



FRANKLIN ROAD

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NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1, 2020

DOING GOOD IN THE FACE OF CHAOS

PASTOR ANDY

THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE, THAT GET TO THE END OF THE YEAR AND SAY, "I'M THANKFUL THIS YEAR HAS COME TO AN END". SOMETIMES WE JUST HAVE ROUGH YEARS. THIS YEAR, ABOVE ANY OTHER IS REMINISCENT OF A TV SHOW CALLED "STRANGER THINGS" (I'LL LET YOU LOOK IT UP).

DURING THIS PRESIDENTIAL YEAR WHEN CHOOSING A PARTY SENDS PEOPLE TO REACT WITH HATE, WE ALSO HAVE A DISEASE THAT HAS SEPARATED US, AND NOW RIOTS THAT CAUSE PEOPLE TO FEAR. IF YOU HAVEN'T ADDED FRUSTRATION AND DOUBT (IN WHO IS TELLING THE TRUTH) TO THE LIST, THAT MAY BE NEXT.

THESE ARE ALL TACTICS OF SATAN. WHEN PAUL AND JOHN MARK CAME ACROSS ELYMAS THE MAGICIAN (WHO WAS A JEWISH FALSE PROPHET NAMED BAR-JESUS) IN ACTS 13, PAUL SAYS TO HIM, "YOU WHO ARE FULL OF ALL DECEIT AND FRAUD, YOU SON OF THE DEVIL, YOU ENEMY OF ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS, WILL YOU NOT CEASE TO MAKE CROOKED THE STRAIGHT WAYS OF THE LORD?"

SATAN LOVES TO USE PEOPLE TO REVEAL HIS TRUE INTENTIONS. SATAN LOVES TO DIVIDE US, DISTRACT US, FRUSTRATE US, AND CAUSE US TO DOUBT. WHEN ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER HAPPENS, AND ONE NEWS ARTICLE COMPLETELY CONTRADICTS ANOTHER FOR RATINGS. WHEN ONE "OPINION" IS HELD HIGHER THAN ANOTHER AND YOU ARE NO LONGER ALLOWED TO DECIDE WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. WE START TO GET BITTER AND ARGUMENTATIVE – JUST LIKE SATAN WHEN HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE HIS WAY.

PROVERBS 24:16 SAYS, "FOR A RIGHTEOUS MAN FALLS SEVEN TIMES, AND RISES AGAIN, BUT THE WICKED STUMBLE IN TIME OF CALAMITY".

THE RIGHTEOUS MAN CAN STUMBLE, BUT IT IS HOW HE REACTS WHEN HE DOES STUMBLE THAT PROVES WHO HE IS. DAVID STUMBLED ALL THE TIME BUT HE WAS STILL KNOWN AS A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART. WITH JESUS AS OUR STRENGTH WE CAN CONTINUE TO GET UP EVEN WHEN THE WORLD CONTINUES TO TRY AND KNOCK US DOWN.

THEREFORE, PAUL REMINDS US IN GALATIANS 6:9, "LET US NOT LOSE HEART IN DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE TIME WE WILL REAP IF WE DO NOT GROW WEARY".

EVEN, IN 2020, WHEN WE HAVE DISEASE, JOB LOSS, SCHOOL CLOSINGS, PARENTS BEING ASSURED THEY WOULD NOT MAKE GOOD TEACHERS, VACATIONS LOST, FABRICATIONS OF THE TRUTH, BETRAYAL, RIOTS, AND SADNESS, WE CAN STILL DO GOOD. WE CAN STILL HOLD FAST TO HE WHO IS OUR STRENGTH (EL-SHADDIA) AND RUN TO HE WHO IS ETERNALLY RIGHTEOUS (JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU).