intent that they apply it to their lives; •to admonish and warn His children when it was necessary.** (Also you'll learn how the Holy Spirit provided "Sue's sports car"...)

"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18).

In our previous email we wrote that Christian history in both Europe and the US touted "being right" as the basis to their scribal theology. But the fruit of self-determined **rightness** has been **division, competition, and strife – even death**. The demonic pit of this misplaced emphasis is that you can't let yourself consider that you might be wrong. We have encouraged you to verify truth *via the indwelling Holy Spirit*, not through what others in the media or religious programming or the wild world of the internet would have you believe. It's through the Spirit of our Lord's presence in you that you experience **freedom of conviction** – you're not fearful or resistant to being asked about your own faith practices. You can freely reflect the **love, forgiveness** and **compassion** of our Lord Jesus no matter what the circumstances or the audience!

We note this form of "religious pride" (**rightness**) because of the widespread lack of Christ's presence in US Christianity. For example, many Christians are so enamored of their own "**rightness**" that they disdain certain categories of people. They perceive homosexuals and abortionists to be an unstoppable threat rather than desperately needy folks who will stay lost in their sin until their eyes are opened to Jesus as their Lord and Savior. We who are **Lordship-committed** do see their sin. But following our Lord Jesus we see these individuals as an opportunity **to pray for them and share the Gospel with them**. Paul was recruited from persecuting and murdering Christians, and we would have homosexuals and abortionists be recruited out of their sin to become the redeemed **Lordship-committed** who serve our Father and love our Lord Jesus!

We'd like to see many Christians with wholehearted **purpose with grace**, loving others as Jesus would if He were us. But there's a serious hindrance: **unresolved bitterness**. Acceptable in most parts of Christianity, ongoing bitterness is **the defiler of relationships** (Hebrews 12:15) keeping Christians from following in our Lord's first steps of **love, forgiveness** and **compassion**. You can recognize a bitter "Christian" because they are right in their own eyes and have no mercy toward unbelieving sinners (Matthew 12:34-37). In doing so, they are failing to live by the redemptive **way of our Lord**.

♥ When the burden of our Lord Jesus toward the presently hell-bound is yours, then you possess the foundations for truthful living. ♥ In Christ we refuse to see unbelieving sinners as a threat; rather we view their resistance or unbelief as an opportunity to represent our Lord Jesus as He would have us.

Mike & Sue

P.S. In 2023, our Lord willing, we'll begin a new series to prepare followers of Christ for the kind of biblical faith communities that will be needed during the Dark Days of Chastisement. The key aspect of future faith families is leadership by **older men of wisdom and character** who will shepherd our Father's children with righteousness and compassion. The title of the series is tentatively:

Shepherding Our Father's Children In Apocalyptic Times

(Apocalyptic: resembling the end of the world; momentous or catastrophic)

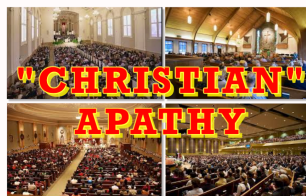
If you've been following the news of what life is like in Ukraine with the war and unrelenting devastation, or what the years of drought and armed conflict and famine have done in many parts of Africa, "apocalyptic" is a clear description to those who have been or are currently going through it. To prepare His children in Christ in the US for this grueling way of life, our Father has already begun the process of leading them out of apathetic, passive Christianity. He is leading them into the love-grounded, obedient trust relationships He is restoring. Not only do we need to prepare men especially who will represent our heavenly Father's loving concern for His children. We must also prepare His children to exercise **deference** to both the Lordship of Jesus and to each other. Deference, a character quality that's been eliminated by scribal **REBELLION** in Christianity, will be sorely needed in order for faith communities to experience our Father's blessings while ruin is taking place all around them. Below are two graphics we'll be using to illustrate what is already occurring throughout Christianity in this nation, and what is to come.

This IS NOT Our Lord's Way Of Discipleship

"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken Me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water" (Jeremiah 2:13).

Pew Listeners
no interaction,
no admonishment

Internet Listeners
no interaction,
no admonishment



This IS Our Lord's Way Of True Discipleship

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude to God in your hearts" (Colossians 3:16)

If our Lord Jesus or His true shepherds were instructing you



you would experience
face-to-face,
interactive,
and admonishing
Biblical discipleship



"We ask you, brothers, to respect those who are working hard among you, those who are guiding you in the Lord and confronting you in order to help you change" (1Thessalonians 5:12)