



Chaplain's Notes

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"life is for us"

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WAR & PEACE

Dear friend,

Hello again! How have you been this month? I guess that if you have been following the media, you might be feeling a bit disturbed. With the constant threat of war, the bombing in Bali, and events in Russia, it looks like things seem to be getting a little bit out of control.

What does all this mean? Does it mean 'the end is nigh', as many prophets of doom have said over the years?

Jesus said: "And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."¹ But He also went on to say: "When you see all these things, know that it is near, at the very doors."²

All these signs around us indicate to me that the world is heading rapidly toward God's promised Day of Judgement.³

And it is not just these signs we are seeing on T.V. It seems that all over the world people are receiving revelations from God to warn people to wake up, be alert, and turn from their sins before it's too late. For example, I have a video which clearly documents the story of Pastor Daniel Ekechukwu from Nigeria who died and came back to life after 3 days in November 2001. When he died, the angels took him in spirit and showed him heaven and hell, and he was granted permission to come back to earth to give this generation "a last warning." I myself have also had dreams which have challenged me with the 'urgency of the hour' in which we live.

So what do we do? Do we protest against these wars? Do we 'fight' for peace?

In this world, peace amongst all mankind will be impossible. The Bible says "the way of peace they have not known."⁴ We will never be able to create a utopia on earth. While people remain rebellious against God and don't receive Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, as their Saviour and Lord, there will never be world peace.⁵

The Bible says that the only time in which there will be world peace is after Jesus Christ comes back to judge the world. The devil will then be cast into the lake of fire⁶ and all wicked and evil people who have said 'No' to God and to His Son Jesus Christ will be removed from the earth.

The Bible says "the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."⁷ Then there will be a new heaven and a new earth in which there is no wickedness⁸, and "there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain."⁹

But, until that day comes, there is one type of peace that we all can experience, and that is peace with God. The Bible says "God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"¹⁰ and that "we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."¹¹

My friend, we are living in desperate times. But the physical warfare we are seeing around us is just an

outward expression of the war between the forces of good and the forces of evil in the heavenly realms¹² and in our hearts.¹³ I believe these "signs of the times" we are seeing are God's warning to us to be ready for heaven.

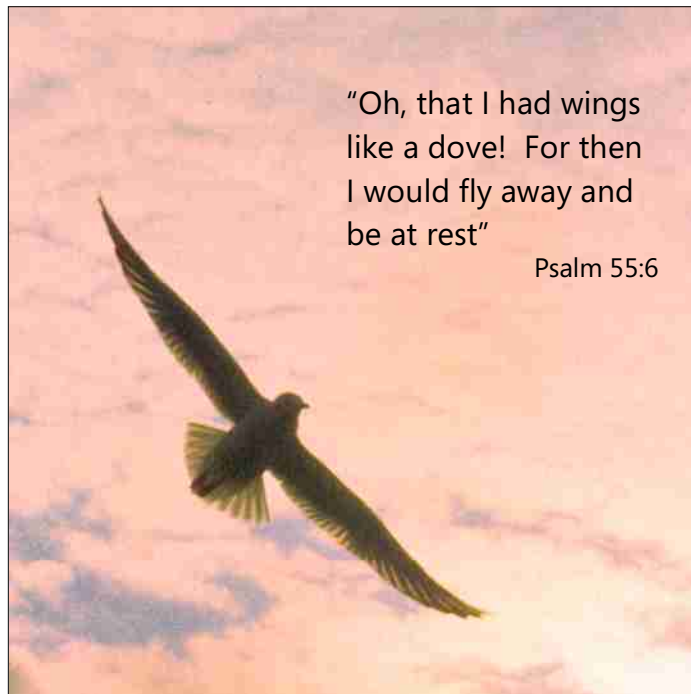
So, how do we get ready for heaven? How can we have peace with God and be sure that we are going to heaven when we die?

The Bible tells us the way. The Bible says that only those who have their name written in the 'Book of Life' that belongs to Jesus Christ will go to heaven.¹⁴ Is your name there? You don't get your name written in it through all the good things you may do in life. No, all the things we

have done and will do, whether good or bad, are written in other books in heaven.¹⁵ You only get your name written into the Book of Life if you have put your personal trust in Jesus Christ for the salvation of your soul.¹⁶ There is no other way. You see, we are all sinners, and have fallen short of God's glory.¹⁷ It is only the blood of Jesus, which He shed on the cross, which can cleanse you from your sin.¹⁸ When you turn to Jesus, your name is written into the Book of Life, and the Bible guarantees peace with God both now and for eternity if you remain faithful to Jesus¹⁹.

Have you made your peace with God? Do so, by putting your trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. The Bible says that "if you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved"²⁰ and that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"²¹. Do it today, before it's too late.

Yours sincerely,



(1) Matthew 24:6. (2) Matthew 24:33. (3) Romans 3:17. (4) Matthew 11:22-24. (5) John 16:33. (6) Revelation 20:10. (7) Revelation 21:8. (8) 2Peter 3:13. (9) Revelation 21:4. (10) 2Peter 3:9. (11) Romans 5:1. (12) Revelation 12:7-12; John 14:30. (13) Ephesians 6:10-12. (14) Revelation 21:27. (15) Revelation 20:12-13. (16) Revelation 22:14; 1John 3:23; Luke 10:20. (17) Romans 3:23. (18) 1John 1:7. (19) Revelation 3:5. (20,21) Romans 10:9,13.