**These Perilous Times**

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**Loyalty To Whom?**

**(Part III)**

 As we commemorate “Black History Month,” let us remember those faithful men and women who risked their lives daily, and stood up for the rights of ***all people*** when it was not, and in some places still not “Politically Correct.” I am speaking about ***Loyal Patriots*** who fought to preserve equality for **all people**!

 In 1976 President Gerald Ford officially recognized February as “Black history Month” to honor the accomplishments of black Americans in all aspects through the ages. Let us remember “the powers that be” endorsed efforts to prevent early black pioneers i.e. Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglas, Booker T. Washington, Martin Luther King Jr., and many others from the long and hard quest to achieve freedom, education, equality, and civil rights.

 George Santayana, a Spanish philosopher is credited with the phrase; *“those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”*  Knowledge of history is important because it helps one understand how past events shape the present and future. Be mindful of modern day “powers that be” who are attempting to obliterate American history.

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

**Question:** What would be your response if by the authority of the U.S. government,” you were forbidden to read the Bible, and share its contents with others? During the “Dark Ages,” at the hands of the Roman Church many gave their lives for religious freedom and the rights of conscience to read and interpret God ‘s sacred Word for themselves. [[1]](#footnote-1) During the 1800’s African Americans were forbidden to read, however, many secretly read and found solace in God’s Word, their only hope from their oppressors! Today, we are called to be **disciples of Christ**-not politicians!

**Good news from Jesus**

“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ***if you abide in My word****, you are my disciples indeed****. And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free*.”**

 I John 8:21, 32 NKJV (Emphasis supplied)

 “The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us… (See Rev. 13:1-18; 14:6-12). Those *who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and confirmed to worldly customs will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be*, rather than subject themselves to derision (contempt), insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the **commandments of God** and the commandments of men. *In this time the gold will be separated from the dross* ***in the church****…*” [[2]](#footnote-2) (Emphasis supplied).

 My good friends, **TODAY** is the day of **SALVATION** (II Cor. 6:2). **NOW** is the time to study God’s word and share its contents with others. The Bible reveals that a time of trouble is coming, more horrific than anything this world has ever witnessed (see Dan. 12:1, 2). Do not let God’s Word be silenced! Time is short, the gospel needs to go to all the world. Let us be true **Christian patriots**, ***loyal to our high calling*** and finish the work, letting our lights shine for God’s Glory!



1. John Foxe. Foxe’s Christian Martyrs of the World, Uhrichsville, OH, 1959. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. E. G. White. Last Day Events, pp.173, 174. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)