

## PASSION WEEK DEVOTIONS -- MONDAY

### WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?

I can't go to work...

I can't sleep...

I must go to work with all these people that I don't know who or what they have been in contact with...

I don't have groceries...

I don't have insurance...

The list is limitless.



Does any of that sound familiar? *We are living in uncertain times for sure.* However, the reality is every day is uncertain. It is simply easier to remember this reality while navigating through a crisis, such as the current pandemic known as COVID-19.

Regardless of whether things are going smoothly in our life or not, every one of us is a phone call away from experiencing the sobering truth that our future is uncertain. Maybe you have had a friend or loved one who, out of the blue, came face to face with a catastrophe? Or on the positive side, you know someone who won the lottery or got an unexpected promotion or unbelievable pay increase?

The writer of Proverbs speaks of how uncertain ALL times are. "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what the day may bring forth." (Proverbs 27:1, NAS) We must not become complacent. We need to be aware of our surroundings in order to make wise and prudent choices and decisions.

James tells us not to deny our abilities or our responsibilities, but to use them for making our decisions. "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.' Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.'" (James 4:13-15, NAS)

Sometimes we have to make decisions without having the relevant information in hand. That's where faith comes in. When we face uncertainty, though, we CAN find peace of mind if we know where to look. The apostle Paul described a firm foundation to live on and a source of peace that no one can take away. "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy

of praise, dwell on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.” (Philippians 4:4-8, NAS)

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believe in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26, NAS) If we will truly believe this in each and every circumstance of life, what have we to fear?

Written by: Tommy Hall (Elder)

Questions to ponder:

- Is my faith strong to make good decisions in uncertain times?
- Am I allowing my circumstances to rob me of my peace of mind?
- What are some things that I can think about (Philippians 4:8) that will restore that peace?