Church of

THE LATE RAYMOND C. COLE® FOUNDING PASTOR
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PASTOR, DIRECTOR

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Dear Brethren:

Greetings, with much hope that God has been with you all this time and you too are trying your best to do the will of God in your lives.

Do you think you will get praises from the people you are close to? David spoke of what was to happen to Jesus Christ though Christ was not yet born.

But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver . . . (Psalm 22:6–8).

And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God (Matthew 27:39–43).

This was said to Christ while He was hanging on a tree. He was scorned by men (Psalm 109:25).

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not (Isaiah 53:3).

How much less man, that is a worm? And the son of man, which is a worm? (Job 25:6).

If you are a remnant believer who loves and is keeping the faith once delivered, passionately following the Truth; if you are one who walks the highway of holiness, the narrow path, keeping Monday Pentecost, and are against divorce and remarriage, you will be scorned by the people who are against the faith once delivered.

You will experience the same rejection that Jesus Himself felt and received. You will receive reproach, you will be despised and rejected, and you will be judged, scorned and ridiculed by the world. You will be abhorred; you will be loathed.

Many churches of God members do not understand this basic principle. You cannot ever compromise with the world. Many are trying to bring the world into the church. That is why they walk as the world walks, they eat as the world, they preach worldly doctrine, coating it as the Word of God. They bring worldliness and defile the pure Truth.

God gave the church pure and undefiled Truth. Yet men who were liberals changed it, and those who were against changes were scorned and are still being scorned. God wants believers to be separated. They are to be set apart and consecrated holy unto the Lord.

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD (Isaiah 52:11).

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them (Ephesians 5:11).

The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light (Romans 13:12).

We are in the time when the remnant is to keep looking for the soon-coming Kingdom of God—no matter how much scorn they get, no matter the rejection they feel from others. The remnant are those who have been kicked out of the parent church, those who were discarded and dismissed. They are those who have been rejected for their stand on Truth and the faith once delivered (Jude 3–4).

The Apostle Paul gave this warning to the church. Few were the ones who heard that warning—the majority did not.

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy [Spirit] hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears (Acts 20:28–31).

God is still keeping a remnant even in such a time as this. You are His own, those who are on the front line to defend the faith once delivered, those who are ready to be scorned, those who laid down their lives for Christ, those who take up the sword of the Spirit, those who stand on the promises of God, and those who are bold because they know for sure that God gave His Truth once.

If you try to hide away from the scorn of men, then God is not inspiring you, and you are not part of His true remnant now.

The Apostle Paul said:

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us (2 Timothy 2:9–12).

Our Savior was scorned. Jesus did not do any evil, but He went through many things in this world. They spit upon Him, they mocked Him and they smote Him.

And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross (Matthew 27:30–32).

All of these examples come under the category of: *scorn of people*. Even we who are now in this remnant group are being scorned by people, but we cannot give up. We are to be strong in the Lord because we know our reward is waiting for us. Soon, and very soon, the Rewarder will come and He will reward those who did not shy away when they were scorned by people. Job once lamented, "My friends scorn me: but mine eye poureth out tears unto God" (Job16:20).

When Jesus told the church to overcome, He knew that scorners would come to mock His church—those who remain faithful to His Word.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. . . . He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. . . . He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. . . . And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26).

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. . . . Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. . . . To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne (Revelation 3:5, 12, 21).

We are approaching the end times and many things are happening in this world. We need not be afraid of those who are out to scorn us. These are part of the tribulation that the people of God must go through. Weeping overnight, but joy comes in the morning.

Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly (Proverbs 3:34).

It is now up to you and me to decide where we stand. Will we hide when we are scorned or will we stand still no matter what people say about us? The world now is a mess. Many do not like to stand for God. They stand for the world because they like everything in the world, which the Bible warns us about.

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever (1 John 2:15–17).

We know many who were with us but because of the love of the world and the deceitfulness of riches, they abandoned the revealed Truth and now follow after wealth—mammon.

The seed sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful (Matthew 13:22).

May we stand still to keep the faith, defend it and hold on to it knowing that our reward awaits us when our King will be calling our names.

Yours in the service of our soon-coming King,

Isaya Owak

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