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WOULD YOU GIVE IT?

These last few days we have celebrated Jesus' death and resurrection. Now let us ask the question. He gave His life (died) for you, would you give your life (die) for Him? Would you give it?

Ten of the eleven apostles (excluding Judas) who walked with Jesus all died a martyr's death. They would not back down from their faith in the face of persecution. It is only John of whom we are not certain.

If you had to choose whether or not to back down on your faith on Jesus as the one and only way, and your life depended on that choice, how would you choose?

Imagine that you might live here during the Great Tribulation. The antichrist is demanding worship. You will be imprisoned and/or executed if you do not submit.

Oh, you say "I won't be here. I will be raptured out." It would be great if that were true. It is the "easy" thing to believe, but it doesn't hold up to an objective examination of scripture.

Matthew 24:40-41 where it says, "...one shall be taken, and the other left," is not speaking about a rapture prior to any tribulation. Look earlier in the same chapter (Matt. 24:21-22) where it says in Jesus' own words, "...then shall be great tribulation such as was not (ever) seen since the beginning of the world...and except those days be shortened, there shall be NO flesh saved: but for the elect's sake (the believers) those days shall be shortened." This makes it very clear that we, the "elect," will be present during that great tribulation. The "shortened days" means God has set a time limit on that tribulation (seven years), otherwise the tribulation (including disease, pestilence, famine, and the releasing of spirits from hell) would be so severe that nobody, human or beast, believer or unbeliever, would survive it. Mark 13:19-20 and Daniel 12:1-2 verify the same thing.

Many people have been deceived by their church taking a hard line doctrine of a pre-tribulation rapture which is a relatively new doctrine made by man. The church has been here 1,990 years. The pre-trib rapture doctrine was only popularized 190 years ago (1830-1990). For 1,800 years the church had no such popular teaching. Do you really believe God would not have "revealed truth" to them over that 1,800 year period?

If we "do get out of here" early, that is great, But, don't count on it. Be prepared for the "time of trouble." Never deny your faith. Keep your trust in the redeeming blood of Jesus and on nothing else. Trust God and He will "see you through."

Claim Psalm 91. Read and re-read it until it is embedded into your mind and spirit. God is faithful when you put all your trust in Him "with all your heart."