

## AN ENCOURAGING WORD FOR TROUBLING TIMES #134 (by Rev. Dr. Alice Wolfe, 11/4/20)

### “Jesus Is Lord!”

In the times of the early church (first century A.D.), Christ-followers faced horrible persecution. The kings often declared they were lord of all. Roman Emperor Domitian (that some called a madman) believed he was God—not just any god, but the “Lord of Lords, and King of Kings,” the Lord and King over all others. When Christians refused to say, “Caesar is Lord,” they were killed (and not in kind ways). And yet, despite the terrible times and appalling persecution they faced, they remained faithful to Jesus.

My friends, our nation is facing trying and tenuous times. Even with all the challenges, we, the followers of Christ, need to keep reminding ourselves that regardless of who is President of the United States, Jesus is the King of King and Lord of Lords.

“They [evil kings of this world] will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb [Jesus] will triumph over them because he is LORD of lords and KING of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.” (Revelation 17:14, NIV)

Even though Satan still battles against Jesus, Jesus already won the war when he died on the cross and rose from the dead. Even though we still have less than godly rulers in this world, Jesus still reigns! Even though we face trying times, Jesus is still with us—and he will never leave us or forsake us. Just as he helped the early Christians face terrible trials, Jesus will help us—no matter what we face or who is President. We need to remember that.

We also need to remember that if Jesus truly is our Lord and King, then we should act like it. If others are grieving or upset about who wins the election, we should show God’s love by listening, caring, and not arguing or judging. If you are grieving or upset, show God’s love by not speaking badly about or taking out your anger on others. Regardless of who wins, God calls us to follow Jesus’ example to proclaim good news to the poor, proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, and to set the oppressed free (Luke 4:18). Regardless of who wins, God calls us to love and serve our neighbors as ourselves. Why?

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:35, NIV)

When we love each other, especially if we disagree, people see Jesus’ love in us—and then hopefully, they will come to know Jesus living in us! Let us live as children of the King of kings and Lord of Lords—so that all may become children of God and citizens of God’s kingdom! Let us show the world how loving and awesome our God is!

#### PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving us and never giving up on us! We pray for healing and hope for our nation, and for wisdom for our President and all national leaders. Whether we agree or disagree with our (new or returning) President, we pray for him. Let us pray that he will seek you and your guidance in all his decisions. We commit ourselves to you—to follow your example of love and service. Help us be aware of the ways we can help and serve others and show your love to them. Help us, in all we are and do and say, be a witness of you and your love so others will know you! To you be all the glory, now and forever! We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus, the King of kings and Lord of lords! Amen.



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