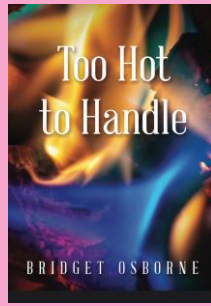




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## WHAT SHALL WE DO?

Dear Chosen One: When situations get out of control in the church or in society, Christians normally ask the church, **what shall we do?** I believe it is unfair to ask the church this question without conveying the problems that we are facing both in and outside the church. Today, I want to address the Body of Christ. Yes! Believers.

We are surrounded by evil forces. Many people are engaging in sexual immorality and, as a result, many organizations have gained some common ground—equal rights. The government is building prisons, incarcerating more minorities than liberating them. Violence has increased in many communities. Many churches are compromising God's Word to gain a larger congregation. They are teaching unscriptural, messages such as: We are all God's children. No one will go to hell. There are many other ways to reach God without accepting Jesus-His Son, and you can buy miracles, healings or God's blessings by giving a large offering. These are all lies.

Many godly people are turning away from following and serving the True and Living God. Inflation has increased, but wages have decreased. Unemployment is high. Many families have lost their homes. Many believers have even lost their desire to return to the church for cooperate worship. A great number of children are disrespecting their parents. Some fathers are neglecting their fatherly duties, and some mothers have taken on the role of being their children's friend instead of their parent. Society has thrown moral and godly values aside and many Christians are **not** seeking their divine purpose in life.

These are only some of the problems that we are facing. **What shall we do?**

Fear Not! David says, **"Do not fret because of evil men or women and don't be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away."** (Psalm 37: 1-20) The Body of Christ has POWER, but many Christians are responding in FEAR and crying out in panic, asking what shall we do when a crisis arises. The Bible says, **"For God did not give us a spirit of Fear but of POWER, LOVE, and SELF-DISCIPLINE."** (2 Timothy 1:7).

The Bible also tells us godlessness will increase in the last days. **"There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. (This quote ended with six more words) Have nothing to do with them."** (2 Timothy 3:1-5) **WOW!** Who was Paul talking about? He was speaking to both Christians and unbelievers.

As a Christian you may ask why should I stop talking or associating with my friends who are not Christians? The Bible says, **"Bad company corrupts good character."** (1 Cor 15:33.) I am not

## FEAR NOT, AND TRUST GOD!

suggesting that you stop talking with your worldly friends, but I am suggesting that you get rooted and grounded in the Word of God so you will be able to witness more effectively to your friends who are not Christian. Many of you are poor examples of Christ (Carnal Christians) and your friends are not buying what you are selling, and rejecting what you are offering. Too many unprepared Christians are trying to witness to their worldly friends with no positive impact or help from the Holy Spirit. As a matter of fact, these carnal Christians' friends have negatively influenced them and led them farther away from the church and their belief. Instead, the devil was able to yoke them with their unbeliever friends and separated both of them from the church (2 Cor 6:14.)'

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church, he told them I am not telling you **not** to associate with those (unbelievers] who are in the world, because if I did, you would have to leave this world. But I am telling you to not associate with that person who calls him or herself a Christian but lives and behaves like, or worse than those who are in the world. In fact, Paul says, do not even eat with that person. We have no business judging those in the world who are not part of the Body of Christ. However, as Christians we do have the right to judge those who are amongst us. God will judge those outside of the Church. (1 Cor 5:9-13)

This warning, "**Have nothing to do with them**" is for those individuals who are claiming to be Christians but have no form of holiness. Those outside of the Church have exercised their free will and made the choice to live their lives without Christ. Jesus says, "**My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me**" (John 10:27).

When the Israelites were rebelling against God, King Solomon sought direction from God and God appeared to Solomon and said, "**If my people who are called by my Name will HUMBLE themselves, PRAY and SEEK my face and TURN from their WICKED WAYS, then I will hear from heaven**

**and will forgive their sins and will heal their land**" (2 Chron 7:14). People of God, our land needs healing. The sad thing about it is that many people do not want to humble themselves, pray, seek God, nor turn from their wicked ways. They are comfortable living according to their own standards and their empty prayers are not being heard.

Proverbs 14:12 says, "**There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death.**" **What shall we do?** As Christians we must know the Word, believe the Word and trust the Word. John says, "**In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God**" (John 1:1.) Therefore, when we know the Word, we know God. When we believe in the Word, we believe God, when we stand on the Word, we are standing on God's foundation—His Word, and when we trust the Word, we are trusting God.

The Church has POWER, but in order for it to manifest, the church must be united in the Spirit. Many churches have settled for physical unity instead of a spiritual connection. Christians coming together in large numbers is not unity. A large congregation is not unity. Christians performing more duties in the church, is not unity. Unity has become difficult to accomplish in many Churches because most people have their own agenda when they come to church. The Holy Spirit will come and empower the Church when the church is in one accord, united with the Holy Spirit and everyone has one common motive.

**What shall we do?** Let your light shine so others can see Christ in you! Use your gifts wisely to serve others! Study the Word of God, be on guard and stand firm in your beliefs! Be strong in the Lord, do everything in love. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal (2 Cor 4:18b) Pray without ceasing! Trust God with all your heart! Remember "**The meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace**" (Psalm 37:11.) We can still reach this goal!

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