

God's Message of Encouragement for Ian

A dear Brother in Christ called me on the phone and related this to me:

He was reading **2 Timothy 2:1-4** when my name popped into his head. The Holy Spirit then prompted him to call me and encourage me, with this message, to keep doing what I have been doing.

Encouraging Scripture:

2 Timothy 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **2** And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. **3** Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4** No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.

What Happened?

Many of my brothers and sisters in Christ seem to have turned their focus from Kingdom living to worldly living and have become so obsessed with what is going on in the world that the Acts of the flesh ...

Galatians 5:19 **The acts of the flesh** are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; **20** idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions **21a** and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.

... seems to override the Fruit of the Spirit in their daily lives.

Galatians 5:22 **But the fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

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My gentle rebuke

I have been gently rebuking any brother or sister that wants to convince me that Trump or Biden is God's answer for right living. Just because we live in the world, we should not expect that the standard for godly living is represented or set by those 'godly leaders' occupying the White House. No one or nothing in this world should and will replace **Jesus** and His death, burial, resurrection, ascension, advocacy, and imminent return.

My gentle reminder

Let us continue to love and pray for our leaders everywhere, regardless of who they are and what they are doing because the Word of God tells us to. We are able to do what the Word of God says because "Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world" (**1 John 4:4**). Do not allow the thief (devil) to steal, kill, and destroy you (**John 10:10a**), but live life to its fullest in Jesus, our Lord and Savior (**John 10:10b**). Here, again, is what Jesus said in **John 10:10**.

John 10:10 [The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.](#)

My gentle encouragement

While we are in the world, Christians should live as Kingdom citizens of heaven, not ignoring what is going on in the world, but allowing the convicting power of the Holy Spirit to season our conversations in the world with His Salt and illuminate our pathways in the world with His Light. After all, we Christians are the salt of the earth and the light of the world!

This continues to be my message for loving, but distracted, brothers and sisters in Christ.

Matthew 5:13 ["You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.](#)

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Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

My thanks to Father God for sending me a personal word of encouragement

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for sending me this beautiful and encouraging Word (**2 Timothy 2:1-4**) through an obedient brother in Christ. My family and I are so empowered and grateful by what our Father God continues to do in our lives through Jesus, our Lord and Savior, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, our Helper, as we live as soldiers in the Kingdom of God in a world searching for answers.

God's Scripture for me

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