

Faithful Endurance

It is very understandable if any of us have begun to feel that we have been abandoned by God as we hear of the deaths from Covid-19 here in Wales the UK and all the other nations of the world.

This Coronavirus pandemic is a fearful thing, bringing death, disability, loss of earnings and seriously damaging businesses and world economies. So how should we as Christians respond?

Certainly, we can be thoughtful towards our neighbours, watching out for those who need shopping and other essential supplies, but many other people of other faiths and those who do not profess a faith are doing that right now. We, followers of the way of Christ (Christians), are called to endure through trials such as this sustained by our faith. We may feel that our faith is not strong enough, or that we personally are not good enough to deserve God's mercy, but Jesus Christ has brought salvation to all believers. Even those who fail him. You just need to ask for His forgiveness and the way to salvation is open.

Revelation 2.1–7

2 'To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

2 'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. 3 I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

5 Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. 6 Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7 Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

Closing message:

It may seem to you that we have been in lockdown for a long time and it will be sometime yet before we can be all together again for regular worship in our churches, but remember God does not need a building. Jesus promised his followers that He would NOT abandon them when he ascended into heaven. So BELIEVE JESUS, you know He spoke the truth, His life and teachings are always there in Scripture to guide us and the Holy Spirit has been sent to support us. Just speak to him in prayer.

With prayers and blessings,

Trevor