

1 CORINTHIANS: LESSON 45

Chapter 15: For He Must Reign

13 April 2018

Christians are often sidetracked from what God would have them to do with their lives. World events raise concerns that seem to paralyze people from proclaiming the Gospel and fulfilling the great commission. The lesson today reminds us that no matter what happens in the world or in our personal lives, Jesus Christ is going to reign one day on this earth, and if you are in Him, you'll rule and reign beside Him. If you'll keep that in the forefront of your mind, you'll gladly lay down your life and present it as a living sacrifice for Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

Isaiah 32:1 Jesus is the king that **"shall reign in righteousness."** New Testament believers are the **"princes"** that **"shall rule in judgment."**

1 Corinthians 15:25 says **"He must reign"** because the prophets already said He **"shall reign."**

Instead of changing our lives according to what the newspaper headlines say, we need to change our lives according to what the Bible says. The Bible says Jesus is coming to reign. If you believe that, you'll start living for Him.

Isaiah 9:6-7 **"The government shall be upon his shoulder"** when He sits **"upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it..."**

No matter what kind of corrupt laws your government may establish, they will be done away when the Lord establishes His kingdom. Today it's important that we keep that in mind and continue to do what God told us to do. **"We ought to obey God rather than men"** (Acts 5:29). When laws are just, then we ought to obey the law of the land (Titus 3:1, Rom. 3:1-7, 1 Pet. 2:13-17).

Luke 1:30-33 **"He shall reign...and of his kingdom there shall be no end."** No more political campaigns, no more elections, no more voting. Why not give Him your support today?

Luke 4:5-8 The Devil offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. The kingdoms will be His, but He's not going to bow down to Satan to get them. He's going to bind Satan for a thousand years (Rev. 20:2) and take back what belongs to Him.

Let this be a lesson to all of us. The Devil may offer us a bigger church and show us all kinds of ways to draw a big crowd, but they will be the Devil's ways; they will be worldly ways. We must avoid the temptation to "go with the flow," especially when it's flowing down Satan's sewer. **"Let all things be done decently and in order"** (1 Cor. 14:40), for **"God is not the author of confusion"** (1 Cor. 14:33). It is confusion to set aside righteousness and allow worldly standards into the church. We need to continue to serve God on His terms.

Rev. 1:18 Jesus took what was His on his own terms. He had to die to do it, but He didn't have to bow down to the Devil.

Col. 2:14-15 Jesus "**spoiled principalities and powers.**" Those powers can no longer use the fear of death against us (because Jesus has the keys of death), thereby disarming the Devil of his greatest weapon. When you no longer fear death, you can be bold in your stand for the Lord. Jesus said, "**Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after have no more that they can do**" (Luke 12:4).

Heb. 2:14-15 Jesus Christ, by His death, destroyed "**him that HAD the power of death, that is the devil.**" If you are a Christian, you are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God (Col 3:3). God decides when you will die, not the Devil.

Fear of death will keep you in bondage. Don't be afraid of leaving this world! That fear will cripple you and prevent you from doing what God is calling you to do. You are FREE from that fear. You can boldly serve God without fearing what man can do to you.
