*Monday, August 27, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Philippians 3:13-15 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (15) Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. (KJV)

This week our goal is to find some comfort in the scriptures; something to look forward to, knowing that your life here is temporary followed by an eternity of joy and peace. Looking behind you, thinking if only I could change something, will not profit you in your walk in the Spirit; rather it will just add some unnecessary spiritual weight to your backpacks. In this election year there is not much to look forward to because man thinks that they can solve spiritual problems with carnal answers, which will never work. So why not look above and quit settling for something here in this realm that you think could ever fulfill a spiritual need.

Colossians 3:1-4 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. (2) Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. (3) For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. (4) When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. (KJV)

Now that you have been born again you should be seeking the things of the realm above and not looking below here any longer. God does bless His people while they are in this realm, but the best is yet to come Church which is the only place that you will find true comfort. As you can see in verse 4 that when Christ makes His appearance known, well those that know Him will be right there beside Him.

1Thessalonians 4:14-16 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. (15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. (16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (KJV)

You know these events we see spoken of by Paul the Apostle are considered good news to the Church, intended to bring comfort in these last days. These events are sometimes referred to as the rapture which takes the Church away before the wrath of God is poured out, also known as the seven year tribulation period. A lot of controversy surrounds these events; however, the scriptures are quite clear to those that have the eyes of their understanding enlightened so that they can rightly divide the word of truth.

1Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words. (KJV)

I personally take comfort in the fact that when things hit the proverbial fan so to speak, well I have a ticket stamped for the balcony section and not the lower front row. We which are alive in the realm of the Spirit, knowing who we are in Christ, have a way of escape provided for us; while those of the world will suffer through the tribulation. The only true comfort that you will find is in the truth that sets you free from fear and torment.