

Preparing for Troubling Times

1 Corinthians 16:8-9; 13-14

WHAT DO WE DO IN TIMES OF TROUBLE?

1. Be alert, watchful. 1 Cor 16:13
 - Planned and prepared. Mt 25:10f, 10:16
 - All the while serving. Mark 13:34-37
 - Time of heightened prayer. Rev 8:3-4, Col 4:3
 - And fasting. Matt 4:2 (Jesus); 6:16-18; Acts 13:2 (church); Acts 14:23 (Paul and Barnabas praying over elders in

BE ALERT TO THE “OPEN DOORS”

- The “wide door of effective ministry” v 16:8-9 and Acts 19.
 1. 12 men baptized. Acts 19:5
 2. Extraordinary healings with demonic spirits “going out.” Acts 19:11-12
 3. Magic books burned by people. Acts 19:19
- 7 Jewish exorcists subdued by a demon possessed man. 19:13f

HOW DID PAUL HEAR GOD SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT EPHESUS?

- Acts 19:1, Paul is “passing through Ephesus”
 - Matt 28:19-20 (As you are going...)
- 1 Cor 16:5-8. Paul is not sure what is in his future, but he knows the Lord will not permit what is not His will. (v 7)
- Adversaries. Demetrius. Acts 19:26-27

WHAT DO WE DO IN TIMES OF TROUBLE?

2. Stand firm in the faith:

- Assumes an opposing force, a “trouble.”
 - John 16:32-33, Rev 2:8-10, Acts 14:22
- Remember the prior works and promises of God. 1 Cor 15:1-5
- Remember whose you are and who He is and His redeeming promises. Rom 8:28

SOME END-TIMES EVENTS

- Last day's apostasy. 2 Thess 2:2-3
- Lawlessness increases, love grows cold. Matt 24:11-13
- Time of Jacob's trouble (distress) Jeremiah 30:7
- Violent false religion will have dominion over the earth and Christians will be overcome. Daniel 7:7-8, 19-21, Rev 13:7-8; Nazarenes in Iraq



00

عقاران الدولة الامية
ن

ن

٩٤٥

٤

٨٥٠

Arabic Letter “Noon” or
“N” for Nazarene -
Christian



Three options for Christians
who do not flee in Mosul:

1. Convert to Islam
2. Pay the “religion tax, the
humiliation tax”
3. Die

WHAT DO WE DO IN TIMES OF TROUBLE?

3. Act like men, be strong. (NIV – “courageous”)
 - Pray for spiritual strength equal to the test.
 - Eph 3:16-19
 - Oswald Chambers, 8/2

WHAT DO WE DO IN TIMES OF TROUBLE?

4. Do everything in love.
 - Presumption of two or more gathered in His name.
 - Matt 18:20, 1 Cor 12:13, 26-27