

jan 24

i want to talk today about peace and rest. turmoil is filling our world. "men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken." luke 21:26 as much as the things now occurring are enough to keep the world shaking, just wait until the powers of the heavens are shaken. we know it is going to happen because the word says it will.

i believe we are nearing the time when the "two witnesses" prophesied in the bible will appear. "and if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. and if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. these have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire." rev 11:5-6 it is said people will rejoice at their final death.

all that is written in the bible will come to pass. these terrors will strike the earth and cause it to reel. how bad will it get before we are lifted out of here? the evil now manifesting will continue to grow worse and worse. but we are not to walk in fear.

we are told "let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." heb 10:23 yes, He is the faithful One. "there is no pit so deep so deep that He is not deeper still." that quote is not from the bible. it is from

corrie ten boom. a wonderful christian lady who survived the holocaust, even though most of her family did not. her faith had tested and tried Him and it was not found wanting.

none of us knows the trials that lie ahead of us. it is best that way. the fear and dread of it would dominate our every thought. i want to relate below a story corrie used to tell during her years of witnessing.

"daddy," she had said one day, "i am afraid that i will never be strong enough to be a martyr for Jesus Christ."

'tell me,' her father wisely responded, 'when you take a train trip from haarlem to amsterdam, when do i give you the money for the ticket? three weeks before?'

"no, daddy, you give me the money for the ticket just before we get on the train."

'that is right,' he replied, 'and so it is with God's strength. our wise Father in heaven knows when you are going to need things too. today you do not need the strength to be a martyr. but as soon as you are called upon for the honor of facing death for Jesus, He will supply the strength you need—just in time.'

this simple woman became a might witness for our Lord and His faithfulness. i like heb 13:5 from the amplified version of the bible. "I will never [under any circumstances] desert you [nor give you up nor leave you without support, nor will I in any degree leave you helpless], nor will i forsake or let you down

or relax my hold on you [assuredly not]!"

do you hear what He's saying? He's got us! it doesn't matter what the situation is. it doesn't matter how overwhelming or insurmountable it may appear. if we only let faith rule over fear. faith that, "He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ". phil 1:6 faith in the promise of His word. "for i am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." rom 8:38-39

we hold fast our faith and confidence until the end. if a train is coming, He will deliver us our ticket when it is needed.

i am reminded of that horrible exit america had from afghanistan. people were clinging to the planes taking off in hopes of an escape. that's how we need to cling to Jesus. only we will not fall off as they did.

"therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." heb 7:25 our confidence is not in man and we do not serve an impotent God. He is not a "flying spaghetti monster" in the sky. (look it up.) He is Lord of lords and King of kings! He is our Messiah and soon coming King.

i, for one, do confidently say to all "nevertheless i am not ashamed, for i know whom i have believed and am

persuaded that He is able to keep what i have committed to Him until that Day." 2 tim 1:12 will you join me in that confession of faith?

linda