

apr 19

my bible reading yesterday include mark chapter 13, around verse 28 and beyond. of course, i have read many times about the fig tree and it's a significance in the end times. we think of the fig tree and we think of israel. two thousand years in dispersion, to be reborn again as a nation. "shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children." isa 66:8

i have a little fig tree growing in my backyard. we planted it about a year ago and i view it's growth daily. it may be a little over two feet high. i watch it now as the leaves are beginning to break forth into new growth. i suppose the reading yesterday made me to realize again the faithfulness of God and the rebirth of israel in 1948. i was born the year before and appointed to live in this time of ultimate fulfillment. you were all appointed as well.

i suppose the question is: "do we know the time of our visitation?" (see luke 19:44) oh, i know that this time "every eye will see Him". rev 1:7 but do you know it before your human eye reveals it to you? do you know it in your spirit? the disciple thomas didn't. "unless i see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, i will not believe." john 20:25

will you not discern the signs of the time? will you remain doubting until you finally see the nail prints

in His hands?

the Lord has said: "it is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch." mark 13:34 are you about your Father's business or distracted by the things of this world? it's so easy to take your eyes off the prize.

and so our Lord continues with this warning: "watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming – in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning – lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. and what I say to you, I say to all: WATCH!" mark 13:35-37

there is a saying and a song popular in israel. it goes: "next year in jerusalem". these words convey a web of meaning from concrete to abstract, and from earthly to holy. i say to you that if it is always "next year", your desire and commitment may take their leisure and procrastinate taking care of the Father's business.

what is the Father's business? "this is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." john 6:29 and if we believe, really believe, we know the urgency of the hour. "but someone will say, 'you have faith, and i have works.' show me your faith without your works, and i will show you my faith by my works." james 2:18 i go back to that "clarion call" i have mentioned so often before. will we hear it when it comes? is it calling now?

the goal of prognostication is not simply to depress everyone, but rather to serve as that clarion call to action. the clarion call is not the last trump. it is a foreshadow of the last trump. a call to wake up those who are sleeping. the word says the whole church will be "slumbering" when He comes. "but while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept." matt 25:5

among millennials, 44% claim a biblical worldview; results from the american worldview inventory, however, reveal that just 4% have one. among the 53% of gen xers, only 6% have a biblical worldview. as for the 54% of baby boomers, there are only 8%, while those over 75 years old, which accounts for 62%, only 8% truly have a biblical worldview.

do you think the church slumbering? what was our Lord's question? "nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" luke 18:8 knowing all things, our Lord asked that question. perhaps only we can answer it.

let us change the old saying into the new saying. this year in jerusalem! let us discard the old wine and drink deeply of the new. let us lay aside our everyday garments and dress in our wedding garments. "and to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." rev 19:8

Father God, i don't know how many calls to awaken we will receive as your body. i pray you open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our heart to desire you and

your will above all the ties this world has us
entangled in. i pray in the name of our precious Lord
Jesus.

linda