

well, i said i was going to respond only to those that answered my emails and that my long juicy emails would probably be over. i guess i just can't help myself and i do love to talk about my Jesus. so maybe you are all just going to have to put up with it as long as i can maintain them. they should be easy enough for you to delete.

what can i say today that might inspire or encourage someone out there? there's just so much to be thankful for and to hope and anticipate for. perhaps hope is the greatest thing. the word tells us "For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance" rom 8:24-25 and that's what we all need. perseverance. perseverance to stand firm against all the works of the enemy. even as we see evil begin to triumph and have it's will to reign, we stand steadfast in the knowledge that God will prevail in the end.

faith does not depend on how someone feels or circumstances around us. it stands strong in all conditions because we know whom we have believed. God has given everyone a witness. perhaps it may just be one beholds the wonders of His creation and ponders the source of it all. i have even heard that Jesus is appearing to many muslims overseas that cannot be reached. (a man in white) in His infinite knowledge He knows those who will believe in Him. Free choice. so confusing at times. just because God knows the end from the beginning doesn't negate our free choice. it

is still is left up to each person to believe or not. the word talks about the chosen. when you are called and accept, you become the chosen.

there has been much debate about whether or not one could lose their salvation. the old once saved, always saved. i just cannot believe that. each individual has the choice of walking away from God or not. just because someone once confessed a belief in Jesus does not mean they can go on their merry way in sin. if one is not feeling the conviction of the Holy Spirit and responding, then they need to deeply examine their salvation. although Jesus is very forgiving, i think judgment might be stricter than any of us have imagined. the word says "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" matt 7:22-24 that sounds strict to me. and the word prophesies a great "falling away".

i know we all fall short in so many ways. things we've done or should have done. that's where that "liquid love" and grace comes in. it is more than enough to cover any of our failings so that no one can snatch us out of His hand. one just needs to know our complete dependence on Him. as we grow in Him, just as babies grow, our shortcomings should become less. but never our need. we all must abide in Him to bear fruit. He is the root that feeds us and allows us to flourish. until then, we are told "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." heb 4:16 we are

complete in Him when we claim the blood.

the end times are upon us. i really believe that. even though my desire is to escape and be with Him, wouldn't it be wonderful to experience the rapture? i know there is much controversy about that too. i often wonder why God left it so much a mystery. i suppose He in His wisdom ordained it. be we are told "To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation." heb 9:28 why would anyone have to look for Him if he appears in the sky so that all may see? that means to get ready and stay ready. i believe the five virgins who ran out of oil were saved but they weren't ready and watching. perhaps they will be saved in the tribulation if they endure. enduring to the end won't be easy then.

i really believe we are living in the end times. this is the greatest, most significant time to be alive since He walked the earth. i know many scoff and are saying "“Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” 2 pet 3:4 even now new revelations and hidden knowledge are being revealed that was sealed up. at least to those who are open to it. i urge everyone not to be bound by customs and traditions of men. search the word for yourself be established in your own beliefs. not what any man says. whatever is not of faith is sin. we all need to listen to the Holy Spirit. that friend that sticks closer than a brother and leads into all truth. the comforter. Jesus promised Him.

indeed the way is narrow but He gives us guide rails to

lead us and to hold onto. i pray no one takes anything amiss but if conviction lies somewhere, please don't ignore it. take it to the Lord in prayer. none have to believe all that i do. one does have to believe the word. don't let anyone tell you what it says. know for yourself. there is quickly coming a time when the full number of gentiles will be reached. God has ordained it. does that mean that no more will be saved or might they just miss the rapture? only God knows. time is precious and it is running out. i urge one and all to do their diligent search while they may. God bless all who read.

linda