

**General Topics :: Gloom and Doom****Gloom and Doom - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/15 15:28**

There seems to be a lot of "gloom and doom" posting on Sermonindex.

Are we supposed to be "doom and gloom" Christians?

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." I Tim. 1:7.

People will say it is important that we know just how bad it is getting, and how we need to know what is going on. And God willing we might even be martyred next week.

But you would have to be awfully dumb to not see that things are moving in the wrong direction.

The danger with "doom and gloom" posting is that it creates "doom and gloom" thinking, which is something that Christians are decidedly NOT to engage in:

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." Phil. 4:8.

And from our Lord:

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

I guess the question we should ask when bringing up "doom and gloom" subjects is "What is the reaction we are looking for?" Because regardless of how innocent our intentions may be, many people may freak out or fret, neither of which is a godly reaction. Worry and fear drive people from the Lord, by definition.

**Re: Gloom and Doom, on: 2012/6/15 15:50**

If a New Testament Christian "freaks out and frets" it's because of one reason only.

They haven't read the entire New Testament.

How much is given to eschatology.

And have they cross-referenced all of that NT eschatology to the Old Testament?

There's no way a person can not see the days we were born into if they've seriously studied their Bible.

I have no pity for the "freakers and the freters".

But I will uphold the weak in the faith, with my life.

Some of us feel honored to have GOD choose us to be born into "this generation".

Bless you.

**Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2012/6/15 17:15**

But you know, some people study the bible viciously and literally freak out if even 666 comes up on their phone as if the mark of the beast has just invaded somehow. Those who have this mindset become a danger to some people especially when it comes to 'end times' stuff because essentially they end up crying wolf too much because they react to seemingly every little thing that could be an 'end times' item according to their understanding of the bible.

I don't get myself immersed in it as others do and therefore I don't have the freakout shakes as some tend to have. I know now some people think these types of Christians are near schizo as a result.

**Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/15 17:22**

I think American Christians do however need to start preparing our Hearts for Persecution, We are fat and hooked on the grain bucket, we will follow the Grain Bucket right into the slaughter plant.

**Re: Gloom and Doom, on: 2012/6/15 18:06**

TMK please bear with me. I am not trying to slam you.

Instead of labeling this "doom and gloom" which also gives a reaction in many that says, "Yea we need to focus on the good etc etc".

This is the carnal natural tendency of all of us to seek the easy way. I am guilty of this first and foremost.

Every one of God's prophets apostles and teachers were labeled, "doom and gloom" by those who did not want to repent of the sin that was bring the doom and gloom message.

TMK I am not saying this is you.

However I do not like to use terms like this or "legalist" or "easy believism" etc cuz it really tempts us to divide more and more from what is scriptural. It throws the broad brush a dismiss the messenger from being heard.

"ALL the counsel of God must be proclaimed. Therefore posts and messages will contain pointing out of bad news and the need to repent so we can enjoy the good news.

**Re: - posted by Lordoitagain (), on: 2012/6/15 18:40**

I don't know everyone's motives for the things that are posted here on SI, but to be sure none of really know even our own motives. Only God does (Jer. 17:9-10), but I believe that I can explain some of the motivation for it: Jesus gave similar exhortations:

Luc 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Luc 21:35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

Luc 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Mat 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Mat 24:7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Mat 24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

Mat 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

Mat 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Mat 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

It is human nature to relax in the "good times" and not be preparing ourselves spiritually as Jesus said, watching and praying, and such hard times can come upon us unexpectedly and our love can wax cold and we can be among those who do not endure to the end and therefore are not saved in the end.

Why would Jesus exhort: "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." If all we had to do was to "think on good things", such exhortations wouldn't be in the scripture.

Of course such exhortations are not to induce fear of men: Mat 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

There are several things in God's Word that can appear to contradict one another, but taken by God's leading can produce a balanced mindset that will carry us through to the end. The same Bible that says "fear not" says: "pass the time of your sojourning here in fear". The same writer who said: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice" also said "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart."

There is a great concern for many in modern western churches who have been SO VERY unbalanced in their diets of the Word; therefore, people here on SI want to present the least served items on God's menu so that we can all have a well-balanced spiritual diet that will keep us through the hard times. The warnings about coming persecution such as those that Jesus gave in Matthew 24 are not heard much in many churches. A sincere Christian who hasn't been faced with that reality could suddenly think that God has left or forsaken him if he's thrown into a fiery furnace, and feels the heat, or if in a Lion's den he is mauled. If all he has ever heard is "God will deliver you if you have faith" it may come as a shock that God's plans sometimes include severe torture and death.

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/16 8:50**

Quote: "TMK please bear with me. I am not trying to slam you."

I don't feel slammed; I knew (and was hoping) that people would bring up all the verses mentioned.

I agree that scriptures tell us to be "sober" and "alert."

In his Olivet Discourse, Jesus did make some dire warnings and predictions, all of which were fulfilled in the disciple's lifetime when Jerusalem was sacked by the Romans in 70 AD. And of course his warnings worked-- the believers fled the city and escaped the carnage, which was indeed terrible. I don't think many believers today understand how awful that event was.

I just wanted to start a discussion on the need for balance; because like it or not many people, even mature believers, feel pangs of fear or worry when they read things about how terrible it is soon going to be, how we are going to be thrown into concentration camps here in America or be held down and have implants forced into our bodies that will doom us all to hell etc.

If it happens, oh well. We need to be ready, agreed. But we don't get ready by reading alarmist posts-- we get ready by being on solid footing in our relationship with the Lord. If that is where it should be, we will have the grace and courage to face whatever may come our way.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 10:26**

TMK,

God sounds the prophetic "alarm" out of His love. It's because He knows there are MANY of His who are not ready for what's coming & the prophetic "alarmist" (as you call it) call is a trumpet. He sounds it to rattle up His people to see they aren't in the condition they think they are in. Sure, there are "so called prophet"-types along for the ride sending out fear-mongering, but there is also the truly prophetic camp of saints in the fold through whom God is blowing the shofar.

When, in Acts, a certain prophet in the Body told the church to prepare for a coming famine in Jerusalem, the church took it seriously, as directly from the Lord, & prepared. It was an act of God's mercy. Some probably said, "oh, there's no

need to worry, just trust God (basically He can send down manna if need be), & didn't take the prophetic cry real 100% seriously with sobriety followed by prompted action. They either starved, if isolated, or had to get food from those in the Body who heard the cry, trusted in the Word from heaven, took it dead serious, & followed it with the faith in action work of preparing/storing up for the soon coming famine. Who was more spiritual REALLY?

Do we need to trust in God 100% come what may? Absolutely! Do we need to grow more in Him now and come closer and shed more of the weights that hinder and entangle us? Absolutely! Do we need to truly die to self, take up our cross daily, & follow Him whithersoever He goeth? Absolutely! The fact that God continues to cry out through His prophets the way He does is de facto proof that WE ARE STILL NOT READY SPIRITUALLY for what's ahead. We aren't sober in our self-evaluation. We are so far off, as a whole and individually (most of the Body, especially in the West), that God is lovingly, kindly, mercifully sounding the trumpet louder and louder as enemy troops approach the city walls!

As far as "balance", the Body balances itself out. The eye can't say to the arm "I don't need you", nor can the feet say to the eyes "quit seeing ahead so clearly, I'm walking just fine where we stand right now". The eyes look ahead for danger in the Body's environment & where it's headed. It's what they do. I mean, how "balanced" was John the Baptist, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Amos, Joel, Ezekiel, etc. under that type analysis? They were as God made/called/gifted/empowered them to be. They in turn balanced out the rest of the Body, just as the rest of the Body balanced out them. But when they spoke, the Body listened. The true Body did. The rebellious wrote them off, got sick of listening to them, & eventually ignored them to their own peril.

How balanced was Noah? He looked like a crazy man preaching against wickedness & building a boat talking about a judgement coming FOR DECADES! They all laughed him to scorn, eventually of not immediately, but only Noah & His family were saved while the whole earth drowned in their disbelief of His message. Cause it wasn't "His" message, but God's! "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of Man." The Alarm is an act of love & mercy. "Don't despise those who Prophesy".

Love in Christ - Jeff

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 12:07**

Doom and Gloom and Drama sells, in books, on TV, in the movies, and in real life scenarios, and not even Christians are immune to it. Most Doom and Gloom and Drama in most folks lives is self-inflicted, you do have a choice to walk away, to turn the tube to another one of the hundreds of channels, etc. For some odd reason that demon spirit, easily invades some weak-minded folks' minds, even Christians, if you are watching it, listening to it, are reading it, "you" are only being a contributor to that demon spirit. I always "as most men do anyway" keep the remote in my hand, so when the drama starts to fill the air during a commercial or show change I start flipping. No doom and gloom or drama wanted here, and the best thing is anyone that comes to visit knows this, funny thing is it hasn't slowed my visitors any, matter fact I have gained a few.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 12:15**

Good post jeffmar thank you for taking the time to write that out.

Goodpoints MrBillpro

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 12:42**

So let's see here. I read my VOM magazine to learn about the persecuted church to pray for them. Gloom and doom. I read Martyrs Mirror to know about how saints overcame the devil in times past. Gloom and doom. I read Richard Wormbrandt's Tortured for Christ to be convicted and challenged in my faith walk with Jesus. Gloom and doom. Guess I better classify Bonhoeffer as gloom and doom.

I read the articles by Greg warning us of upcoming persecution. Gloom and doom. My goodness. Guess I got too much gloom and doom.

So to balance myself out. I will go and listen to some Joel Olsteen.

Bearmadter standing down.

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 12:52

Quote:

----- bearmaster....I read the articles by Greg warning us of upcoming persecution.  
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How does he know this would be my question?

No one said you were the Devil or the Antichrist if you choose to read all the doom and gloom stuff, they just said you have a choice, and you made your choice, so run with it.

I personally choose to do what Christ preferred:

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." Phil. 4:8.

Re: , on: 2012/6/16 12:53

Good plan, Mr. Bill Pro. I watch zero TV (not even hooked up to an antenna) so no need to change the channel when anything comes on, so I'm not picking up some demon from the TV shows that you don't watch. In love, that kinda makes my whole point. No demon spirit influence at all, especially to the "immune to deception", when our "entertainment" does not come from the television at all.

They told Jesus He had a demon when He prophesied. They called Jeremiah's prophetic declaration that Jerusalem was about to be destroyed "blasphemy". I'm sure similar declarations were made about many throughout the ages. Some of the martyrs were killed for claims of blasphemy, demon-possession, insanity, unfit for society, etc.

I exhort everyone here to unplug your TV completely and start with a 30-day "fast" (if you will, though a true fast is from food as well as activity), and spend all that time in prayer, fasting, fellowship, and the Word of God. See if your perspective doesn't change, at least a little. It's hard to hear the Lord clearly over the TV. Even "good, safe, TV" that though it may not be outright sinful, is definitely a weight and hindrance that consumes our hearts, minds, times, etc. Your brain is less active when watching TV than sleeping. You burn less calories when watching TV than when reading or sleeping. Those are proven, tested, scientific physiological facts proven with EKG monitors. Basically, your brain is in "auto pilot". Turn your TV off for a month and use all that time you would have otherwise wasted entertaining yourself in seeking God. I know, cause I have done it for years at a time, and only after you pull away do you see the effect it had on you, your mind/heart/time, and you don't see it at the time.

Don't cry "Legalism", please for the love of Christ. Everyone save that response and pray about what I'm saying. Everything is permissible for me, but not beneficial. No soldier gets caught up in civil affairs. Redeem the time, for the days are evil. Study to show yourself approved a workman who needeth not be ashamed, but rightly dividing the Word of truth.

This all continues to prove the point I believe the Lord is trying to make to the Western church. You think the underground Chinese church is disputing over changing the channel when "something bad comes on". Honestly, I'm not trying to rebuke anyone individually or be self-righteous. I'm trying to get us to think. We don't see ourselves clearly as we are before the Lord. That's exactly why we need so many trumpet calls of mercy to wake up and repent before it's too late. Foolish virgins who fell asleep and ran out of oil is what we will find ourselves to be in that day.

All of us, if we don't stop making excuses, thinking we are beyond correction/deception, and truly make our lives living sacrifices unto God sold out to the cross, the Gospel, and the Kingdom! I'm no different. No one is. The Lord sounds the alarm because we need it and don't see it. Just like the Laodiceans, we think we are rich and have need of nothing not realizing we are poor, blind, naked, and wretched. And the church (Sardis maybe?) that had a reputation of being alive, but are dead, whose works are not found complete in His eyes. We need to repent and return to our first love.

How much time did we spend in His Word and prayer when we first came to the Lord and how much TV/entertainment did we consume? We should grow more radical in our walk as we grow over the long haul, not more comfortable, complacent, and correcting those who prophesy as though we know better ("don't despise prophesy"). C'mon church! This is not directed at anyone. It's directed at everyone. I'm chiefest. Time is short and the Lord is merciful and gracious.

If we knew Hitler was taking over America tomorrow would we still be so complacent? Seriously! If prophets cried out, would we label them as "doom and gloom"? Wake up church, strengthen what remains and repent. We aren't as we ought to be. The first step to restoration is seeing ourselves clearly, admitting/confessing it honestly, repenting, and turning to the Lord with ALL OUR HEARTS. You'll never see that watching TV. That's not some old school legalistic UPC mandate of how we prove our holiness to other men, but that's just a fact that God will honor if you honor him.

Before you attack me, just consider it openly and humbly before God first. If I'm being legalistic, then so are most of the preachers on this site. Men like Art Katz, David Wilkerson, A.W. Tozer, Leonard Ravenhill, etc. or maybe you know/se

Is something these men didn't how you can be just as spiritual as they (or more) by feeding your spirit TV entertainment all the time? Are we a humble people or too proud to hear and receive correction from the Lord? Please think and pray before you are quick to answer. Be quick to hear and slow to answer right? Call God's warnings whatever you want. Stick your fingers in your ears. Hide away from it in entertainment (eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die), but know you do so at your own peril. That's not spoken in arrogance, pride, self-righteousness, or a spirit of condemnation. That's the most loving message from the merciful throne of God I can share with you right now.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 13:07**

It is estimated the average American spends 6 hours a day in front of the TV. The Chinese believers spend about that much time in the word. And that is just the warm up

Bear

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 13:22**

bearmaster,

quote

"It is estimated the average American spends 6 hours a day in front of the TV. The Chinese believers spend about that much time in the word. And that is just the warm up"

Thanks for this reminder.

Years ago I was watching a K.P. Yohannan video on a training school in India. One of the things emphasized in that video was having the students just read the Bible a lot daily. How refreshing.

Many American seminary students are reading one commentary after another. With very little Bible.

A church that I was fellowshiping at got a new pastor fresh out of 7 years of seminary training for his denomination. He declared from the pulpit that he had read very little of the Bible over the past seven years. That he had read tons of books and commentaries.

It showed.

He really had no idea what the Bible teaches on the most basic of things. His head was filled with confusion and worldly plans of how to grow a church.

To your BIBLES men of God!!!!!!

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 13:30**

Greg knows cause he's hearing from God living a life consecrated to God, probably spending time others spend in frivolous entertainment (like watching TV) in the secret place with God hearing from heaven.

You mentioned the verse on "thinking on whatsoever things are pure,,,noble, praiseworthy, of good report,,,,,meditate on such things"

I know prophesying about the coming persecution doesn't seem to line up to that for you (it does to me, & I believe anything the Lord would have to share with the church for its own exhortation, edification, and encouragement fits that bill), but you take that prophecy as gloom and doom. I have to ask, which TV shows do you watch that meet the requirements of that same scripture? Honestly, don't answer in haste. Consider it prayerfully (as the Moderators request) before answering. Which ones?

I'm not judging you, but exhorting you. If you're not a believer, then you'll hate the truth as the truth condemns you. If you are truly a believer, you'll listen, consider, pray about what I'm saying and see if The Lord is in what is being said. Because I'm not Christ, there may be some imperfections, but God teaches us to discern so that we can chew up the stew and



spit out the sticks.

I speak because I love the Body and desire that we all, me especially, walk worthy of the high calling in Christ Jesus.

"But he that prophesieth speakers to men into edification, exhortation, & comfort...but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.....FOR IF THE TRUMPET GIVES AN UNCERTAIN SOUND, WHO WILL PREPARE HIMSELF FOR BATTLE?...f or greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh in a tongue....wherefore brethren covet to prophesy" (1 Corinthians 14)

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 13:44**

jeffmar, for the sake of this turning into any drama, I will choose to just not reply to you, I do respect your opinions. I follow one voice, and one voice only, for all my information, and it's God's voice, he has not been wrong yet, when we can say that for man, I might possibly be open for others voices.

Sounds like you must know Greg personally to know the kind of life he leads, sorry I don't know him that well, but I do appreciate what he has done here.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 13:50**

That's fine. God bless you. I wasn't attacking you at all!!! Nor giving you "this man's opinions", just asking you questions based on God's Word, the one we all want to listen to. I don't always have to answer a man when he speaks to me, but I do always have to evaluate what he says if he's showing me what God's Word says, cause that's the plumb line, not what you think, what I think, what Greg thinks, etc. sometimes, we want God Himself to speak to us, when He already is. Through a woman's husband, through a child's parents, through the minister of the Gospel, & through His Word. Just food for thought.

In Christ's Love,  
Jeff

**Gloom and Doom Jesus....., on: 2012/6/16 13:56**

What do you think Jesus was remembered for after His Crucifixion? What did He leave us with to ponder? The Gospel account, yes, to His believers. Can you count the prophetic warnings of "weeping and gnashing of teeth?", and judgment of a sure Hades to the greedy and power loving clergy.

How about the Gospel warnings of Matthew 24 and His final warning to Jerusalem itself;

"And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him.

But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!' ...prophesying of the sure annihilation of the city.

Coming to pass with Titus' cruel razing in AD 70...

Do we recount the fact that everyone of the Apostles were butchered and slain? Is this Gloom and Doom to you? It was not to the early disciples. It was Glory to them.

Should we live our lives in fear? Only in that we fear God and Him only; This is our Peace and our joy. We can only follow Him in the meantime, and hope to please Him and Honor Him.

How about this?

"What persecutions I endured!"; And out of them all the Lord delivered me."

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution!"

ALL and WILL. This is just a fact of life, and it should not be a focus. Our focus should be on the face of our Lord Jesus! We are called to carry His redeeming and merciful heart, to our own, and to a lost and dying world, and in this following

of the Lamb, there will be persecution. Stephen was our first and most awesome example.

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own."

Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.'

If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also."...Jesus

Added to this is National Judgment, and it is aligned with this persecution, and it is of God, designated as a trial, to try who loves Him more than their own way and life. "Who do you love?"

"Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the HOUR OF TRIAL which shall come up on the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth."

The whole world.....those who dwell on the earth.

America too.

**Re: Gloom and Doom - posted by lindi1208 (), on: 2012/6/16 14:07**

Hi saints

2 Timothy 3 : 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Acts 14 : 22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

John 16 : 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation : but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

How beautiful the words of Jesus are He has overcome the world. Persecution and suffering are indeed our portion as believers. Even if one does not like that doom and gloom message The scriptures have pointed it out all over the written word. 2 Timothy says ALL not some. Let's not despise or deny that persecution is coming. We should be wise and keep our hearts open to what God is preparing His saints for.

Personally I think there isn't enough being taught in the pulpits about enduring persecution and suffering for the Lord's sake. The enemy is gaining ground in getting saints into a spirit of stupor or slumber not preparing for The Lord's return. Pulpits are shouting peace! peace!but there is no peace.

It is our responsibility as believers to accept all of God's written word searching out the scriptures prayerfully and being led by The Spirit. If we do so we will be balanced in our faith. We love God's favour, blessing and times of abundance but why do we despise the day of trouble and persecution as if it were some evil. Did the apostles not die horrendous deaths for their faith beheadings and the like. Did they not serve the same Living God we serve who willed that they die in this manner. Christ humbled Himself even to the point of death on the cross.Are we servants greater than the master that we will not face these things.

God help us we need you to awaken us from our slumber. We need your strength to face the evil day.Thank you Lord for your peace because You have overcome the world. We rejoice in knowing that if we face persecution and die for Your name's sake we have been counted worthy to suffer shame for Your Glory. Take us to this place Lord enlighten us and prepare our hearts to be ready for that day Amen.



**Re: - posted by lindi1208 (), on: 2012/6/16 14:23**

Brother Tom

Amen brothertom! Just read your post lol : ) You obviously are a lot faster at typing than I am.

Bless you brother!

**Great minds think alike., on: 2012/6/16 14:44**

"Amen brothertom! Just read your post lol : ) You obviously are a lot faster at typing than I am."...lindi1208

No, not faster. It is because we are on the same page!  
:}=.....lol

**Re: Great minds think alike., on: 2012/6/16 14:50**

Everytime you hear the phrase "doom and gloom," it is invariably derogatory. Typically it comes from folks who fear persecution and do not take seriously the Scriptures that assure us that those who will follow Jesus will suffer a price. Now, I am sure there are exceptions, but I have yet to run into those exceptions. May the Lord gird up His children and give them ears to hear.....bro Frank

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2012/6/16 17:03**

This discussion reminds me what Corrie ten Boom used to say.

Corrie said that before WW2 people were convinced that Jesus would return before they would ever experience hardship or persecution. When Holland was attacked, overrun by the Nazis, people were caught by surprise and were spiritually unprepared. The end result was many fell away because of the persecution.

I think we could learn from those who have gone before us...

(BTW, Corrie served time in Germany's concentration camps, lost family members there as well.)

**Re: ginnyrose - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/16 17:39**

RE:Ginnyrose wrote /This discussion reminds me what Corrie ten Boom used to say./

That is exactly whom I was thinking about, She was against the modern idea of pretrib rapture because she thought it made for a weak Christian.

With our modern day Once Saved Always Saved theology and our Modern Day Pretrib rapture theology We are fat and ready for the slaughter plant.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 17:49**

I personally think "one" of the very worst things we as Christians can do, is expect anyone else period, to be like them, to think like them, to live like them, to dress like them, or eat like them, or even to serve like them, and etc. I really feel this is one of the reasons God made us all different, and gave us a free will, to be different. If one person wants to avoid "all" doom and gloom, it's because they are not made like you, and if someone wants to stress themselves into a stroke from doom and gloom, have at it. It is not my business to tell anyone how they should live their life, remember God made us all different, down to the fingerprints. That sounds to me like he wants us all to lead an individual life of our own, and not be lead by others thoughts and opinions. If he would have wanted us to be like others, we would not have needed a free will, and he could have just done away with that. My message here is, when you get your life totally in the perfect mode, then you might start telling others how they should live theirs.

I have said it here before probably 20 times, "you have never been beat up, until you have been beat up by a Christian".

**Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/16 17:50**

In America we have our Potato chips we Have our Ball Games and If we Be a really deep thinker we have our Politics and our theolgy arguments to consume and waste our lives on. We have traded True Faith for a Robert Shuller, Norman Vincent Peal Positive thinking religion.

Oh don't give us doom and gloom.

James 5, Of Course this is The Book Of Straw!

5 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten.

3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/16 17:54**

Hi Frank,

I mentioned the term "gloom and doom" on another thread of which you replied. I find your comments derogatory but I its ok I forgive you.

I can assure you I take the scriptures seriously and I would rather not be persecuted but if it is what the Lord has for me amen.

David Wilkerson said he was pan tribulation jokingly saying it will all pan out right in the end.

However our view of when Christ comes back does have an effect on our church view.

If you believe in pre tribulation rapture then the extremes of that could be that you believe that we will be taken without any persecution or tribulation (easy life). This does not involve having conferences etc on the subject as none are needed.

If you believe in a post tribulation rapture the extremes of that could be that you have to heavily prepare for a period of time not seen on this earth as regards difficulty.

This involves having conferences etc on the subject as they are required to organize this preparation.

They are well versed and educated preachers on both sides of the view that love Christ and this has to be remembered before calling the other ignorant.

Whatever view the folks out there have should be rooted in the word and not a reaction to the extremes of the other view. e.g. the pre tribbers are so lax then God must be about to bring persecution or the post tribbers are so full of fear this can't be right.

My view is that I think that the "coming persecution view" may not be based on inspiration of the Holy Spirit but on a reaction to the false revivals, blab and grab it etc that have been so bad for the church and the majority of which have no choice in their teaching but to have a pre tribulation view. This however does not mean that the pre tribulation view is incorrect it just means a lot of people with false teaching in other areas have to take this view.

God could raise people to say persecution is coming but it has to be inspired by the Holy Spirit and in line with the word not by reaction no matter how well intentioned,

Yours Staff

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 17:58**

I am not sure about the reference. But I believe Ahaz said of Elijah this man brings me nothing but bad news. All of the false prophets were prophesying good stuff to Ahaz. At one point Ahaz called Elijah a troubler of Israel.

We see this American evangelicalism. While many preachers are promoting a happy feel good gospel, those who sound a warning of upcoming persecution are labelled as gloom and doomers. Even in this forum. I can already see a thread opened up saying how the upcoming SI conference will be gloomy.

The fact is we need to be warned. The American church has no history of persecution. God grant that more prophets arise and wake us from our slumber.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:04**

Quote:

-----bearmaster...The fact is we need to be warned.

Bearmaster.

Well I would suggest folks that feel a need to warn, should go stand in the maternity wards, because if your over 5 and have not seen enough warnings today with all the technology around us, you must be living under a rock.

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/16 18:07**

Hi Bearmaster,

I refer you to my post to brother Frank but can I add that whoever sounds a warning of an upcoming persecution will be labelled as gloom and doomers whether they are right or wrong.

So just because they are being called doom and gloomers from the happy feel good gospel preachers doesn't mean that they are correct about a persecution coming,

Yours Staff

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 18:10**

I understand how you feel MrBillPro & I do know what you're saying, but we are to spur one another on to be more like Christ - period. To follow Him with all we have according to the scriptures. To spur each other on in the inspired words of Jesus, Paul, John, Peter, James, etc. (not to even mention the OT prophets). You never answered my question, but seem to be avoiding it to tell us that we can all be different - in whatever way we choose to do (right in our own eyes). But since you brought up the scripture on thinking and meditating on pure, noble, good report, & lovely things, which tv shows have you found that encourage you in that and line up? I don't want drama, but I want you to consider things on light of scripture:

Prophetic warnings (of "doom and gloom") = Bad

Tv shows = good?

I know you do what you feel in your heart is ok (while criticizing those burning with passion and zeal to prophetically warn the Body), but don't you know the heart is deceitfully wicked above all things?

All I ask is for you to show by the scriptures (not how you feel) evidence against the numerous scriptures I and others have shared here, & tell me which tv shows are feeding your inner man. You can't criticize brothers/sisters consecrating themselves to God, wholly devoting themselves to the Word and prayer, while watching tv, and not backing up one single criticism with what God says about the matter (in His Word).

Wake up brother. God loves you and is calling you to carry a cross, consecrate yourself to Him, & love not the world, nor anything in the world. I know "what you think" & "how you feel", but in all love brother, it really doesn't mean anything. It matters not how any of us feel, what we think, etc. All that matters is how does God feel about the matter. What does God think? What does His Word say? He is not respective of persons. Me, you, Rick Warren, Joel Osteen, Leonard Ravenhill, and The Apostle Paul will all stand before God at the judgement seat. No drama. No judgement. No criticism. Love. True Love warns and exhorts. Fake love says "Relax, take it easy, it will all be OK". That's a lie from hell. Don't buy it or you'll pay for it eternally. If you could hear my heart weeping inside at the thought of all the deception, you'd know I'm not mad, proud, crazy, or foolish. Just a fool for Christ's sake by the Grace of God!!

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:14**

I can see it now, "IF" there was a Purgatory, folks arriving at two gates, and the gatekeepers saying ok folks, all you folks that listened to the happy feel good pastors enter here, all you that listened to the doom and gloom pastors enter here. I have a feeling there would be a mass exodus out of one line. :)

**Re: Staff, on: 2012/6/16 18:21**

Brother I believe that is what this upcoming conference is about. Brothers such as Greg and others being moved by the Holy Spirit to wake and warn the body in America of what is coming. Men such as David Wilkerson, Art Katz, Denny Kenniston, and others moved by the Spirit have warned the American church of what is coming. That being judgement via a persecution.

I would say, out of a brotherly concern, to you and others, look at the 1040 window. Believers are dying daily and suffering for Christ. Why should America be exempt from persecution. It is going to come.

Ok. So maybe I am not moved by the Holy Spirit in posting this. But look at the New Testament. It is Spirit inspired. Jesus did promise rest and peace for those who came to him. But he also promised a cross. And the Jews of his day knew what a cross was. The Romans dotted the Judean countryside to instill Roman Justice.

We as believers, even in America, have been called to carry that same cross. God grant us the grace to do so.

Bearnaster.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:23**

Quote:  
-----jeffmar...I know you do what you feel in your heart is ok (while criticizing those burning with passion and zeal to prophetically warn the Body), but don't you know the heart is deceitfully wicked above all things?.

criticizing? I think you have me mixed up with you, read my post then read yours. I personally think most folks would feel yours are more critical towards a brother than mine, mine are just plain spoke truth, not scripture. Why do we always need scripture? Did Jesus just quote scripture his whole 33 years to get a message to folks? I think not, heck he may have even broke into a good belly laugh at times, that probably really freaked out all the doom and gloomers at that time standing around.

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2012/6/16 18:23**

If anyone thinks I welcome torture with its accompanying pain, you are grossly mistaken. You do not know me at all.

When I was growing up "Martyr's Mirror" was read by the elders and dad owned one and thought highly of it. Its pictures totally grossed me out and made me scared. Really scared.

When I was birthing our oldest child, these pains were so severe. I was a small woman birthing a large child - doctor said later I should have had a c-section. Anyhow, those pains were so bad I was sure if anyone would impose any pains on me like this for my faith, I may give up! Really! It was not funny. I could not stop it, it was relentless.

I know personally something about severe pain, so severe you screamed. (Fortunately, for me this was the last time I experienced anything so painful - went on to have four more children. My husband did consider me crazy when I let him know several months later that I want another child after witnessing this labor.)

After I became a mom, had children, I refused to sing verse two of "Faith of Our Fathers Living Still". It goes like this:

Our fathers chained in prisons dark  
Were still in heart and conscience free  
How sweet would be their children's fate  
If they like them,  
Could die for Thee!  
Faith of our fathers! Holy faith!  
We will be true, to Thee till death!

I could NOT ever imagine looking at children and consider it sweet if they were to die for their faith!

Fast forward - we have two children who do not know the LORD. They are respectable people but do not know the LORD

D. As I consider their eternal destiny without God I just about go crazy...now I look at this song with new and different eyes and I can sing it.

I have at this stage in life accepted the reality that once or if persecution would come, God will be with us, help us to endure to the end. We can in our imagination feel what torture would be like and lose faith. But I choose not to go there in my imagination because God is not giving me the grace to endure it at the moment. But He is giving me confidence that He will sustain our faith IF we want it. And it begins now.

My testimony for whatever it is worth...

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/16 18:25**

I certainly recognize that there are many many warnings in Scripture. I get that.

I guess here is my point:

When I read a post that a great persecution is coming; that a great holocaust against Christians is coming; that there is a very good chance I will be martyred if I live long enough, etc etc etc, what should my response be?

I am not supposed to "freak out" or fear, or even fret.

So what should we do? Assuming we are seeking after the Lord, and we are in prayer, and in the Word, what more are we to do? Walmart doesn't sell sackcloth suits, although I could probably scoop up some ashes from the fire pit.

Perhaps this is what bothers me the most about posts stressing the bad stuff that is coming... a seeming lack of practical suggestions (beyond being in the Word, being in prayer, and seeking after the Lord). If we are living the life of a disciple of Christ, then we automatically SHOULD be ready for whatever may transpire.

That being said, I can see that the goal of a "doom and gloom" post (and I do apologize for the term, I just couldn't think of anything better) may be to spur on Christians to a deeper discipleship. Of course there are other ways to do this, but I guess I see the value in it.

When I listen to Art Katz, and he talks about coming persecution etc, it is not the fear of persecution that drives me to deeper discipleship; it is because Art makes me want to do so for GOD's sake and His sake alone. He DESERVES my all, whether tomorrow is going to be a bed of roses or a bed of nails.

**Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/16 18:29**

"Walmart doesn't sell sackcloth suits"

Actually Walmart does sell sackcloth it is in the Fabric Isle. LOL

**Re: TMK, on: 2012/6/16 18:34**

Read a VOM magazine and I think you will find the answer to your question. Also pray for the persecuted and the Spirit will give you insight.

Bear.

**Re: Ginnyrose, on: 2012/6/16 18:36**

Is it true the Mennonite church no longer reads Martyrs Mirror in their services?

Bear.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:36**

Quote:  
----- TMK...I guess here is my point:

When I read a post that a great persecution is coming; that a great holocaust against Christians is coming; that there is very good chance I will be martyred if I live long enough, etc etc etc, what should my response be?

I am not supposed to "freak out" or fear, or even fret.  
-----

Good point! I remember as a kid, I used to cross the road by the house that literally had probably 5 cars per hr. pass by. My Mom would always warn me to be careful when I crossed the road, "and I appreciated that" but it finally got to the point her warnings were in vain. Look I am one to tell you, if you feel the need or lead to warn, "WARN" but please don't criticize me because I don't feel lead to get on-board, that's just plain wrong, I don't care how you look at it.

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/16 18:37**

Bearmaster,

Please stop being condescending. I asked a legitimate question. Beyond being driven to deeper discipleship, what would you suggest our response be?

I have read Fox's Book of Martyrs and many accounts of people tortured for Christ.

What should our response be?

**Re: bearmaster - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/16 18:38**

Hi bearmaster, I think I will take your advise and pop me some popcorn and pour me a sodapop and watch me an uplifting Joel Osteen sermon. LOL!

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/16 18:39**

Michael Sattler, a Catholic monk turned Anabaptist reformer, endured the following when captured by church authorities: his tongue was torn from his mouth with a red hot poker (so he could not preach on the way to his execution like those who went before him); he was bound and dragged behind a cart across cobblestone streets to his place of execution; along the way at several points he had flesh torn from his body by red-hot pincers; to prevent death too quickly (by asphyxiation) when being burned at the stake, he was slowly roasted over the flames. What in the world did he do to deserve this? Here are some of the charges brought against him by his accusers:

- he has taught, held and believed that the body and blood of Christ are not present in the sacrament (so do we)
- he has taught and believed that infant baptism does not conduce to salvation (so do we)
- he has rejected the sacrament of extreme unction (so do we)
- he has rejected the veneration of Mary and the saints (so do we)
- he has commenced a new and unheard of custom in regard to the Lord's Supper, placing the bread and wine on a plate, and eating and drinking the same (so do we)
- he has left the order, and married a wife (so do our pastors)

What should our response be after reading such an account?



**Re: Mr Bill, on: 2012/6/16 18:41**

Brother I would strongly urge you to get into the scriptures. Even memorize them. For when Bibles are banned what you have in your heart may be that which sustains you in the coming persecution.

Also Jesus placed a very high premium on the word. But then he was the Word.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:41**

Quote:  
-----proud papa..Hi bearmaster, I think I will take your advise and pop me some popcorn and pour me a soda pop and watch me an uplifting Joel Osteen sermon. LOL!  
-----

Pop me some! I am sure I will need to be there and listen to it to before this is all over.:)

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 18:43**

I didn't read all those scriptures about all of Jesus' belly laughs, but I'm sure he did laugh at times. What I do read is repeated parables, warnings, exhortations, etc. from Christ & all the apostles.

Why do we need scriptures to prove a point of what God wants?

He has exalted His Word even above His name. His Word is the lamp to our feet and light to our path. Without God's Word on a matter, you only have whatever seems right in your own eyes. Without a Word from God, you got nothing. There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof is death. With that, I'm shaking the dust off my feet from this one specific interchange between you and I. If you see no value in "scriptures, scriptures, scriptures", I'm not sure the rest of any conversation between us could be beneficial or edifying. If you don't care what God says (that's His Word), why would you care what I or anyone else says. I urge you to "examine yourself, test yourself to see if you are in the faith", I know there's scripture again, but I feel led to share that last one with you.

God Bless,  
Jeff

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:45**

Quote:  
-----bearmaster...Brother I would strongly urge you to get into the scriptures. Even memorize them. For when Bibles are banned what you have in your heart may be that which sustains you in the coming persecution.

Also Jesus placed a very high premium on the word. But then he was the Word.

Bearmaster.  
-----

Now I am being criticized by someone that don't even know me, telling me I need to get into the scriptures. Wow he must have some exceptional discernment, to know how much scripture I know.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 18:47**

Well, if we have not accomplished anything else here, we surely must have the devil setting back and laughing at all of us.

**- posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/16 18:51**

I Think we often times misunderstand each other in these forums and Box each other into more of an extreme than what they where intending

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/16 18:52**

Hi Bearmaster,

The apostles brought a message backed up by power, how do we know that these christian men who love the lord are in the Spirit. Give the message and let it be specific and if it comes to pass then we know that the message was correct and they were prophets from the lord. The trouble is they want to prophesy without actually prophesying.

Art Katz preached persecution and he went home to be with the lord in 2007. Carter Conlon preaches more of revival than a coming judgement.

There are many countries exempt from persecution so far this and most of last century that is no proof that a persecution is coming. The Spirit comes and goes as he pleases. Personally I think Judgement starts in the house of God but the judgement isn't a blanket judgement eg if the blood is on the lintel of the door the judgement passed by.

Why would God punish those who have done no wrong;

We can easily preach about persecution from the word but does that mean it is just around the corner.

It certainly looks like the church in America deserves judgement but does that mean it will be judged soon?

What happens if genuine revival comes instead of persecution? What happens to the people expecting persecution do they reject the revival as being false?

Yours Staff

**Re: TMK, on: 2012/6/16 18:53**

Brother the post was not meant to be condescending. It was written out of respect to your question. If we want to know how to prepare and endure under persecution. Look to believers in China, Iran, Eritrea, etc. Look at how believers are living in restricted nations today.

I recommended VOM as a good source. There is Barbabas Fund, Open Doors, etc. In the end it may be these precious saints who teach us to endure what is coming.

But to give a simplistic answer to your question. Not meant to be condescending. It is going to take the grace of God and the Holy Spirit to prepare us for persecution. I think Stephen serves as an excellent example. Hope this helps.

Bearmaster.

**Re: Proud papa, on: 2012/6/16 19:00**

Brother I like that idea. Get me some soda pop and pop corn. Gonna watch me an uplifting Joel Olsteen sermon.

Howl with laughter.

Bear.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:07**

Staff America can have revival. But it may be against the backdrop of persecution. Or the persecution may bring revival. Look at China and Iran. They are having both persecution and revival. Or is it revival and persecution? Anyway both events are occurring side by side.

Bearmaster off to pop corn and pop.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:10**

Our response should be one of sobriety, of self-examination, of considering these precious martyred saints & contemplating our own lives in such circumstances were it to be us. It should spur us on to follow Him wholeheartedly. It should help us see that if they gave up their lives, surely we can give up wasting our lives watching nonsense on tv, taking vacation after vacation, playing video games, etc., etc. we should look at what Jesus said about all men hating you, persecution for all who love godly lives in Christ, carrying our cross daily enduring the scorn, etc. & ask: is that my me? Is that my life? Is that my experience? If not, why? Am I special or different? Did Jesus mean everyone but me, or everyone but Americans? Why the disconnect? Am I disconnected and don't realize it?

"Therefore, seeing we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every weight/hindrance, and the sin that so easily besets us, & let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking into Jesus, the author & finisher of our faith who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning the shame, & is set down at God's right hand. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied & faint in your minds. You have not resisted into the shedding of your blood, striving against sin"  
Hebrews 12:1-4

And then he goes into chastisement & rebuke from God which all true sons get as a show of love, sonship, & correction. That's not "get your popcorn ready" & lay back in a bed of ease happy talk either, but it's real. It's God's Word. And it's true eternally regardless of how anyone takes it. God's not moved by our opinions of His Word, amen?

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 19:10**

I think I am going to start printing some bumper stickers next week, and hand them out at Church next Sunday.

"I Have Become Doom And Gloom Immune"

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:17**

I've seen hecklers in evangelism be the most radically affected later and changed. I hope that's you as you minimize God's Word and make silly jokes constantly in the face of deep, eternal, important truths the Lord is pressing on His Body right now. You would be rebuked if not excommunicated from much of the church abroad and historically for such words. For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. I would be careful with the jokes and folly on a matter God Himself is laying on the church.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/16 19:17**

Jeff, I Love your heart, and I know where you are coming from. If you feel the way you do and truly believe what you say, preaching it doesn't always work. I know folks that watch 4 different sermons from 4 different Pastors on Sunday morning, but you could never tell if they did not tell you. Jeff, live it and let your light shine, personally I would always rather see a sermon, than hear one.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:41**

"Preach the Gospel, & when you have to use words" basically right? Good old Saint Augustine. Our dear Catholic "saint" who baptized cats. I have always hated that saying. It issues from the flesh of men's hearts, not the heart of God.

If what scripture says is important to us (God's opinion on the matter), we know that we are called to "PREACH THE WORD". Greek for Preach means to declare a proclamation from one's mouth, not just by one's lifestyle (I call that fairy-tale "osmosis preaching"). Be ready in season and out of season to give a defense of the hope..., correct, rebuke, exhort,,,,,,all by preaching God's Word, not by osmosis. Jesus preached. Jesus fought the devil with scripture.

We are called to put on the full armor of God to stand which includes the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God, feet ready to spread the Gospel of peace (that doesn't mean running up to people and letting them see how holy you look, but preaching God's Word which alone is able to save), shield of faith ("Faith comes by HEARING the Word of God), etc. still have to come in the gate and take the narrow way. We can't make this thing up (in our Sunday meetings at our "churches" no less). This whole thread is proof of why this thread is so needed. We are drunk on American Modern Christianity. Hard to think soberly when you're drunk. Gotta sober up first, and be vigilant, for our enemy, the devil (& his lying seducing spirits preaching doctrines of devils) prowl around as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. All the while he and his ministers masquerading as an angel of light. There's too much carnal thinking and not enough preaching/believing

eving the uncompromising Word of God. WAKE UP!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:48**

"Preach the Gospel, & when you have to use words" basically right? Good old Saint Augustine. Our dear Catholic "saint" who baptized cats. I have always hated that saying. It issues from the flesh of men's hearts, not the heart of God.

If what scripture says is important to us (Gods opinion on the matter), we know that we are called to "PREACH THE WORD". Greek for Preach means to declare a proclamation from ones mouth, not just by ones lifestyle (I call that fairy-tale "osmosis preaching"). Be ready in season and put of season to give a defense of the hope...,correct, rebuke, exhort,,,,,,all by preaching Gods Word, not by osmosis. Jesus preached . Jesus fought the devil with scripture.

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**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 19:57**

Sorry for the repeat. Maybe the problem with those "great non-preaching" fellows you know is who the four preachers they listen to on Sunday and the "messages" they preach. If preaching is so bad, then why do those same men listen to other men PREACH? The insanity of that argument is illogical on its face

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 20:02**

The wonderful thing about us Christians is that we love our gloom and doom. We lather it up, spread it around and hope that more people can get on board our gloom and doom machine.

"WAKE UP, REPENT, GOD HAS LEFT THE BUILDING".

Oh don't get me wrong, there is certainly a time and a place for all of this,, most certainly, but I have noticed over the years there are two kinds of watchmen, those that really care about the flock and those that are self righteous. The former is usually few and far between, the latter are everywhere.

The ones that are telling us to WAKE UP usually have a closet full of sins and find it easier to point at everyone else. Oh, there really are those that care for the soul and has a life that has nothing in the closet, they are as I said before, few and far between. I think Brother Tom is one of those few and JiG (though we sometimes don't get along) but I appreciate her stand on things. There are a few others here that I could name, but sufficient to say that God has His people where they are at for a reason and it will take the work of the Holy Ghost to "wake us up" from our lethargy.

After all, all the virgins were awake at midnight when the cry went forth to meet the bridegroom, oil or no oil, they were awake. But the sad thing was they didn't have enough to carry on the journey through the rest of the night.

If anything, we are awake, but do we have enough oil?

Let me be the first to say, I do not.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 21:06**

HI Staff,

To say that my comments were derogatory is a wee bit immature as that was the word that I used to describe the term "doom and gloom." In no way can this phrase be attributed to anything positive unless you can use it in a sentence that is positive? So, if one is going to use negative terms in regard to posts that they do not like, they should expect some push-back. As for your forgiving me staff, cmon, if you want to forgive me for calling people out who use the negative phrase "doom and gloom," well, go ahead, knock yourself out :).....bro Frank

**Reality check., on: 2012/6/16 22:16**

After all, all the virgins were awake at midnight when the "cry went forth to meet the bridegroom, oil or no oil, they were a wake. But the sad thing was they didn't have enough to carry on the journey through the rest of the night.

If anything, we are awake, but do we have enough oil?

Let me be the first to say, I do not."...Approved

Let me be the second to say; "I do not."...and in this, I am ashamed. I refuse the cross that would sanctify me, over and over. I take two steps forward, and three steps back.

The only quality I have is my neediness and ability to persevere; I get back up again and cry for mercy. My favorite scripture is; "It is not he who runs, or is it he who wills, but God who shows mercy."

To be ready for me, is to be delivered from this body of death, and when this happens I will be free and ready...for that day....and then again until the next, when I must be slain again. Some days, I just throw my cross down, and wallow in terminal loneliness.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Please pray for me, Brothertom. I have had revelation, but revelation does not make one mature, or willing to obey. I do want to make it, and be prepared for that day, as my body, my church, worldwide.

Thanks Approved for the reality check.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/16 23:42**

You all are giving me Hope today of that unity that I kept on about this year. I feel it on this thread. I think it's the thread and this topic of what we may all go through. Reality sinking in.

Honesty seems to be the key too on here. And lots of prayer.

Praying till we're praying in the Spirit is the oil rig and the Light is The Word of GOD.

Plenty of Alone time with Him.

Loving Him more than we love ourselves - willing to die for each other, literally - the path that He took.

Just be 'willing' is all He's asked.

Thank you. Today was a blessed day, reading your posts.

Thank you, men of GOD!

**Re: Gloom and Doom - posted by Trekker, on: 2012/6/17 1:48**

If you are tired of gloom and doom posting you must really be tired of the Bible. Lots of gloom and doom forecasted in the Book of Daniel and Revelations, not to mention the doom and gloom Jesus Christ pronounced in Mtthw. 24.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 1:49**

I am not all the way to the life I in Christ my Spirit earnestly desires to walk completely unhindered by the flesh, not ever looking back, not stumbling in word or deed, etc., but by the grace of God, I'm getting closer. I'm seeing Him work miracles in my life/walk again as I cast off the restraining hindrances, confess my faults to the brethren in our fellowship, lay down my life and take up His cross daily, etc. he is doing a work in me and all the credit is His. I know what's in me (apart from Christ) & it ain't pretty.

I have seen the Lord do so much as He has called me lately to such a life of death which the cross does. The closer I get to Him, the more I see what a wretched man I am and what a gracious, loving, & beautiful Lord He is!! I just want to be able to say, "Not that I have already attained it, but this one thing I do, forgetting what's behind & straining ahead for the high calling of God in Christ Jesus Our Lord"

Blessings in Him,  
Jeff

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/17 4:18**

TrueÂ" Christians Are A Mess!

<http://epistle.us/articles/christianmess.html>

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2012/6/17 8:26**

TMK, I believe that you have raised a valid observation which deserves our careful thought. There is a need to discern between unholy and holy "gloom". The one kind pulls people down, the other lifts them up. I too see Katz as one who had the capacity to look at the "gloom" and point it towards inspiration and hope. Many are less able to do so. Many are not good at reconciling "gloom" with hope -and so we see this polarizing between the two - both which fail to generate true and practical faith in the lives of folk in church and society.

Diane

**Re: Gloom and Doom - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2012/6/17 8:34**

"These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye may have peace. In the world ye have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33).

God would have us to be prepared, watchful, prayerful, and ready for the tribulation that is coming to this earth. He would also say to us "Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14:1).

Mike

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2012/6/17 9:19**

---

QUOTE:

"Lots of gloom and doom forecasted in the Book of Daniel and Revelations,"

---

And this is precisely why many do not like the book of Revelation.

However, what I see in this book is VICTORY! Victory over gloom and doom. Hey! could a body appreciate the glory of the LORD unless you have witnessed the awfulness of the result of sin? I do not believe Adam or Eve had any clue how life would be different after sin before they succumbed to it.

Just like enduring the pains of childbirth - it does not last forever. Afterwards, the joy of having a child will help one forget the pain of birthing it...John 16:21



If Revelation scares you, start by concentrating on the portions that describe heaven like chapter 4. This should get you going...

There is victory ahead for the saint - if he aligns himself with the VICTOR! PTL

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/17 9:20**

Appolus wrote:

"In no way can this phrase be attributed to anything positive unless you can use it in a sentence that is positive? So, if one is going to use negative terms in regard to posts that they do not like, they should expect some push-back"

Well, I did apologize for my use of the term, but like I said I wanted to use a term that encapsulated what I was talking about and I knew everyone would know what I meant. I agree that "doom and gloom" is a negative term.

And it is not that I "do not like" posts like this; I realize that warnings etc are sometimes necessary. I worry more about the effect they have on people; whether they are actually building up or tearing down. I understand that some of the responsibility for this rests on the reader. I guess I am far enough along in my walk with the Lord to choose not to be torn down by such posts and to be able to take correction when needed. But I do believe there should be practical suggestions for how Christians should deal with the dire warnings posted.

Jeffmar wrote: "Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary use words." I believe it was St. Francis who said this, not Augustine- but I may be misremembering. I have always really liked the saying. Paul said it first, in a different way: "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31. If people truly see Christ in us first, we will then have plenty of opportunity to use words.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 10:17**

Francis or Augustine, whomever it was, it was a cat-baptizing Catholic. That's my point. I don't like the saying because it is used as an excuse not to preach, not to share the Word of God, which alone is "living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, able to discern the intents of the heart and even divide soul and spirit, joints and marrow."

What Paul said is true: whatever you do, do it as unto the Lord. We should. I don't have a problem with that. I agree and desire to do the same. Problem is when people somehow make the jump that we should do this ONLY, IN PLACE of preaching the Word, being a witness, sharing the scriptures, etc., when Paul instructs us to do just that in at least a dozen scriptures and the apostles give that example in scripture everywhere they go, even after just being beaten, imprisoned, stoned, etc.

If I come across as "mad" because I just share the scriptures on a subject (especially on the subject of preaching vs. avoiding the scriptures), it's not an accurate portrayal of my heart that can't TRULY be known through an Internet forum thread.

But, if I seem mad at the idea of "just take it easy, don't be so super-spiritual, don't worry all the time about what the scriptures say about a matter, it's because I am MAD. By MAD, not any man, but at the devil and his spirits with power over the air to deceive people with seducing doctrines of devils. Not trying to sound super-spiritual, just being real with you.

My heart breaks as I see something coming and much of the confessing church not ready (some believers who are not awake in the light of the truth, and obviously the false converts). It's not some "doom and gloom" fear-mongering to get people anxious and fearful. It's a cry from the Heart of the Father to look clearly in the mirror (of His Word) & see yourselves clearly and know that you are not ready, so THAT YOU CAN REPENT, AND RETURN TO THE LORD WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART!

It's not a negative message, or God, His Word, His Prophets from Genesis to Acts (to today) are all Negative in large part. It's not negative. Sitting down with a child at "progress report" time and talking to them seriously about a failing grade is not negative. It's actually VERY positive. It takes the opportunity to lovingly warn and redirect the child before the final grade is set in stone as failing. Only the rebellious at that point blame the teacher, the school, and the principal for the child's failings.

That's the trappings of our modern society's "self-esteem", every child should get a trophy (win or lose), etc. mentality. David Wilkerson has a message I heard once, as did Art Katz, and Leonard Ravenhill on a generation unable to receive correction from ministers of God's Word. The true minister of God's Word is not wasting tons of time in frivolous entertainment and tons of worldly distractions, but in the ministry of prayer, the Word of God, and caring for the Body. He is walking with the Lord and being used in whatever facet/gifts the Lord ordains.

I have no closet full of skeletons of porn, beating my wife/children, etc. I do see my sinfulness that remains more and more each day in the light of God's Word & presence and know apart from Christ I am the worst kind of vile sinner on the planet. That's not Hyperbole. That's a fact!

Anyways, the scriptures can't just be tossed aside when inconvenient. It breaks my heart to see/hear such things/thoughts present among those who name the Name of Christ. It shows me confirmation of what the Lord has already shown me, and so many others, we are not ready. Don't fear circumstances coming. Just repent and return to the Lord with all of your heart. Examine yourselves, test yourselves (in light of God's Word) to see if you are in the faith. Because you see, the most fearful experience anyone could ever have is to hear the Lord say, "Depart from me, I never knew you. Cast him into the lake of fire." don't fear what man can do to you, but rather fear Him that can cast your body into hell. Yes, fear Him. If you just write that scripture off, or call that fear-mongering, your problem is with God (& His Word), not me, and I really don't know what else to do but warn you to wake up and buy some oil before your clock expires and it's too late.

This is all said in a spirit of love, God as my witness.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 10:22**

Quote:  
-----However, what I see in this book is VICTORY! Victory over gloom and doom. Hey! could a body appreciate the glory of the LORD unless you have witnessed the awfulness of the result of sin? I do not believe Adam or Eve had any clue how life would be different after sin before they succumbed to it.  
-----

Amen ginnyrose!

Re 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Re 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.  
(KJV)

**Re: Why so offensive?, on: 2012/6/17 11:30**

If we be honest with ourselves, persecution and martyrdom is offensive. I mean it is offensive to the N. American evangelical. Even to some in this forum. To those who follow the Lamb in China, Eritrea, N. Korea, or Eritrea persecution and suffering are a normal way to follow Christ. These believers would not know what it is to follow Christ without suffering. They cannot conceive of a life of ease as we have it here in America. To them this thread would seem awfully strange about gloom and doom.

In China believers do not even talk about persecution being in Christ. The Chinese believers call it identification. This is identification in the sufferings of Christ. This is their understanding of the cross of Christ. This is their understanding of picking up their cross to follow Jesus.

But oh how we howl at the thought of a cross. How we cry gloom and doom at the thought of persecution. I am an American Christian. I will not be persecuted. Sermon Index should not be posting this gloomy stuff on persecution.

Saints may I say in love it is time for a reality check. We, American Christians, are the ones out of step with the rest of the world. The American church is in a bubble. American style Christianity is not New Testament Christianity. I say again, American style Christianity, is not Biblical.

Brothers and sisters, in Eritrea or China, have more understanding of following Jesus than we in America do. They have the gospel. We don't. There's the gospel of sacrifice. Ours is a gospel of cheap grace. Our gospel has no price to pay.

Saints we need to face the reality that God has spewed out the American church and found it lacking. The center of Christianity has shifted to the 1040 window. These are the saints that God is pleased with. These are the saints that God is

s using. And they gladly pay the price forme loving Jesus.

I do believe God has a remnant in N. America. Much like the church in Sardis. There will be a few who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with Jesus dressed in white. They will be a holy, revived remnant. They will be a persecuted remnant. But they will be the true bride of Jesus. The question is. Will you be part of that remnant? Will I be part of that remnant?

Posted by Bearmaster.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 11:42**

Well said brother bear.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 13:53**

Quote:

----- The centre of Christianity has shifted to the 1040 window.

No, that simply is not true. It may look like it has but it has not.

It's not like it was in the Old Testament where God could leave a building or place, today He lives in men and women. He's made a covenant of grace with them that He would never leave them nor forsake them. Yes, the North American Churches have gone haywire, but God's people have not. Let those Churches go crazy if they like, Christianity does well in the midst of chaos, in the midst of sin and degradation, in the midst of troubles, where iniquity is abounding Christ much more abounds.

Christianity shines brighter when it gets really dark, it doesn't leave because things are getting worse, it stays because people need it more than ever before. The problem is folks is that while we are fighting amongst ourselves on who is right and who is wrong, sinners are dying without hearing the gospel.

They really want the simple gospel. They don't want religion and airs and hypocrisies, that is all they are seeing today on Television. And can we blame them? I wouldn't want nothing to do with God either if that is what Christianity is all about.

But God has a people that He is grooming that have a message from Him, that God so loves this world that He gave His only begotten Son and that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

He SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO loves this world. We think that God is angry with it, we forget that Christ died on the cross and the wrath of God was taken out on the Son. He bore our sorrow and grief when He died.

God is angry with the wicked, those who hide the truth in unrighteousness. They know the way but refuse to enter in and they hinder anyone else from going in as well, these people are wicked people and it's these people that God is angry with every day. These are not your Saddam Hussiens of the world, these are religious leaders within Christianity itself who know but don't heed.

We read the news and all we see is the bad,, but we need to back up and see a little differently. In Elijah's day, Jezebel ruled the nest. She allowed homosexuals to live freely, it was sex party heaven for the mind that was on evil continually, but out of all that Elijah thought that he was the only one left and God told him that He had reserved 7,000 men who did not bow their knee to Baal. This was goodnews, could we safely say that in this country that God has reserved 7 million or maybe even 700 million worldwide who have not bowed their knee to Baal?

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2012/6/17 17:53**

I am deeply distressed by harshly critical responses like this:

Quote:

----- If you are tired of gloom and doom posting you must really be tired of the Bible.

Please folks, read carefully the original poster's words – and try to be sensitive to what he (or she) is saying. I post his words for further reflection:

Quote:  
-----I guess the question we should ask when bringing up "doom and gloom" subjects is "What is the reaction we are looking for?" Because regardless of how innocent our intentions may be, many people may freak out or fret, neither of which is a godly reaction. Worry and fear drive people from the Lord, by definition.

The danger with "doom and gloom" posting is that it creates "doom and gloom" thinking, which is something that Christians are decidedly NOT to engage in:  
-----

Gloominess can be driven by anxiety or discouragement, and that can make others depressed too. It may feel spiritual, biblical, even God's heart. It may seem far better than the other side of the fence: the health and wealth philosophy. (We here, generally speaking, do not wish to be one of those.) TMK, in view of this, I suspect that you struck our Achilles heel.

We are all immersed in a fear/anxiety driven culture. So maybe our bent that way is culturally influenced. But even if not, in the church doom and gloom has often been a means of motivating people. I see that here too: If I can get you to see how bad the world is, and how bad it's going to be, I can get you to shape up. Unfortunately, as you say, this has a reverse effect because it can drag others down and increase their sense of despair. Guilt is a bad motivator. It moves people towards a works doctrine.

I praise God, there are those among God's people who are able to process deeply troublesome content and use it to stir others towards healing, faith, and hope. But, let's admit, for many of us, and I include myself, this is an area for growth: growing in faith and learning to be sensitive to others.

[https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic\\_id=45304&forum=48&0](https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=45304&forum=48&0)

I posted this yesterday, and strongly encouraged readers to get to know this person, Canon Andrew White. He has seen severe persecution in his Iraqi church and has endured much suffering for Christ. By his example, he can teach us how to handle gloom and doom and not only maintain sanity, but persevere effectively in love for others. He has MS (which explains his slow speech) but he radiates such peace and joy that you find yourself dancing in your heart)

I have watched all the youtube clips and articles I can find (including Wikipedia) and have ordered some of his books. I say, may God send us more examples like the "Vicar of Baghdad." I need them! And so do ye'all.

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together in cyberspace, but let us encourage each other and all the more as you see the Day approaching?" Hebrews 10:24

What day?

Diane

#### Re: Aporived, on: 2012/6/17 17:59

Brother respectfully do you ready think American Christianity has the power of China or Iran. We read believers in India doing signs and wonders and our American churches won't acknowledge the Holy Spirit. We read of whole mosque turning to Christ in Africa. And American churches are saying its alright to worship with Moslems. Persecuted believers will spend hours a day reading the word. While we debate which is the one pure translation. The American church is filthy rich beyond anyone's wildest dreams. Yet poor garbage dump churches have power to say in the name of Jesus get up and walk.

Brother I go back to my original statement. God had judged the American church and found it lacking. It will be the 1040 saints who will complete the great commission. For sure there is a remnant in America. But the American church is not

the sending church it once was. As a matter of fact third world countries are now sending missionaries over to Americas. One wonders what that says for the state of the American church.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2012/6/17 19:09**

Diane you wrote:Gloominess can be driven by anxiety or discouragement, and that can make others depressed too. It may feel spiritual, biblical, Â– even GodÂ’s heart. It may seem far better than the other side of the fence: the health and wealth philosophy. (We here, generally speaking, do not wish to be one of those.) TMK, in view of this, I suspect that you struck our Achilles heel.

We are all immersed in a fear/anxiety driven culture. So maybe our bent that way is culturally influenced. But even if not, in the church doom and gloom has often been a means of motivating people. I see that here too: If I can get you to see how bad the world is, and how bad itÂ’s going to be, I can get you to shape up. Unfortunately, as you say, this has a reverse effect Â– because it can drag others down and increase their sense of despair. Guilt is a bad motivator. It moves people towards a works doctrine.

-----

I agree with what you shared here. Guilt does little to point a person to CHRIST, in fact in my experience using guilt does more harm than anything else.

Thank you for sharing  
God bless  
mj

**Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2012/6/17 19:18**

I thought of this video when I initially read this thread:

You're Changing by David Wilkerson  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4QpHrVN0hE>

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 19:50**

Quote:  
----- It will be the 1040 saints who will complete the great commission.  
-----

If your convinced of that, than so be it.

I see more than just a handful here that will do great things in North America, great and mighty things that will shake the foundations, not just a mere remnant. There are more than we think.

I respect your thoughts brother, God bless

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/17 19:54**

Bearmaster wrote:

"Saints may I say in love it is time for a reality check. We, American Christians, are the ones out of step with the rest of the world. The American church is in a bubble. American style Christianity is not New Testament Christianity. I say again, American style Christianity, is not Biblical.

Brothers and sisters, in Eritrea or China, have more understanding of following Jesus than we in America do. They have the gospel. We don't. There's is gospel of sacrifice. Ours is a gospel of cheap grace."

-----  
I read stuff like this all the time. It gets a little tiresome. I for one am happy that Christians in America are not being tortured for their faith. It's not our fault; we live in a nation that has not allowed things to go that far, at least not yet, thank the Lord. Even if Christians in America WERE uncompromised and even IF the true gospel WAS preached and lived, we would STILL not have an outbreak of mobs guillotining Christians on Main St. Has it not occurred to you that perhaps God is sparing us for whatever reason? I am not going to apologize for living in the USA, and I am not apologizing for not being slammed in an iron maiden-- at least not lately. If you want to go to some foreign country and get shards of glass shoved under your fingernails for your faith, feel free. That has not yet happened yet where I live, and for this I am thankful.

And that is another reason I cringe at some "doom and gloom" posts.. because sometimes there seems to be a certain glee in talking about how bad things are going to get and a seeming hope that things WILL get really really bad really soon.

I know this post will get some of you really angry, and for that I am sorry-- but I had to say it.

And please don't lecture me about how the American church is weak and anemic and largely ineffective-- it doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that.

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2012/6/17 20:32**

Quote:  
----- God had judged the American church and found it lacking.  
-----

David Wilkerson came to a point where he felt he had to stop talking about the judgment all the time, and talk about the hope because that's what they need. I think God is working in us to come to that point too.

Quote:  
----- do you ready think American Christianity has the power of China or Iran.  
-----

Might we be comparing the best of their Christianity with the worst of ours? China and other countries have had their seasons of darkness. The glory of God arose out of that darkness; yet, much darkness remains in those places -- surely not less than we experience here!

I'd like to share a recent personal story:

For a period of time I found myself enduring a series of troublesome episodes. I went to the Lord about it and shared with him how I wanted to have more resilience in these kinds of trials. It came to the point where I suspected that God was preparing me for a greater such challenge. And sure enough it came. When the "big one" came I endured it with patience and grace -- thanks to the preparation God had led me through previously. I was praising God for the privilege of suffering for him -- and in this case, that's just what it was.

Here's the lesson to me: God knows what we will be enduring in the future, and he can prepare us. But more: he gives us THIS DAY what we need for THIS DAY. When I heard Vicar White's testimony I realized that God had given him the faith and grace to endure HIS trials. Those are not my trials, and I need not fear my inability to handle them.



When we comment about coming tribulation and all this frightful foreboding language about some future experience, we must be aware that God hasn't given us today what we need some time in the distant future (as we are assuming). He gives us enough for today. We cannot live in some uncertain future existence, or we will miss what God has for us today—his calling and his empowerment, and also his blessing. And we will make emotional wrecks out of God's people.

Tomorrow has enough trouble of its own. Why torture each other with anxiety over something which they have no capacity to handle today - because God has not yet empowered them. Surely that is not love!

Quote:

----- Has it not occurred to you that perhaps God is sparing us for whatever reason?  
-----

Â... an exhortation to look at the mercy in the judgment. Did you see it today?

Diane

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/17 20:32**

Hi,

I originally used the term "doom and gloom" on another post and i used it to describe exactly what I wanted to describe which was negative.

I think if those "preaching persecution around the corner" is negative and "doom and gloom" preaching if it doesn't happen or come to pass. I used the term to describe people who are preaching that "negative things are coming" but have no proof of this which is known as "gloom and doom".

I could have said the term "negative things are coming" but by saying doom and gloom everybody knows exactly what I mean.

You then went on to describe on this thread that anyone that didnt have your view was basically ignorant of the bible and now you are saying words like "immature". These remarks are derogatory. If someone called you ignorant of the bible I am sure you say that it was derogatory.

I don't expect any push back. I hoped that you would comment on everything else on my response to you.

Just because the American Church is in a bad way spiritually doesn't mean that their will be persecution, God may have another remedy. Also if their is persecution it doesn't mean it has anything to do with the end times (it may or may not). However if people are prophesying about the future I would like them to be specific otherwise they are just like the ones who have brought the American church to where it is. Just because we deserve persecution isn't the basis for a teaching that "persecution is just around the corner"

If God has raised up a group of people to warn I can except that but it has to be inspired by the Holy Spirit and in line with the word and they have to be accountable if it doesn't happen,

Yours Staff

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 20:49**

Staff writes.....

"You then went on to describe on this thread that anyone that didnt have your view was basically ignorant of the bible"

Staff, are you just making this up as you go along??? Where did I say that anyone who did not hold my view of the Bible was ignorant? Sheesh, just a plain old lie. I was pointing out that the term "doom and gloom," has always been used as a derogatory remark on people of a certain view. I stand by that. I know people from all different views on eschatology, but they don't use that phrase because it is considered derogatory. There is no point in using a phrase to criticize certain recent posts (none of which have been mine) and then run away from the words used or the point that is being made. So, perhaps we can agree, "doom and gloom" is a derogatory term? That has been my sole point. To turn around and then

say that I am being derogatory by saying that it is derogatory is immature, I stand by that.....bro Frank

**Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2012/6/17 21:20**

While reading this thread do you have find that Christianity is a kind similar to politics. No one will totally agree with anyone and particulars and so we have divisions and many times those divisions are over nonsense. Thus the reason why we should be pay careful attention of what we argue and how really important it is in the end.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 21:26**

I'm having a difficult time understanding some views.

One would have to rip The Revelation and several other chapters just from their New Testament to avoid hearing anything negative about the future.

Do you folks watch TV at all?

I'm wondering if doing that may be burning people out more than these other people posting that they believe we're living in the last days.

Throw the TVs and DVD movies out - just read His Word and see how you feel in a week or two, is my suggestion.

Jesus didn't make sure all of that was in there for us to ignore any part of it, but it appears that some are.

I'd like to be wrong on that.

Good quotes from Mozart, ArtB.

Peace on the inside!

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 21:57**

I am amazed at the number of replies on this thread. I think Greg opened up a can of worms with a few of his threads. Anyway, this Scripture came to mind when it comes to the attitude we should have about persecution. Obviously there are many views as this thread has expressed but what did Jesus say about persecution?

Mat 5:11-12 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. (12) Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

We are actually commanded to rejoice. Now, did the Apostles take this literally.....

Act 5:40-41 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. (41) And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

And we see that the apostles rejoiced after being beaten and reviled for the sake of Jesus. So, no matter if one sees persecution coming in an end time scenario or just another wave of persecution, it is clear how we should handle it. And so it is good to ask ourselves the question "would we have the same Spirit in us?" Could we see ourselves rejoicing to suffer for the cause of Christ?. The battles are won prior to the battle and they are won in prayer as we see Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane.....bro Frank

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/17 22:20**

Quote:

"Throw the TVs and DVD movies out - just read His Word and see how you feel in a week or two, is my suggestion.

Jesus didn't make sure all of that was in there for us to ignore any part of it, but it appears that some are."

-----  
I love this-- instead of addressing the points made by those with whom you disagree (probably me), you accuse them of ignoring scripture.

If I am ever that condescending on here, will someone please smack me upside the head?

This thread has not been about any end times view; it is not about trying to defend the Western church; it is not about arguing that the warnings in scripture aren't meant for today (I have never said any such thing). It is rather about the spirit in which certain posts are written.

But by simply raising the issue, I am accused of having my head in the clouds because I watch too much TV rather than spending every waking moment studying scripture and committing Foxe's Book of Martyrs to memory. And the crazy thing is that no one here knows anything about me.

It is sad that we Christians cannot have a civil discussion without accusing those with whom we may disagree of being less spiritual than we are.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/6/17 22:43**

I am going to watch my TV, eat my Hot Dogs, go to the Movies, watch my Baseball games, NASCAR, study my Bible, worship the Lord at the local church of my choice. I am going to Love my neighbors, and be the generous person I have always been. I am going to think on things of good report and praiseworthy, I will continue to bring in the lost sheep with my testimony, as always. If what I choose to do above bothers you, it's because God made me different than you. What I personally do with the free will God gave me, is between Me and God, I did not ask for your opinion nor do I want it.

I don't want to live my life like you, I want to live my life like me. The way you want to live your life is your business, not mine, nor will I ever make it mine. God made us all different for a reason, why would he have made two of a kind? It may not be easy to just step out of our mess, but we need to focus first on Jesus and ask Him to shine a light on our lives and help us reevaluate everything. And we need to listen to His voice only, because He is the teacher of what is really "true".

Paul said, "For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." -1 Corinthians 2:2  
And Jesus said very plainly what is required of us to become "true" men and women of God, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." -Matthew 22: 37-40

**Martyrs Mirror - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/17 22:52**

Martyrs Mirror , Theileman J. van Braght, Herld Press  
P8

These are sad times, in which we live; nay, truly, there is more danger now than in the time of our fathers, who suffered death for the testimony of the Lord. Few will believe this, because the great majority look to what is external and corporeal, and in respect it is now better quieter and more comfortable; few only look to that which is internal and pertains to the soul, and on which everything depends, "for what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Matthew 16:26

These times are certainly more dangerous; for then Satan came openly, through his servants, even at noon-day, as a roaring lion, so that he could be known, and it now and then was possible to hide from him; besides his chief design then was to destroy the body; but now he comes as in the night, or in the twilight, in a strange but yet pleasing way, lies in wait to de

stroy the soalp;partly,to trample underfoot,and annihilate entirely, if this were possible, the only saving Christian faith;partly to destroy the true seperated Christian Life which is the outward growth of faith Ps 91:5,6

**Martyrs Mirror - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/17 23:05**

Martyrs Mirror , Theileman J. van Braght, Herld Press  
P8 continued

He reveals himself on the one hand as an angel of light,2cor11:14,15,as a kind,pleasant,yea,even divine messenger,with h humble countenance,downcast eyes,plain garb,and living in seclusion from throng of the worldly-minded,even as the holiest people,yea,the martyrs of God,formly did.His words are modest,trembling and full of contrition-seemingly coming from deep meditations,inward fear and apprehension,lest he might speak amiss or untruthfully. Meanwhile,and before one is aware of it,he seizes hold and tears like a wolf in sheeps clothing,robbing the innocent lambs of Christ of their precious faith,which ,he pretends to be of small importance,but without which faith it is impossible to please God,Heb11:6,nay,without which we,according to the words of Christ shall be condemned,Mark 16:16;for(says Paul),whatsoever is not of faith is sin,Rom.14:23

**Re: to TMK - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/6/17 23:14**

Bless you TMK! I appreciate the message you have been trying so graciously to convey. I believe some have gotten it and I must say that I agree with you. The words of Jesus never leave us in despair when taken in proper context. I would say there are many going through much persecution in other lands who are rejoicing in the Lord daily while we have some who are not being persecuted at all but spend their time trying to make others feel guilty with all their gloom and doom outlook trying to make everybody unhappy because we are not being persecuted like some others.

Jesus did not come to kill, steal. and destroy us but he came to set us free and to give us life so that we may have it also more abundantly. The letter kills but the Spirit gives life. The apostle Paul suffered more than any other apostle but he writes in Philippians that we are to rejoice in the Lord and again he says to rejoice in the Lord.

**Re: Martyrs Mirror - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/6/17 23:25**

As I post these writings from the Martyrs Mirror, I want everyone to no that I am not targeting anyone with these writings, I just thought they went well with the subject matter.

Martyrs Mirror , Theileman J. van Braght, Herld Press  
P8-9 continued

It grieves us to the heart that we must live to see these times,and therefore speak in this wise.O Lord,strengthen our faith!help Thy weak,trusting lambs,that they may not be led into error,nor moved from the foundation of the most Holy faith. On the other hand,through his instigation,the world now reveals itself very beautiful and glorious,more than at any preceding time,in three-fold pleasing form-the lust of the flesh,the lust of the eyes the pride of life.Almost all men run after her,to worship her as Queen supreme;but all are deceived thereby;yea,many who have drunk of the poisoned wine of her lusts from the golden cup of her iniquities and deceptions,die a spiritual death

**Re: , on: 2012/6/17 23:27**

Also, the iraqi brother is under persecution and is obviously the real deal sharing how Christ has kept/strengthened them in it. You see, the need for this message in America is for those who need to be shocked awake. We are not in the same spiritual shape and somehow we don't even see it. If you convert in Iran, Egypt, Eritrea, The Congo, etc., you pretty much know that a man/woman has "counted the cost" ahead of coming to Christ cause you know that, in America, it doesn't even affect our entertainment time, much less potentially cost us our life. My heart, as the Lord has moved me, has been to call those who name the Name of Cheist to wake up. Those who have ears will hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the American church. Those who don't want to hear from the Lord or anyone else will stick their fingers in their ears, slide into the easy chair, & live out a false reality which numbs the mind and desensitized the Spirit. In love, you can take that for what it's worth. When the Word of God is even ignored, minimized, just dang near scoffed at, that's when you know the Great Apostacy isn't coming-----it's here in full fledge. Don't tell me how unloving that is. Save that rhetoric. If I didn't love those called by Hos name, I woulda ducked out completely 45 threads and 50 scriptures ago. This is no longer beneficial, so I'm going to excuse myself from the remainder of this thread. Fact is, whether you like it or not & whether you

want to focus on it or not, when persecution comes, it purify and divide. "There must be divisions/heresies among you, to show which ones are approved from among you", The Apostle Paul, 1 Corinthians 11:19

**Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/6/17 23:34**

God Bless you Jeffmar! Your writings and the spirit of which you write in have been a blessing to me. I thank God for your zeal and love for the Lord and his people.

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2012/6/18 1:04**

Is it possible that many of us do not realize that we are mere pawns in this battle between the devil and the LORD of Hosts? We are caught in the middle of this war. It is not a war that will begin at some point in the future but is on-going right now.

Jesus does say we are not to worry about the future and while he did give us many warnings (Matthew 24) about it, his promise of victory still stands. "Lo, I am with Always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20.

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/18 6:57**

Quote: "Jesus does say we are not to worry about the future and while he did give us many warnings (Matthew 24) about it, his promise of victory still stands. "Lo, I am with Always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20."

Amen to that!!

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 8:40**

It is true that we are never to worry, but we are to consider the signs of the times, to prepare our hearts, & to follow the Lord's leading. When certain prophets in Acts 11:28-29, including Agabus stood up and prophesied that a famine was coming over the land, the apostles didn't sit around and say, "oh, just go back to the coliseum & watch some great tragedies & comedies, it will all be OK." Nor did they say, "oh, that crowd with all the doom and gloom stuff again. Don't they know we are not to worry about tomorrow and just focus on the joy of the Lord today?" nor did they sit around, fret, worry, & chew their fingernails down to nothing. What did they do? The Word of God says they sent preparations of food down to Jerusalem to sustain the church through this time. They heard, they believed (cause they discerned by the same Holy Spirit it was from God & not man), they prepared, & they acted in faith for the care of the Body. That should be our response. To make preparations. To take inventory now and make sure we have what it takes to endure a "famine in the land of hearing the Word of God." maybe that means making some physical preparations (ask the Lord individually), but regardless that definitely means making spiritual preparations and taking an honest evaluation now of your life. Your time. Your fruitfulness. Etc. do we know better than the first century church in the book of Acts recorded in God's Word? Have we "evolved" to be more spiritual than they, all the while taking it easy in our easy chair watching tv and scoffing at prophetic warnings? No saints. We should be a more discerning people than that. Are we? Are you?

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 9:06**

TMK wrote: "And that is another reason I cringe at some "doom and gloom" posts.. because sometimes there seems to be a certain glee in talking about how bad things are going to get and a seeming hope that things WILL get really really bad really soon."

This statement is way over the top and untruthful in a rather obscene way.

SI has been nothing but encouragement and it's only since the announcement of the upcoming Conference that there have been more threads on persecution.

Persecution is going on to our Brothers and Sisters in countless places world-wide - but we can't discuss the possibility of going through it ourselves.

Persecution has been the history of the Church since the First Church but we dare not bring it up regarding ourselves?

This tells me a lot of how people read their New Testaments and how much they care about their brothers and sisters that are being persecuted presently and the lack of care for those that need to give some thought to this topic, as it's never

entered their minds. Look at the majority of Churches and 'christians' in this country and tell me if they could handle being made "uncomfortable" nonetheless persecuted.

What I quoted above is at the heart of this thread and it's an insult to anyone that's studied His Word or Church History and Current Events.

The very few threads of late on this topic should NOT have upset anyone that's Biblically Literate, that cares in the least about others being persecuted world-wide and are willing to give all for HIM, as they have.

The few that are siding with this OP and the other posts that are similar are out of touch with what True Christianity has Always been about.

I suspect that the few had not counted the cost when they took on His Name - 'Christ'ian. Of that I'm almost 100% sure. That when these 'got saved' - that persecution and suffering the loss of all things or martyrdom was not what they had even given thought, was a possibility.

Wurmbrand and Corrie Ten Boom and many others would have loved to have come to the coming Conference and share their books and stories to prepare us. In fact, that WAS their ministry to The Church - THIS TOPIC.

I'm surprised, sickened and embarrassed by these reactions to the recent threads in question and insulted for the majority here by this quote above.

Let's just end this thread and allow others to communicate on the FEW threads already up on persecution and the such. The opposers can just not open those threads and go to other threads - but we are looking forward to the Truths coming from this upcoming Conference and to hear from those others that know what they're talking about on this topic.

**Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/6/18 9:16**

For one thing jeffmar, there were prophets in those days in the beginning days of the church that were really led by God and the Apostles really knew who they were. The bible also says to know them who labor among you. Here we are now two thousand years later and we still need much discernment among us today because we have a lot of would be and self proclaimed prophets and not many real ones. Another thing is that not many today are walking in what the Apostles were walking in and experiencing the Holy Ghost the way they were at the beginning of the church.

I agree that we don't need to get at ease in Zion and we do need to be spiritually alert. We also need to know that when they prophesied something that was recorded in the book of Acts that it was specific and it immediately came to pass. They also knew how to act upon it. I believe the gloom and doom that TMK is talking about is the erratic warnings that are all over the place without any specific instructions from the Lord that also have no encouragement from the Lord. When the apostles took the warning from the Lord it was specific and they acted upon it and it didn't go from gloom to doom but things actually got better for them by following the warning from the Lord. This goes to show you that true prophecy does not go from gloom to doom for God's people. He gives his church warnings of love for we are to be walking in the light of God and He has us going from gloom to Glory.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 9:33**

This thread is getting more illogical as it goes on.

Why is This Topic being categorized as "PROPHESYING"?

"ALL who live Godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution".



THAT's the foundation of The Church - not anyone here prophesying.

Jesus said - "Count the Cost".

What is 'The Cost' to you people? ... Just giving up a few outward actions but living life as usual otherwise?

I say - these are Biblically Malnourished - period.

They pick and choose those portions of Scripture that they LIKE and keeps them contented and throw out the other ON E-THIRD of HIS WORD.

Confirms that this coming conference is the need of the hour, now.

**Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/6/18 9:42**

JIG, I see some good in this thread and also the many posts have been enlightening. I believe we need to consider all aspects of how we communicate our message. I have enjoyed reading from all points of view on this thread except for the accusations that some still continue to do.

Now Ann I have been blessed by the wisdom in your writings many times and I can see some good in many posts on this thread even if I don't agree entirely with some.

It would be a great day on SI when we can all try and understand what others are trying to convey and maybe offer some good counsel without being so quick to accuse them of doing something wrong.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 9:45**

Imagine you see a young convert who has just come to Jesus. They have been gloriously converted. Their faces are full of joy. Then that evangelist who shared Christ with them. Saw that person come to Christ. Says to the young convert. Stay true to Jesus with all of your heart. Why we would affirm that. Then the evangelist says it is through many hardships, trials, and tribulations you must enter the kingdom God. For Jesus has called you to suffer for him. Immediately you say wait a minute. You are discouraging this new convert. You are speaking gloom to them. You are discouraging them. Tell them about the joy of following Jesus. Like lay off of the persecution and martyrdom stuff.

Believe it or not this was exactly how Paul and Barnabas encouraged the new converts in the early church. Check out Acts 14:22-23.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/18 9:56**

Hi Appolus,

I wrote-

"You then went on to describe on this thread that anyone that didn't have your view was basically ignorant of the bible"

Regarding this comment by you:

"Everytime you hear the phrase "doom and gloom," it is invariably derogatory. Typically it comes from folks who fear persecution and do not take seriously the Scriptures that assure us that those who will follow Jesus will suffer a price. Now, I am sure there are exceptions, but I have yet to run into those exceptions."

You were saying that we were ignorant of the bible as far as I can see.

Also you are calling people "immature and liars" Do you think that it is right to call other Christians that?

The term gloom and doom can be used negatively and not derogatory. I have clearly stated my understanding of the term and you choose to ignore it,  
Yours Staff

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 10:01**

rbanks, did you not read what I quoted at the top of this last page?

I only view Two forums - the other one is approx 50% unsaved and 50% saved and they KNOW what's coming.

The majority of Christians don't seem to - with few exceptions.

If you can bear the way that unsaved folks speak and still have a burden for their salvation - I'd recommend a reality check, every so often, to just read the Titles of their threads, without even opening the threads to read them.

One could just read the titles of the world-wide News / Current Events and see where we're headed. They're posting all of the News of late, and yes I do recommend that forum - because these unsaved and saved people keep up with the News that's not being given on television or radio and it's a true wake-up call for those that desire to be waken up to the reality of things .... though I know the ostrich mentality quite well and those are those that will be caught unaware and unprepared spiritually. And those that are living uninformed of world events are those that I have a burden for. They did not count on living in this present evil world when they got 'saved'. Their pastors and teachers did not prepare them for the things that we're hearing of late and some never "counted the cost".

Those are the ones that we should have a burden for.

**To be, or not to be., on: 2012/6/18 10:50**

Then the evangelist says it is through many hardships, trials, and tribulations you must enter the kingdom God.

For Jesus has called you to suffer for him. Immediately you say wait a minute.

" You are discouraging this new convert. You are speaking gloom to them. You are discouraging them. Tell them about the joy of following Jesus. Like lay off of the persecution and martyrdom stuff." Bearmaster.

I just read about an evangelist who did the very same thing warning his first followers on their very first Mission trip. Sounds like the very same type of radical you are talking about.

"Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

But beware of men: for THEY WILL deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;

And YOU SHALL be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles.

But WHEN they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

And the brother SHALL deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children SHALL rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to DEATH.

And ye SHALL BE HATED of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

But WHEN THEY PERSECUTE YOU in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.

It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the MASTER of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call THEM of his household?

Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.

And fear not them which KILL the body, but are not able to KILL the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

But whosoever shall DENY me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a SWORD.

For I AM COME to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

36 And a man's foes SHALL be they of his own household.

37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

39 He that findeth his life SHALL lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.".....

This of course was Jesus speaking as He sent out the Apostles on their first Missionary trip, and, of course, everything He warned about came to pass; as it is today.

We are all being funneled into deeper fire, and it is this alone that will prepare us. Are we willing to lose our lives, to gain His?

"To be or not to be, that is the question?"

**Re: To be, or not to be., on: 2012/6/18 11:09**

Amen Brothertom.....bro Frank

**Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/6/18 11:22**

okay okay-- I am going to let this go.

I appreciate everyone's posts and viewpoints.

Let's pray for our persecuted brethren, and pray for strength and grace in the days ahead.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 12:04**

Brother Tom. I just heard about a young Korean sister. She is 26 years old. She had completed a discipleship program at a YWAM base. She burns with a desire to take the gospel to N. Korea.

Now I am sure this sister knows the dangers that await her.. She probably knows the average life expectancy of an evangelist in that country is about three months. Yet her heart is consumed to see the light of Christ penetrate the darkness of N. Korea. Not someone given to doom and gloom.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2012/6/18 16:21**

I recall Brother Richard Wurmbrand saying how they would take converts to the zoo (in Romania), showing them the lions. In doing so they taught them that if they made the decision to follow Jesus they may likely be thrown to them, just like Daniel was. These people were taught they may have to die for their decision.

Not a bad idea, IMHO....

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2012/6/18 17:41**

Quote:  
----- sometimes there seems to be a certain glee in talking about how bad things are going to get and a seeming hope that things WILL get really really bad really soon."  
-----

I don't think this is an unreasonable observation. It is human nature to delight in justice over mercy. It is natural to crave justice for the criminal. We often see this on the news. A victim will not be satisfied or happy again until justice has been measured out. Also, there can be a temptation to be vindictive - especially if we have some latent anger or bitterness, having been a victim of sin against us. Seeing justice for the sinners can indeed give us a sense of glee!

Here's another consideration: What if God pours mercy on our land; and all our warnings about impending disaster are proved wrong? I think of the Pharisees who had a hard time accepting Jesus' mercy on the sinner. Their thinking was driven by a punitive mindset. So why would it be any different today within the religious community?

Or could it be that we need those disaster/judgments to prove us right and thus to preserve our pride? And, let's admit, being right is one of our most cherished idols.

Just curious: Has anyone checked into Canon Andrew White - the Vicar of Baghdad? What do you think of God's mercy raining down on - even Muslims? Even these people are recipients of divine miracles - healings, raising of the dead, etc. To see some Muslims be blessed by God surely seems strange - especially when they have not yet been converted.

Oh..... Does anyone have more comments on my earlier reference to holy vs unholy treatment of "gloom-and-doom" - that is, troublesome information?

Diane

**Before annihilation, the early church was warned, and heeded the gloom and doom deliverance., on: 2012/6/18 19:50**

Pentecost occurred 50 days after Passover, the Crucifixion of Christ; AD 33. Jesus Himself walked on Earth for 40 of those days, instructing many, and was bodily Resurrected in the presence of over 500 disciples into Heaven. This must have made the mere 10 day wait at the upper room very exciting, they had been with the one who was dead but lives forevermore.

Titus, the Roman general then marched in, with four Roman Legions, putting down a Jewish revolt. The rebellion proved costly to Jerusalem in AD 70: In the Destruction of Jerusalem 1,100,000 Jews were killed and 97,000 taken into slavery and captivity.

There is much evidence that the Jerusalem church were pondering ideas just like we are here, in this gloom and doom thread. We are talking about 37 years, in our time line Pentecost occurred in 1975.

But the people of the church in Jerusalem had been commanded by a revelation, vouchsafed to approved men there before the war, to leave the city and to dwell in a certain town of Perea called Pella. " (History of the Church 3:5:3)

"The whole body, however, of the church at Jerusalem, having been commanded by a divine revelation, given to men of approved piety there before the war, removed from the city, and dwelt at a certain town beyond the Jordan, called Pella.

Here those that believed in Christ, having removed from Jerusalem, as if holy men had entirely abandoned the royal city itself, and the whole land of Judea; the divine justice, for their crimes against Christ and his apostles finally overtook them, totally destroying the whole generation of these evildoers from the earth. (Eusebius, 3:5.).....

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 20:08**

Even the Catholic Church is aware of a future persecution of Americans. I was doing a search for past persecutions in American history and I came across this interesting thought. Don't get carried away with the margin, I agree with none of it , however this article is interesting.

<http://catholicknight.blogspot.ca/2011/11/vatican-official-sees-persecution-of.html>

**Re: - posted by pilgrim777, on: 2012/6/18 20:16**

Interesting! Catholic Zealots.

A Loyal Reader said...

If the priests, Bishops and Cardinals are not ready and willing to suffer persecution and even martyrdom,- dry, wet, green or social,- then how does anyone expect the people to accept it? We Catholics have always been counter-cultural in the ages of Faith. Our recent complicity with the culture has caused the loss of identity and sense of union with the generations past, who accepted persecution and even martyrdom as just part of being Catholic. Let's rediscover what it means to be "the light of the World"!!!

And this, "Don't be too quick to be a martyr".

Anonymous said...

UK Catholic .....Don't be volunteering others for martyrdom unless you are sure you could go to the gallows alongside them. I see no need for a rush to martyrdom - read what the English martyrs went through (hung drawn and quartered) then tell me you want to be first in the queue. Go to the Nazi camps and see the photos they took of all who marched into the gas chambers alongside the Jews - Catholic priests and monks in droves. No-one goes to that willingly and none of us will know if we have that kind of courage until the very split second we are challenged. The current situation is undoubtedly serious in terms of the pressures being exerted against Catholics - worldwide (and CK has hit on a very important issue here). Our bishops and priests here in the UK have spoken out as mentioned above so I personally have seen no lack of courage on their part. Christ taught us to respond to all aggression and sin with Love. It is possible to mistake his gentle approach with complicity, but I also think that it's best to study the opposition before showing your hand and speaking out. However I agree that silence can be mistaken for consent, but as far as I am aware the church leaders have made their position very clear on most of the major moral issues of the day. We must also beware not only of attacks from outside the church but also of self inflicted wounds - attacking our own without reason. We must be wary not to demoralise the many good priest we do have left by too much "nagging".....they are already taking quite a beating from external forces so try not to add to their burdens.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/18 20:38**

Well let me be the first to say that I don't know how well I would stand up to persecution. I have taken a lot of beatings before and endured it. I found that by letting the person do whatever it was needed to get their anger out of their system to use me as a punching bag and when I didn't kick back they stopped. It's been a long time since those days and I have gotten soft in my old age (45).

The thought of torture is terrifying. Being shot or hanged is a mercy killing, it's quick and doesn't last long. But to be tortured and kept alive is beyond my comprehension. God knows that I might cave in to the pressure. Why would He put someone through such rigorous testing if they will in the end deny Him?

That is my greatest fear, will I deny my Lord, I hope and pray that I will not.

It's valiant to be able to throw yourself in front of a moving train if it meant to save others, and I hope that I would. Richard Wumbrand withstood such terrible things, even to the place of being delirious and having almost completely forgot about God if it wasn't for God bringing him the scriptures to his mind. Even Watchman Nee having been put through such rigorous brain washings at the end scribbled on a piece of paper saying, "I still believe that Jesus is the Son of God". I don't believe for a moment that he straightened up his backbone as some hero of the faith, I think the man was totally weakened by the constant harassments and out of that weakened state made his final declaration before leaving this world that with all that brain washing foolishness they failed in their attempt to change this man of God.

I am weak but thou art strong.

**, on: 2012/6/18 20:51**

1Pe 4:14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

From A.T. Robertson's Word Pictures:

"Resteth upon you" (eph' he&#772;mas anapauetai). Quotation from Isaiah 11:2. Present middle indicative of anapau&#772;; to give rest, refresh (Matt 11:28). "He rests upon the Christian as the Shechinah rested upon the tabernacle" (Bigg). Cf. 1Pet 1:8"

**Re: , on: 2012/6/19 2:45**

Basically rbanks, you're telling me that your a "cessationist"? In your mind, have All the gifts and offices except "Senior/Associate/Youth Pastor" (not in the Bible) somehow ceased to exist? Is it that By your estimation there may be only 5 real prophets in the whole world now, or none cause you don't believe God raises them up at all anymore? Yes, there are tons of false prophets speaking from the belly of their own flesh. There are tons of so-called wanna be prophets. Who sent them? The enemy. Why? So people would see the counterfeit and totally throw out the baby with the bath water. The enemy's plan works if you just toss it all out based on the counterfeit.

You never see anyone counterfeit manure. Or counterfeit bread. They are of little value in the first place. Counterfeiter's counterfeit real things that have great value like hundred dollar bills and gold. Never see counterfeit pennies! Why do that? More trouble than it's worth! The devil gets people's flesh to counterfeit gold cause it's worth something when genuine.

I would recommend you look up an article from John Piper about "OT prophets vs NT prophets." Also, Art Katz has lot's of REALLY good sermons on the True NT Prophetic Ministry. Look up "Prophets", "Prophetic", "True..." etc. in Katz' sermon listings. Some real gems.

Also, your evaluation of NT prophets in Acts has some things you haven't considered. For one thing, it says in I Corinthians 13, "Now we see in part". NT Prophetic ministry isn't the same as OT prophets. In fact, not even All OT Prophet accounts were of "someone saying something would come to pass and it did right/soon after". Daniel saw things that still haven't been fulfilled. How long did Noah prophesy & build that boat? I don't remember exactly, but I know it was at least

40 years (I think it was actually longer). David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and many others prophesied about the coming Messiah that didn't get fulfilled for hundreds of years after. Many others like Amos, Joel, etc. had dual layered fulfillment prophesies (one fulfillment years later in Israel AND a second fulfillment where the natural type was fulfilled in a spiritual reality in the last days concerning the church, spiritual Israel).

In addition to these examples and many more, consider Jesus' prophesying over Jerusalem about its downfall that did not come until decades later. Also, even the story I mentioned earlier about the prophesying in Acts of a famine: you're ASSUMING this was like prophesied one day and fulfilled the next. If we read God's Word like this, we will err greatly. The Bible is not a list of events that happened on consecutive minute, hour, & day chronological time schedules. There are many places in scripture where years, even decades, elapse between one verse to the very next one.

Besides, Art Katz saw a great Holocaust coming ahead for years and died never seeing it come to pass. I consider Art a true prophet. David Wilkerson saw a vision of coming catastrophe in glimpses as far back as the 70's, & I certainly don't consider David a false prophet. The burden came so strong again a few years later he felt like it could come tomorrow. I know many who the Lord burdened the same way. I don't know where you get your ideas for what classifies modern prophets, but in love, it's not the Bible, cause there's no support for what you stated.

We need God's Word to be our guide. I have love for the Body, and I challenge you to prove what you assumed of prophets from scripture. You can't cause such statements are not in there. Art Katz' teachings on prophets from God's Word are powerful. He can preach/teach/explain it better than I ever could. God Bless

**Re: sermonindex rules - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/19 5:06**

Wheres the zero tolerance?

7. SLANDERING OTHERS - We have a zero tolerance on slander, evil-speaking and speaking against a person's character without warrant. 'Slander no one.' / 'to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.' NASB (Titus 3:2). This is a very important biblical principle and we ask that you would especially respect the biblical method of approaching a brother privately (Matthew 18:15). Also there are hundreds of websites in the internet that exclusively post wrong teachings, errors and question the character of Christians, we do not want SermonIndex to be seen as such a ministry and ask that all forum members do not participate in posting in what is wrong. We believe simply that truth dispels errors and to focus on the truth will shine a light into all the darkness.

**Re: , on: 2012/6/19 9:17**

Staff - Who slandered someone else? Did I miss something? Are you directing that to me? Not agreeing with someone's assertions, when they are not Biblical, & showing them the scriptures is not slander. "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." If every thought of correctively teaching what the Bible says is somehow considered "slander", then what's the point of the forum thread discussion? If an error in declaring something as Biblical is "public", so then should be the corrective teaching from the Word of God, in love. If not, error just lies out there publicly, on the Internet for all to see, & many to misunderstand God's Word on a matter, while a man's point of view on a matter gets a complicit ability to stand unchallenged? Maybe I missed something? This is all said/done in love so that God's Word/Truth is shown to light the way for the young/weak in faith, & to help steer the Body back onto the path pressing forward towards the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

If you've ever read/seen Pilgrim's Progress, too many of us are willing to get so close to the celestial city (the kingdom of heaven) & lie on the enchanted ground. It's deceptive. It's very hard to get back up once you lay down. We are "drugged" by our own culture, entertainment, & a "Gospel" of ease. Or, like the last poor soul who goes the path his own way, without having entered through the gate, & without a certificate, we end up at the gates of the kingdom only to be called a thief and a robber, not having entrance and being cast asunder.

My heart is not to slander, to argue, or to prove I'm right in prideful stubborn arrogance. My heart is to preach the truth and share the Word of God with those who stop short of the Gospel of the Kingdom God outlines in His Word! If a public statement on a public forum thread is above correction, above Biblical comparison, above scrutiny (even "the spirits of the prophets are subjects to the prophets,,,let the prophets discern the prophecy,,,"), then it should never be stated publicly on the first place. If I can tell everyone what I think, how I see it, etc. & no one can just reply and show me what the Word of God says, I can be trying to protect my own self, rather than wanting to get down to what's noble, & true, & pure, as outlined only in God's Word, not man's opinions.

In Christ's Love,

Jeff



**Re: , on: 2012/6/19 9:27**

Also, Slander by definition has as its intent to defame, to make others look bad, etc. to disagree is not to slander. I found an article on the net on the Biblical definition of slander. It talks of gossip, tale bearing, seeking to defame ones character intentionally to make oneself look better, etc. just look at the beginning portion of the PDF which outlines the Bible's definition of Slander and tell me who did any of that and where. Please be specific and use the Biblical texts as proof so we can all see/understand what Biblical Slander is/isn't. God Bless

<http://www.godsacres.org/tract.Slander.pdf>

**Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/6/19 16:48**

Wow, jeffmar, bless you brother! I do love your zeal for God! I really enjoy your writings and very much agree with them, even though you missed your observation of me by a country mile. Wow! First time in my life that I have ever been accused of being a "Cessationist".

I went back to my post to see what I said that spurred such a sharp post from you on what I believe. If you will notice I did not mention the whole bible, I only mentioned the book of Acts. I never said that there weren't any true prophets like those in the beginning of the church, but that there is not many. And brother I'm sorry that I didn't explain the post better, that lead you to believe otherwise.

BTY brother Jeff, it is way too late for me to be a "Cessationist". I do realize that I still have a lot to learn and I have no ill will toward you in any way but only pray that you will do even greater works for the glory of God.

**Re: - posted by staff, on: 2012/6/19 17:40**

Hi Jeffmar,  
No I was not directing that at you, Thanks for asking  
Yours Staff