

EXCERPTS FROM

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THE
LINK

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(EVANGELICAL)

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"And he said also to the people, when ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?"
Lk 12. V 54 - 57.

Thus spoke the Lord to the men of His day, but these words come to us over nineteen hundred years later with even greater meaning than when they were first spoken - How is it that ye do not discern this time? The times in which we live are grave indeed. Events and practices which have paralleled those of this day, have ever and always in the past suffered the judgement of Almighty God. Yet we fail to appreciate as we should the seriousness of all that is around us. Why? Is it because they have crept upon us so slowly that we failed to notice their arrival? - there could be a little truth in this, but the real reason is the blindness of the unbeliever, and the numbed, and sometimes seared conscience of the Christian. Over the past few generations there has in this land been a gradual whittling away of

Christian foundations. The debunking of God, the rejection of the supernatural, the overthrow of belief in the authority of the Bible, the destruction of vital truth. The teaching of the devilish theory of evolution, the overthrow of moral standards, replacing them with loose-living, promiscuity, free-love, fornication, adultery, homosexuality. Long accepted standards based upon God's moral code, scorned and discarded, and the flood gates swung wide open to permit the foul stinking water of corruption and depravity to come surging in. All this plus lawlessness, violence and anarchy. Such is the state of the world in our times. What of the church? Her state is none the less tragic. A growing spirit of apostacy (departing from revealed truth). The mixture of Romanists, modernists and evangelicals (although they have no right to the name) joining together for certain enterprises and so causing nothing but confusion. The inroads of liberalism and modernism into the circles of true evangelicals. The failure of men to uncompromisingly proclaim the whole counsel of God. The evangelism of easy-believism. To use the words of Walter Chantry in his book "Today's Gospel" he says "Such evangelism produces illegitimate children - though faith seems to be their mother,

repentance, issuing in a forsaking of sin, and a life of obedience, is evidently not their father".

In-it-to-win-it is the plan of much of the with-it evangelism of our times, so worldliness invades the church. Then at the other end of the scale there is the holding that, to proclaim sound doctrine is the cure-all for all the maladies of the church, this too, of itself can be dangerous, for it is fearfully easy to orthodox but lifeless. The head and the heart must both be right before God.

Now to come back to our scripture in Lk ch. 12. How is it that we cannot discern these perilous times? If we really realised the depths of the corruption that is all around us, and the stench that is ascending to heaven from all the decay of "THIS TIME" and the inevitable judgement which is almost upon us, which will engulf all mankind, including members of our own families if they have repented not, again I say, if this truth really gripped us, it would have the same effect upon us as did the warning of God to Abraham concerning Sodom's overthrow. Gen.18 v 22 - 23. Abraham stood before the Lord, Abraham drew near and prayed. Brethren and sisters

as we enter 1973 let us stand together
in true fellowship, and may the Lord
grant His grace and "TRUE DISCERNMENT
OF THE TIMES" which shall result in
intercessory prayer and loyal support
to God-honouring, Christ-exalting,
dignified preach of the Word of God.
YEA, AND WHY EVEN OF YOURSELVES JUDGE
YE NOT WHAT IS RIGHT? LK 12 V 57.

We "Link" in our thoughts again
our brethren and sisters who are
unable to meet with us. We assure you
that none of you are forgotten, never
do we gather for prayer and not pray
for you. What a wonderful thing is
Christian fellowship. Summed up so
beautifully in Wesley's hymn:

Blest be the dear uniting love,
That will not let us part,
Our bodies may far off remove,
We still are one in heart.

Joined in one spirit to our Head,
Where He appoints we go,
And still in Jesu's footsteps
tread,
And show His praise below.

Oh may we ever walk in Him
And nothing know beside,
Nothing desire, nothing esteem
But Jesus crucified.

Closer and closer let us cleave
To His beloved embrace;
Expect His fulness to receive,
And grace to answer grace.

Partakers of the Saviour's grace,
The same in mind and heart,
Nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor
place,
Nor life, nor death, can part."

May the GRACE of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the LOVE of God, the FELLOWSHIP of
the Holy Ghost be with you always.

W.H.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

It was a great joy to welcome into
fellowship at the end of the summer
our young brother, Mr. Peter Woolway
from Taunton, who has taken up a
teaching appointment at Grenville
College. We pray God's richest
blessing upon his work and witness.