

Mark 4:24 Amp “And He said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge that comes back to you – and more besides will be given to you who hear.”

There is a fascinating scenario that is always played out by those who call themselves followers of Christ. It always depicts the contrast between the ways of the world, and the ways of God.

In the wisdom of the world, riches and power are always achieved through personal strength, hard work and dedication to self preservation. God's contrast to achieving true wealth and unlimited power, is to give away all strength and submit totally to the power of the Lord. Preserving one's self never enters the picture, in fact He desires us to hold nothing as our own, even our lives.

As the “rattling of swords” becomes louder and louder, the typical worldly reaction would be to look for safe harbor for all of the possessions that hold your attention. The attitude is always one of striving to hold on to as much wealth and safety as you can, to emerge unscathed when it is all over. What is so remarkable is, in the Lord, that attitude is the most dangerous place one could be. It is so foreign to the character of Jesus, that God could not honor it and remain true to His Word.

The first sign of peril, especially on a large scale, is when those who really love their Lord spring into action. They see such times as opportunities to carry the life and love of Jesus to people who may never entertain the possibility of serving Him when things are safe and sane. It is a time when all of the training employed by God before such events become evident in unstoppable power.

Similar to the contrast mentioned above is the different attitudes evident within the body of Christ. There are those who see God only as their provider, protector and implementer of their desires. In contrast, true believers understand the price paid for their salvation and live only to prepare for, and implement, the plans of their Lord.

In the times ahead, one will seek their own safety, finding none, and the other will seek His will, finding safety in His promises.

Just needing to hear and the power to obey – Jim Corbett