

QUARANTINE 2020

GOD IS IN CONTROL

4/6/2020 – SHAWN SEVERT

THE ABRUPT HALT

FAITH THROUGH IT ALL

Everything was “somewhat normal” just last week. I was working from home, as my day job at SnapAV was an essential company during this time of global pandemic. We have been working from home for over 3 weeks now, and I thought, things would continue to go this way until all of this passed. This morning we had a meeting with about 16 techs and a few of our leads, letting us know that we would be laid off on furlough, meaning that we could come back once the economy regains strength. I will admit I was a little shocked to be one of the techs to be let go, as I always had the highest score card on my team, month to month.

I text my boss after the meeting, and I shared with him Luke 12:22-31 – “Then He said to His disciples, “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? Consider the lilies,

how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith?

“And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you.”

Immediately after receiving this news, and after speaking with Ashley my wife, and both of our parents, I went onto the back porch and sat and watched the birds and bees, and just watched how they lived their daily lives, finding food, calling out to one another, enjoying the beautiful weather!! This brought me to the realization that God is in Control, as I already knew he was, this was just a confirmation.

Having faith and a relationship with God during this time, to me, is crucial in having peace and joy through times of chaos and change. For so long, Americans, and others around the world, have had the mentality that things will always be normal, and that we can always do what we want to do if we just strive to get what we want. With this global shutdown, that reality has come to an abrupt halt. At this time, all of the motivational speakers, who tell you that anything is possible, you can be who you want and do what you want if you just put your mind to it, well their message has come to an abrupt halt.

GUESS WHAT!!!

The Word of God has not come to an abrupt halt. As a matter of fact, God's Word has become so clear for me at this time. I'm keeping my mind focused on the promises of God. I'm keeping my faith, not in the material things of life, but on the spiritual and relationship with Christ. All the things of this world on this Earth will perish, but God's Word is eternal. It's time to put a halt to "Self" will. and begin to truly take a deeper focus on God's will for our lives.

With so many of us being without a job at this time, this is a great time to not only pray, but to fast!!! The hardest thing for me with having a day job was fasting, because when I fast, I like to rest in the Lord, to stay in the Word, and to pray all day with no distractions. That was near impossible working a job where I'm on the phone all day, fixing challenges, and everyone around me bringing their food to their desks, let alone finding time to pray and read my Bible. So I encourage anyone who reads this at this time to fast and pray while having the time and ability to do so!

We need to not only pray for our leaders of our countries, but also we need to pray for the people of the world. Pray for one another, the church, our brothers and sisters in Christ. Also pray for those who do not know Christ, who are struggling with anxiety, worry, depression and not having God to lean on to bring them peace at a time like now. We receive our strength in the Lord!!

Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Let us share our love for one another, let us share our love for our neighbors. Let us not forget that there are those who are in dire

need still, and in a worse situation than what we are in. If we are able, let us be willing to help when we see someone in more need than ourselves. Spend time in the Word, spend time with God, learn the love and heart of God so that we too can share that love to the world at times like these!

God bless everyone, keep your heads up, and trust in Christ at all times!!

Shawn Severt

