**These Perilous Times**

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**“Jesus said, Follow Me”**

**Part II**

*“You shall not circulate a false report*. *Do not put your hand with the wicked* to be an *unrighteous witness*. You *shall not follow* a *crowd to do evil*; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to *turn aside* *after many* to pervert justice.” Exodus 23:1, 2 NKJV (Emphasis supplied)

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

 Some of us may be familiar with the “some-what” archaic term, “mob mentality.” Two terms that clearly define the cliché I just mentioned are gullible, and/or naïve. However, no one that I know likes to be unpopular. We all like to identify with a “winning team,” perhaps, irrespective of the cost thereof!

 After all, many have been conditioned to believe, “when in Rome do as the Romans do.”

 In the previous texts Moses admonishes the Hebrews not to raise a *false report* or becoming *unrighteous (false) witnesses*, *siding with the wicked* or *following* a *crowd* (multitude/mob) *to do evil*. Do you remember who led the charge to Golgotha’s hill, recommending the crucifixion of our Lord?

“Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the son of man *shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes,* *and they shall condemn Him to death, and shall deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock, and scourge, and to crucify Him*: and the third day he shall rise again.”

Matthew 20:18, 19 KJV (Italics supplied)

“…*Then the multitude*, crying aloud, began to ask him to do just as he has always done for them. “But Pilot answered them, saying, do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews? For he knew that *the chief priest* had handed Him over *because of envy*. *But* ***the* *chief******priest stirred up the crowd****,* so that he should rather release Barabbas to them. Pilate answered and said to them again, what then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews? *So they cried out again*, Crucify Him! Then Pilate said to them, why, what evil has he done? *But they cried out all the more*, Crucify Him!”

Mark 15:8-14 NKJV (Emphasis supplied)

**Another important history lesson**

 Jim Jones, a *charismatic* “religious leader” of the “People’s Temple” (Church of Christ), and self-proclaimed Messiah mesmerically, brain-washed his gullible followers, using “group think” manipulation

(an acceptable “type” of operate, and classical conditioning) leading them to believe many uncorroborated Bible teachings. He promised his followers a utopia, apart from the world and mainstream Christianity in Jonestown, French Guyana (which he founded). However, those lies that his naïve crowd of followers chose to believe eventually caused over 900 souls to participate in a “forced suicide” on Nov. 18, 1978.

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter.” Isa. 5:20 KJV

“Jesus said to him, ***I am*** the way, ***the truth***, and ***the life***, No one comes to the Father, ***except through Me***.”

 John 14:6 NKJV (Emphasis supplied)

Amen**!**