

The World and Our Involvement

Rev 1:3,19; 12:10; 20:3-4; 22:6,10,11

Only the personal and literal return of the Messiah to this planet will ever make the earth a better place to live. We are not out to make the world a better place to live, a better environment in this age. Only in the church do we have such an attitude as that. This is why we labor night and day to make the church a better place to live. The world will always have wars and rumors of war and the poor as Yahshua said. So the world will never have peace according to the word of God's Son. He and the prophets promised nothing but turmoil and strife between nations and peoples, families. The threat of world war is imminent and world destruction is at hand.

When Yahshua returns He will take care of all social problems and the corrupt political systems and all the causes of stumbling in His Kingdom (Rev 11:15; Mt 13:41,48-50). So we are not trying in the least to solve any problem which exists in the world. Yahshua said, *Strive to enter at the narrow gate*, and He is not a vain babbler. This will take 100% of our effort and strength, our time and energy, resources wasted and love in vain to attempt to make a world which is under the control of the evil one a better place to live and we will forfeit our life in the coming age. For many will try to enter in but will not be able to, for they do not have enough strength left over to enter or to even love their brother who was in need of his gifts and abilities, which were exhausted on a lost cause — the world and its lusts. Jms 4:1 adequately describes this kind of action as adultery, a giving of their love away to other loves, and all the while God our Maker and Lover was yearning jealously over the spirit, even the unfaithful spirit, which He has caused to dwell in them. Lk 13:24-28 — *But He will say I never knew you for you were knowing the world. You never gave all your love and strength to me. You gave your strength to other loves. You knew the world spirits and the world spirits were familiar, all too familiar with you. You played the harlot.*

We could name off a long list of worldly concerns and alarming concerns for the worldly minded, but we have no such concerns as disciples of Yahshua, Who also had no concern for such matters as disarmament of Rome or Israel. But He said that if someone forces you to carry his load one mile, carry it two; if he asks you for your shirt, give him your undershirt also. He did not say to protest, to go to the capital and pray and make everybody mad at you. But rather to live quiet lives, minding your own business and obeying the word. The more we ponder all these problems, the more we get off center concerning God's purpose, building up the body and saving the lost ones.

We could spend all of our waking hours thrashing out the problems — protesting, marching on the capital building, praying in masses in Washington, where it is unlawful to pray. Maybe this is why Yahshua said, *when you pray, go into your closet and shut the door — by yourself.*

There is injustice everywhere, everywhere you look. What is the solution, what is the remedy? Only One.

We must be concerned with what God is concerned about. Where does the Bible say to get involved in government, protests, civil jobs, and IBM, investment bankers, insurance executives, war and full-gospel business men's clubs?

Making the fruit better does not change the tree. The world problems are the direct results of man being under the obedience of Satan. Undoing the works of Satan is not bandaging up the evils of the present age. Getting involved with fighting the devil on his own turf, falling into his strategy and schemes. The main concern and problem God has is sin. Sin cannot be eradicated by getting in there and fighting tooth and nail on Satan's own terms. Man must be saved out of *sin, sickness and disease*. This is what God is concentrating upon today. First, saving the rulers of the age to come. While Christians today are taking care of the world's bad fruit, God's disciples are paying attention to the tree, with an axe in their hand. To cure society of all its ills is not working endlessly to combat sin [in the world], but preaching the gospel in order for those in this wicked and perverse and abnormal society to repent and come out of it, into and under the good government of God. Only then will the end come (Rev 11:15).

Those who deem it necessary to get involved in social protest as a Christian thing to do have no real knowledge

of the Lord or His word as recorded in the Bible. They may feel to ignore societies problems is to betray our country, but we must reply, *Where are we commanded to do so? Except to pray for its leaders, etc.*, and even that is not a staged prayer, but in our own closet or in the assembly of the godly. Where are we commanded to pray elsewhere? Our job as believers in God and His Son who express that belief within the community of those redeemed by this Son is not to deal with the ills of this world — our town, our state or nation or to try to solve its problems, reorganizing its institutions and reforming its political systems, cleaning up *their* TV, magazines, movies, Broadway shows and pop songs, or the rock and roll band that comes to town. The race problem is only solved in Messiah. It is anti-Christ to try to solve these problems outside of being in Messiah. And you can't get those problems in Him. Those who form the light in whom the Lord refers to in Mt 5 are those who are like a city on a hill. Eph 5:3 says everything that is made visible is made visible by light. Where a community of disciples who live together in Messiah are, they are the light of the world around them, and they expose the sin and corruption which is going on all around them. It is through their light of right living according to the word of God which exposes and convicts and brings those who are appointed unto eternal life to repentance. This light is not being busybodies, sticking their noses into the world's troubles, businesses and politics, TV, wars, and murders.

They must hear the word of God by the faithful witness of the *saints* who hold out the truth and speak it in love. We are not out to change anything except the human spirit and soul and mind, teaching them whatsoever the Messiah commanded (Mt 28:20). But within the church under the authority of Messiah where this *training* can only take place and take form. For He never *commanded* anyone of His disciples to get involved in social protests of any kind. He never commanded His disciples to reform society or change our schools and institutions or get politically involved on issues of this present evil age. The only command was to save yourself from this perverse age (Acts 2:38).

He never said either to try to save the rickety wagon of the American Educational System, for it is itself a bastard with all the fruit of a fatherless child which has had no discipline.

Time is running out and you have to decide whether you are going to save the *kaput* ship or to save the men on it, for it is sinking fast. You can decide either to go down with it, because you love it so, or you can decide to jump for safety. Which do we rescue — the ship or the people on board?

The Lord here on earth had no interest in politics. He just replied, *Render unto Cæsar what is Cæsar's but to God what is God's*. What is God's is us, and we are His image-bearer — the many are Cæsar's image-bearer.

Paul never tried to change or reform the social order of his day, but only tried to save people. He did not stage any insurrection against slavery. He merely said if you can be free, then be free, but if not then be a good slave for you are all Messiah's bondslaves, and be obedient to your masters regardless of how cruel they were to them. Paul did not stage any demonstrations against slavery, and it wasn't because he lacked bravery either, but because he could hear the voice of the Son of God.

Only in Messiah's body are conflicts dissolved of every sort. And outside of Him *they rage*. All problems today are because people are not in God's New Covenant that He has for all men, but men are still in Satan's order.

In the coming age when the Son of Man returns, there will be no internal national and worldly strife. All will be submitted to the King Yahshua and His ambassadors. Whatever a person will not have to participate in in the coming age, he is not to participate in this age.