

Kingdom thoughts

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. Hebrews 12:28

BMi Devotional December 2015

Understanding the times

In the last Kingdom Thoughts I posed three responses to matters that concern every one of us. What can and should we do to arrest the wickedness that is flooding our world these days?

I am happy to leave the first two responses to others to explore further. It seems to me to be more valuable to endeavour to attempt to consider what God may be doing that we might better understand the times; like the men of Issachar in 1 Chronicles 12:32:

...the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command.

There are three touch points to mention for us to consider in coming to action:

1. **God is sovereign.** Nothing happens that He is not aware of. God is not in a state of panic at the condition of the world; nor does He fear for the future of the church.
2. **History provides us with valuable insights as to what is a bigger picture understanding.** Have we seen similar or worse periods in history and what was the outcome? Past societies have seen worse situations than we are experiencing. We have been living in a society in which Christian values undergird public policy. This is hardly the case today.

3. **The church of the Lord Jesus Christ represents an unshakeable Kingdom that will never be defeated.**

We are on the winning side in the war, but in any war there will be times when it seems defeat is inevitable — but God!

What is important at times such as this, is that we consider again what our faith really means to us and perhaps how well we understand our faith. In times of comfort we can seemingly get away with a faith that is for Sundays only, but when surroundings change we may be found out. Jesus is our Lord — our owner — the one who is to control every aspect of our lives and as we submit and live in obedience we find a greatly increased measure of grace in which we can stand against the works of the enemy.

Thus BMi believes this is a time for the preparation of the church for some difficult days ahead. There is only one thing that can save us from impending destruction and that is God and His church. Jesus told us not to hide our light under a bushel, but to let it shine and we do that by living and demonstrating the ways of God in our lives.

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