

jan 22

well, we're back to that clarion call again. and the meaning once again is, "the clarion call in times past was a blowing of a trumpet to call followers to a holy assembly; to warn them of impending danger or to announce the arrival of a king. it was a summons that was not to be ignored."

i know there will be that famous "last trumpet" where it "will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." 1 cor 15:52 i also feel we are to blow a trumpet now as we issue the call and warning to all who will listen. it is that clarion call.

what was the mission of john the baptist? he was, "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight." mark 1:3 isn't that our mission now also as our Lord prepares for His return; to prepare the way for His soon coming. will you be that voice of one crying in the wilderness? hopefully we will not suffer the same fate as john the baptist did. are you willing, whatever the cost?

those of us who have heeded that clarion call are now also required to reissue it to those in our own little area of acquaintances; in whatever platform the Lord has allotted each. i have often referred to it as my "realm". we might be the only one in that realm who is issuing the call. or at least the only one who might carry influence with someone that is lost.

we speak of them as lost because Jesus said, "I am the

light of the world. he who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." john 8:12 if they do know have that light, do not know that light, they are stumbling around in the darkness and at great risk of getting lost. all of us know about the dangers of falling if they are in the dark. only the fall we are talking about is a falling from life into death.

i always wonder when i see and hear people quoting john 3:16. i wonder if they have broken that scripture down? "God so loved that He gave ...". let me stop there. He gave. what? He gave the best He had, His most cherished possession. and what is our often response? to give a little time? to give a little thought? perhaps a little money. or is it to give the best we have also?

do we bashfully hide this gift of God, of His very best? "whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." mark 8:38

but we say, " i am not equipped to speak. what did mooses say? "o my Lord, i am not eloquent ... but i am slow of speech and slow of tongue." exo 4:10 God made him His representative to pharoah. and what of the prophet isaiah? "woe is me, for i am undone! because i am a man of unclean lips" God enabled him. "behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged." isa 6:5-6 it was then isaiah proclaimed, "here am i! send me."

you say, "but these were prophets ordained and appointed by God". yes, but they were just ordinary people enabled by a great God. He is still that enabler. all He is seeking are the willing and obedient. "i can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." phil 4:13 will that be our response to His call?

i remember a saying from years ago. "if you were arrested for being a christian, is there enough evidence to convict you?" imagine that you are on trial, having been accused of being a christian. there would be the prosecutor – the accusers with their witnesses. these witnesses would be asked to state whether they have seen in you clear evidence that you are a christian. what would they say?

the chances of this happening in today's world is becoming more and more likely. often today though, there is not even a trial. just an accusation and a judgment. a horrible question to even ask is, would you rather be found guilty or innocent? what if it meant a sentence of death? would fear make you compromise your faith?

i, for one, would want to hear that verdict, GUILTY. in that same wave, i will do all i can in life to steadily help build up the evidence against me. i do proudly proclaim, "i am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the jew first and also for the greek." rom 1:16 will you join with me and make this your confession too? will you also help build up the evidence for your conviction?

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