

**In These Changing Times**

*“But of the times and seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 1 Thess.5:1-2*

In these verses the Apostle Paul reminds us that we should be well aware of both the time and season we are living in. Truly this is a sobering reminder for all of us. We live in a day when God’s word is under assault. It is categorically rejected by many and altered and reprinted by others to make it more appealing to man’s mind. The eternal truths of the scriptures are commonly replaced in our day with theory. Satan is there to delude the heart. Thus the matters of eternal life and death so often become secondary or even scuttled completely. Anything that entertains seems to occupy one’s thoughts and time, leaving little or no time to study the scriptures; one of the most reliable being the authorized King James version of the Bible. We are all guilty in some measure of such behavior. Again, the Apostle writes how men will be, *“lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.” 2Tim.3:4* He continues by warning that those whose hearts are caught up by such things may even have a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof. From such, he counsels; turn away. All of this style of life and more is before us today. Will we stand apart from such ungodliness? Dear friend, flee from the unrighteous works of men in these changing times. In prayer seek God’s help to abide in the truth. He hears the prayers of his children and he will give us strength to resist the temptation of our human nature. To simply go along with the flow of humanity is to journey toward spiritual shipwreck and the impending eternal loss of our soul. In 1Thess.5:3-6 the Apostle Paul further warns, *“For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”* Then he again reminds the believer, *“But ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.”*

In these entreating words of the Apostle we have recognized solemn warnings and also words of comfort. What might we glean for ourselves from all of this? Simply put, we are reminded, as God’s children, that we have a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. We cannot court the unrighteous works of darkness, walking in the ways of this world and also walk as a child of God. One cannot

serve two masters. To yield to one’s sinful nature is to be swept away with the mindless tide of apathy and complacency which spells eternal destruction. No true believer, having partaken of God’s free gift of grace and forgiveness can make excuse for such behavior. Jesus said, *“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” Matt.6:24*

The following comforting messages of our Lord to his believers are so clear; *“These things have I spoken unto you, that ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33* also he said *“be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” Rev.2:10*

Pray for spiritual guidance dear friend. We see, today, in these changing times the prophesies of the scriptures are rapidly being fulfilled. Jesus is coming soon; are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Ken Storm – pastor

**Special Services with Wilfred Sikkala**

**September 19-21**

**Friday, Sept 19, 7pm**

**Sat, Sept 20, 2 and 6pm**

**Sunday, Sept 21 11am and 2pm.**

**Return to Fall/Winter Schedule**

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 9:45am

Sunday Service 11:00am.

**We are now broadcasting sermons live online!**

From our webpage: <http://www.tapiolachurch.org/> you will see the mixlr live audio – we will be 'on the air' during our church services. Previous sermons will be published to as well. TELECONFERENCE Local: 334-6338 Long Distance: 1-906-334-6338 After “greeting”, enter Conference I.D. No. 44444

Sept 7	Ken Storm	11:00	Holy Communion Sunday School 9:45am
Sept 14	Earl Kaurala	11:00	
Sept 21	Ken Storm	11:00	Medical Care 3pm
Sept 28	Chad Kuivanen	11:00	

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