

Theme for 2018

**WE ARE THE ARMY OF GOD &
WE ARE ARMED AND DANGEROUS!**

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)



This Week’s Thought – October 7, 2018

“The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.” Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

Trouble is a *stalker* who lurks in the darkness waiting to pounce on his prey. His hunger for confusion and division is never satisfied. When a beautiful garden ready for harvest is ravaged in the night by varmints, so our life can be a beautiful display of God’s grace and overnight, be ambushed by an unsuspecting enemy. Trouble uproots a weak faith, whose shallow depth of understanding in the ways of the Lord are replaced with disillusionment. After all, *“Aren’t good Christians protected, even exempted from trouble?”* No. **Trouble is our opportunity to trust.**

Nahum picks up 100 years after Jonah left off, for Nineveh’s repentance was short and shallow. A nation who had once repented now drifted back into rebellious ways void of God’s ways, and a stubborn self-reliance that resisted trust in the Lord. The Almighty’s patience ran out, so He sent His prophet Nahum (whose name means burden) to deliver God’s message of judgment since Nineveh’s sin had become a self-inflicted burden. Thankfully, even in the middle of the Lord’s discipline, He is still good and is a refuge in times of trouble for those who trust in Him.

“For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.” (Psalm 1:6)

October 7, 2018

Are you troubled over the calamity in our nation and around the world? Has life thrown you an unexpected curve: (sickness, death to a loved one, friend or family member, a financial disaster, family matters, etc.)? Are you weary over personal related matters or filled with turmoil over a fractured relationship? Whatever trouble troubles you---the Lord’s refuge of care and concern is available. But refuge in Christ comes with the price of trust in Him. You will remain vexed if you attempt to give spoken compliance to faith in Jesus, but by your actions, you still strive without surrender to Him. **Trust in God has no accomlice, we turn over our doubts and despairs in exchange for dependence.**

Trust is the hard work of being a surrendered follower of Jesus. When life’s sky is blue, the wind is tame and creation is on our side---we celebrate the beauty of our Lord’s creation. But, when a storm of life is brewing, dark clouds are convening and drops of rain begin to fall---we can still celebrate the trustworthiness of our Savior who walks on the water toward us when the seas of sin are raging, when we have a sinking feeling and are cowered in the corner of our boat of fragile faith. Let Christ care for you, release your fear and receive His courage. Let go of your helium balloon of unbelief before it lifts you away from Christ’s love. Trust your good God, rest in His refuge.

“Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at my mother’s breast.”
(Psalm 22:9)

Application: Ask yourself...‘Where do I need to trust God as my refuge of strength during times of trouble and during uncertain time? What troubles do I need to entrust to the Lord for Him to accomplish His good will in and through me?’

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Dear God, when I am faced with frustration, I pray that I come face-to-face with You. I pray that You will shine on me and inside me taking away any darkness that is held in my consciousness. I pray for You to take away the frustration inside of me, both known and unknown. When I keep in mind that You are working through every situation – despite appearances – I am truly in tune with Divine guidance. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”

“And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King