Daily Devotional, November 23, 2020

"Discern This Time", (Luke 12:54-56, NKJV)

"Then He also said to the multitudes, "Whenever you see a cloud rising out of the west, immediately you say, 'A shower is coming'; and so it is. And when you see the south wind blow, you say, 'There will be hot weather'; and there is. Hypocrites! You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it you do not discern this time?"" (Luke 12:54-56)

The multitudes had the ability to do rudimentary weather forecasting, but they could not discern the signs of their time. "The time of visitation" from God was upon Israel (Luke 19:44). Her Messiah had come. Yet the people failed to accept the uniqueness of their day, and welcome their Messiah as the royal Sovereign King.

May God's church be as "the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do" (1 Chronicles 12:32). Christian friend, do you "discern this time?" The hour of our Lord's return is nearer than ever. Time is running shorter, and time stops for no man. This is the time to pray. This is the time to get more serious about Bible reading and study. This is the time to share the hope of the gospel and the peace that God has given you in your heart. This is the time to win souls. Have you observed the way that certain governments have enacted onerous legal restrictions against public worship of our God? Religious freedom is constitutionally guaranteed in America, but there are those who wish to relegate both constitution and Bible to the ash heap of history. May the children of God "discern this time" and redeem it. We have wasted enough time 'playing church' and taking our faith and our Savior for granted. The professing church has entertained the masses and did what passed for fellowship, but is not really so, long enough in Christ's name. In this way many have taken His name in vain. It's time to get serious and sober-minded, and live out our faith like never before.