**Revelation #96 – *Signs of the Times, pt. 1. -* June 14, 2020**

*“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who replace darkness with light and light with darkness, who replace bitter with sweet and sweet with bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and see themselves as shrewd and clever. Woe to the champion wine drinkers who are heroes in mixing strong drinks – judges and politicians who acquit the guilty for a bribe and take away the rights of the innocent… For they said ‘NO!’ to the teachings of Yahweh, the Lord of Angel Armies, and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel!”* – Isaiah 5:20-24 (TPT)

 As I read those words, I don’t think of a time centuries ago, but of the present generation. We jokingly say, “That was really ‘bad’”, when we want to compliment something. We live in a time of relativism and anarchy. There is no such thing as “truth” or “right and wrong”, it is whatever you want it to be. Everyone makes up their own version of the truth and creates their own values system. And if it conflicts with yours, I have a right to kill you or condemn you. We have become our own judges and the judges of the world.

God has a lot to say about such thinking:

 “He who trusts in himself is a fool…” – Prov 28:26

 “Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest you become just like him.” – Prov 26:4

 “How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing, and fools hate knowledge.” – Prov 1:22

 “Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?” – Job 38:2

 “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no god’. They are corrupt, they do abominable things. There is none who does good.” – Psalms 14:1

 “The one who conceals hatred has lying lips, and whoever utters slander is a fool.” – Prov 10:18

 “If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.” – Galatians 5:15

 The people and leaders of this generation and nation, including many of the “Christian” denominations, CHOOSE to call evil good and good evil. They CHOOSE darkness over light, they CHOOSE to validate the haters, the anarchists, the angry, the blame-shifters, the mockers of authority, and to blaspheme and slander the word of God, saying it has a different value system now.

 It was interesting to read some professors from different seminaries saying things like, “what once was a sin is NO LONGER a sin, that Jesus himself would acknowledge that the Bible was wrong and is outdated. We live in ENLIGHTENED days, and the moral system of God for centuries has now been deemed irrelevant and antiquated.”

We are living in a time when our own legal system calls ‘Normal’ what God calls an abomination; where ‘marriage’ is now between two anythings; where a person’s sexual creation is up to them to decide, because they don’t like being identified as a male or female; where sodomy is applauded as healthy and natural; where one persons’ lust for anything and anyone is totally acceptable and embraced; where immorality is defined as morality; where theft, greed, and lawlessness are applauded as free speech and true justice; where the media are allowed to abuse, violate, and disrespect anyone at any time without consequence. And if you have the audacity to oppose their way of thinking, YOU are the bully and the ungodly one, the evil and malicious one for speaking out against THEIR version of self-defined morality.

 This world view says it is the champion of the outcast, the lost, the victim, the angry and depressed, the hater, the cynic, the rager, the oppressed, the underdog, the suicidal, the rebellious, the bitter. THOSE are the people they want to associate with and embrace and fight for. THOSE are the causes and the offenses they want to hate others for, to take up offense for, to champion their cause, to justify violence and rage against.

 BUT where is the humility? The genuine love? The honesty? The gratitude? The honor? The kindness? The Truth?

 God is NOT unclear about morality vs. immorality, sin vs. righteousness, depravity vs. purity, lawlessness vs. obedience, truth vs. lies. This generation and this nation are being challenged to step up to the plate and declare their true allegiance about WHO they will serve. Those who say they serve Christ but don’t honor His sacrifice, His Word, or His truth, are NOT one of His children; and His light is Not in them. They are children of darkness, serving the forces of darkness and the king of darkness, satan.

 Perhaps these are just the rantings of an old fool. Having had satan sit in front of me recently, using the voice of a young man, was one of the hardest things I have ever done. How do I love this fool who hates God, slanders Jesus, blasphemes the Word of God, and has the gall to say he himself is a “good” man. He loves the darkness and rails against the light. He immerses himself in the writings of the atheist and the agnostic and spouts their ‘wisdom’ as his own.

The defilement I felt in the face of such slander, blasphemy and accusation felt like such a betrayal to my heart, as I tried to love and encourage and speak truth to a very broken individual. Paul was right when he wrote about being the fragrance of Christ in 2Cor 2, and being hated for it, ”who is up to such a task?”

But GOD…!!!

 Back to the prayer closet! Time to get shield cleaned, sword sharpened, faith restored, mind and heart renewed, feet refitted with peace, and belt cinched up with the Word of truth. We are indeed in the battle of our lives! EVERY LIFE MATTERS!! Not just black lives, but EVERY life! The only color God sees is RED, the color of His son’s blood. Through which, we are made righteous and whole! WE are NOW His children, and HE is our defender, our vindicator, our teacher, our father, and our Beloved!