

Concord Ministry

Post Office Box 28205

Baltimore MD 21234

H - 410-661-1763 C - 443-813-8077

ConcordDove@mac.com

<http://TheSignOfConcord.com>

"If you want Peace, seek Justice for all

Walk in Righteousness, depending on the Love and Spirit of Christ, as His servant forever"

HOLY WEEK

March 28, 2015

Dear Friends in Christ,

God is a Saving God. The Father in Heaven who loves all His creation, every one of His children, passionately. He knows better than we do the power of evil, the demonic hatred that tries to harm Him by destroying those He loves. Understand, realize the evil that assaults you from outside and from within is not directed to harm you. We are not the target, our creator God is. We do suffer but He watches our pain with double agony. He knows He is the intended target of Satan. Our suffering is the side issue. He knows He can end all our suffering and His own in an instant, by destroying all creation, us, and starting over. What holds Him back? He loves us, striking too soon means some would be lost. "The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some people understand slowness, but is being patient with you. He does not want anyone to perish, but wants everyone to repent." 2 Peter 3:9. I suppose many of you have seen the "Lord of the Rings". The character Gollum is evil, dangerous. They are tempted to kill him but comment is made "maybe he has a part to play". At the very end, his evil is the cause of victory. The author Tolkien was a committed Christian and considered his books Christian Witness. Some call pre-evangelism.

Turn the other cheek, patience is not weakness. "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'" Romans 12:13 Leviticus 19:18. You are God's own possession. He is your God, your shield and defender. If He chooses to sacrifice someone here in order to work good, He will bless, restore, reward one hundred fold.

Some claim they are Easter Christians, no Jesus on the cross for them. To me they are shallow rooted, unable to withstand trials. The victory of Jesus is His death on the cross. He transformed defeat into eternal joy. Easter and the empty cross are the result of that victory. Those who look to Jesus on the cross in the midst of their own suffering receive power, peace, hope, endurance. "The power is in the blood."

We protect little children because they are weak, fragile. God sends His best into battle with the evil one. We get wounded, suffer. Not because He does not value us. He is giving us opportunity to hear the words, "Well done, enter into the joy of your Master. Receive the crown of life."

In the name of one called by God to proclaim His Love for all,

Stephen H. Funck

The Sign of Concord

He died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves,
but for him who died and was raised for them. 2 Cor. 5:15