

Christian Seeking Identity

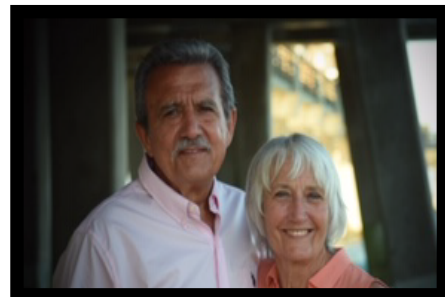
A Ministry of Alpha & Omega International Ministries

August 2020.

Greeting Family & Friends,

We certainly trust in the Lord that you and your entire family are in the best of health, staying safe and in spite of everything happening, maintaining the attitude that you are blessed of the Lord. In the eastern part of the United States (with the exception of the skirting of the hurricane Isaias) the heat has been really setting records and drying out things for the farmers and their crops. We are praying for rain and for the cooling breeze of the Holy Spirit over our entire land. Being in the midst of everything going on in the world we (the children of God) need to remain focused on our Lord and Savior and His Word. This leads me to what Suzan focuses on, in this month's message entitled "Don't Be Offended" from John 16:1. We pray that it will be an inspiration to you in your daily walk with the Lord. Suzan and I would also like to say again, Thank You for your faithful prayers and support. Regardless of the fact that we have not been able to travel abroad, the pandemic has not kept us from being able to minister to congregations and pastors via zoom and to help ministries in different places around the globe. For example: the building of a school for children in Zambia, the feeding of forty five plus hungry families in Hyderabad, India and feeding of pastors and families in Ecuador. And this has all been made possible by your faithful prayers and giving.

God Bless you!
Your friends,
Mickey & Suzan



Don't be Offended

"These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. **(Stumble, blown off course)**" (John 16:1)

In John 15 Jesus tells us that Christians will be unjustly hated and persecuted by people in the world who do not know the Father's heart. But He also promised to pour out the spirit of truth upon us in order that we might see the truth for what it is so that we could be witnesses of the truth about God to a world desperately looking for it. John 15:26-27

It is easy to get caught up in what is going on; it is easy to become angry and want to lash out at the people who are inciting all of the turmoil these days. But that is not what God would have us do because that is not where His heart is. Psalms 103 reveals the deepest level of God's heart. I encourage you to read it all for yourself and memorize it! He is merciful and gracious; slow to anger and plenteous in mercy.

God's kind of judgement does not deal with people according to their sins nor does He deal with them based on their behavior. He understands man's weaknesses. God is primarily interested in delivering people from the oppression of the enemy that drives their erratic behavior.

"The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed." (Psalms 103:6)

The word oppressed according to the Greek means to be deprived of One's intended inheritance by deceit. Just for an example, let's look at a specific group of people that this deceit is adversely affecting in a big way. It seems like a large majority of the people behind a lot of the violence and rioting that is going on in the world and especially in the United States these days belong to what society has termed as generation Z. This generation includes children born after 1996. Why do they think like they think? What has happened to them that has caused them to turn against the church and society? It is simple!

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They have been lied to! They have turned against the god of their parents because all they have been exposed to is the legalistic “religious” side of Christianity that does not produce what it promises to produce and they are not buying into it. Their education has been infiltrated by a left-sided point view that is anti-God and leans toward socialism. And their parents have become increasingly permissive and overprotective in an attempt to protect them from what is happening in the world! They have been given more than any other generation without having to work for it. They have no experience in the horrors of the past. They weren’t even old enough to be traumatized by the twin tower fiasco!

This generation has no idea that they are playing into the hands of a deadly enemy who wants to deprive them of their God-given inheritance. But God knows exactly what the problem is and He wants to redeem their lives from destruction. The only way to do that is to change what they believe at the heart level and that takes the work of the Holy Spirit! Jesus did the work of the Father. When he was crucified the words that came out of his mouth were, “Father forgive them for they know not what they do”. Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit. He was filled with the Father’s compassion and he recognized the source of their behavior.

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." (Acts 10:38)

Jesus handed over the “deliverance baton” to us. He said in John 20:21-23, I have poured out my spirit on you so you can take up my work! God said pray for the people in authority; intercede with compassion for all men because I would have all men to be saved. Lift up your hands on their behalf without wrath and doubting! Don’t let anger get the best of you and ruin your witness. Don’t become offended! 1 Timothy 2:1-9. This generation came to the conclusions they came to honestly! That’s what they were taught and we are partly to blame! The only way to reverse what is written on their hearts is for them to get a revelation of the truth about God because that is the only thing that can set them free. God wants to reveal himself to them, and our witness of the truth is critical.



Psa 103:2-5 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

(On left: Food sacks [which your donations provided] with Vegetables, Fruits, Eggs, Bread and Milk for hungry families in Hyderabad, India.)
Thank You!