

THE TIME FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGING OF THE TRUTH

Copyright Matthew Verschuur. Originally published in The Protector, 11/9/2006.

It may seem as though people are not acknowledging the truth, but God has promised that the truth should be present, and that there should be a response to it, even a great response.

God's will is declared in 1 Timothy 2:4, where it says, "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." Just because God wills all men to be saved does not mean that all men are going to be saved. We know that God's will is done, "Thy will be done" (see Luke 11:2). The work of salvation has been accomplished for all, but not all people are receiving it. God's will or desire is for people to respond to Him, but He knows that some are rebellious. However, God is not holding back entry into salvation. He has opened the way for "whosoever will" (see Revelation 22:17).

God wants people to come to the knowledge of the truth. The Spirit of God is present in the Earth, and He is showing people the truth. He is empowering the Church to bring forth the words of the Gospel. He is working to awaken the conscience of man, for it to discern properly between right and wrong. No matter how much people might try to fight it, or change laws, or whitewash the Bible, or ignore it, the work of the Spirit by preaching the Word is able to reach the conscience of man.

"For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Timothy 2:5, 6). It may seem like there is darkness, that things are getting worse, that preaching is ineffective and that almost no one is even beginning to match up with God's good will. However, the Bible shows that Christ is "to be testified in due time" (1 Timothy 2:6b).

There is a time when the Gospel is to be well known. The prophecy is not speaking of false or watered down "gospels", but is showing that there is to be a wide and mighty declaration of the truth. The result of this is that many people would respond to the truth. There is no time in history where all men had the opportunity to come to the truth.

In the time of the Early Church, preaching of the Gospel was occurring in Judea, and then mainly within the Roman Empire. While this was a time of powerful increase, it was also limited. In the time of the Reformation, the preaching of the Gospel was occurring throughout Europe and in other places, but there were still whole areas where the Gospel did not reach, or where there was effective opposition. Therefore, the Scripture shows that there is required to be another time of increase for Christianity, and that this would be the movement that would bring the Gospel to every place in the whole world.

Someone might say that missionaries have gone to many places. However, all of the Christian witness that has occurred to the present time is not enough yet, because the Christianity has either suffered much reversal, or else has in whole sections been a weak or false form of it.

Praying “For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” (1 Timothy 2:2). The signs of this great Christian witness and refreshing are that whole nations are effected with their God appointed leaders, that Christians produce many fruits of blessing, and that people continue in the way of life without compromising or falling away.