PRAYER CORNER

"He replied to them, 'Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming I am he' and, 'the time is near. Do not follow them. When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." **Luke 21:8-9**

Jesus was explaining to His disciples the signs of the end of the age. He declared that we will hear about wars (many we have already known about in our history), and that nations and kingdoms will rise against nations and kingdoms. In verse 10, Jesus said, " . . *There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven."* (Verse 11)

As we have for a very long time seen beginnings of what is described in Matthew, Mark and Luke, we must diligently be on watch and keep praying, as His Word says. We are seeing now in our time divisions and unrest in our own nation, rumors, threats of wars around the globe and increased persecutions of Christians in many places; we've experienced several recent hurricanes, fires in the western United States and earthquakes in Mexico. All of these things should be a reminder that increasing chaos and disturbances will come. If we regularly read, study the Word of God and keep praying as these and other things are revealed to us, we will not be taken by surprise when we face the "end of days" or the "Day of the Lord," when Jesus Christ comes again. As we are praying, remember needs of those who are affected by the devastations in recent weeks as well as the increasing reports of Christian persecutions. Our prayers should also be expressed by the Will of God. Reading His Word is vital to certainty in prayer for the things that are His perfect will. Watch and pray!

"Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."
Psalm 37:4-6

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