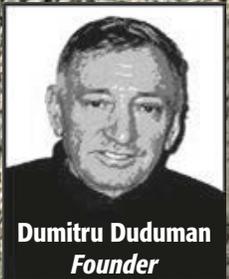


Hand of
HELP

From **HIM**

Through You



December 2021

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James 1:27 "Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."



✦ *Mark 9:41 "For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."* ✦



Mark 16:15 "And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.'"



Matthew 25:40 "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."





Dear Brethren,

I've never been a fan of the unnecessarily complicated. I think it's why I despise Ikea furniture so much. If what should take three steps ends up taking twelve, I'm more likely than not to press the eject button. That's just one step, it saves me the other eleven, and I can get on with my day.

Perhaps overcomplicating things is just human nature. Whether the reason for doing so is self-importance, boredom, or justifying the cost of something, it always ends up a tangled mess awash in disappointment. We've all seen it at some point. From the twelve-week real estate courses promising to make you a millionaire, to the overly excited ladies promising to get you to your goal weight if you follow their step-by-step instructions, simplicity has fallen out of favor.

For whatever reason, the household of faith seems to have gotten into the act, and every five seconds, there is a new theory, a new angle, a new cataclysmic event on the horizon, presented in such a way as to elicit a specific response. Usually, the response it aims to elicit is fear because fear has a way of creating the necessary brain fog to make people do things against their self-interest, but of late, it's been nonstop, full throttle, all gas, no brake.

Due to the never-ending stream of gaslighting and fear-mongering, many even within the church have lost sight of the essential things and the things that truly matter. We're so busy being afraid of our own shadows that we've forgotten Jesus came to set us free, and that includes being set free from fear.

Maybe I'm just preaching to the choir here, but given the season, I'd like to reiterate something simply and succinctly: Jesus, the Christ, was born of a virgin in the town of Bethlehem, the Son of God made flesh. He was, is, and is to come, and we have life everlasting in Him. We do not fear for tomorrow, for



He has already made a way for us.

That's it! Everything else is noise, and if that noise unsettles you, or makes you feel ill at ease, tune it out. We know what the future holds; the Bible lays it out, and there is no way around it. The Bible also reassures the children of God that when they walk through the fire, they will not be burned, and though they pass through the waters He will be with them.

I've always found it interesting that it was a matter of when and not if, but that's a discussion for another time. For now, I leave you with the peace that surpasses all understanding. May it guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulders. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

With love in Christ,

Michael Boldea, Jr.