**The God of Details** March 3, 2024

 Andrew Brunson’s testimony of being imprisoned in solitary confinement in a Turkish Prison with loss of family, friends, fellowship, bible, worship,  and limitations physically and spiritually was sobering.  A man rich in favor for missions, now broken.  Both ISOLATED and feeling FORSAKEN.   Both are MINDSETS.  The battle is in the MIND!

I worked in Maximum Security Prison for 30 years witnessing first hand the trauma and tragedy of solitary confinement.   HOWEVER I have found my own journey has been that of ISOLATION with others.   In that I was with only LIKE MINDED people focused on some platform or “new stream” that we did not QUESTION, Research, or compare.   We in our own free will became totally in a fishbowl of that culture, be it witchcraft, cults, new age, Universalism, Kabbalah mysticism, etc.

Any stream can become isolated and establish a mindset totally on that stream.   It is in a variety of relationships that we learn identity.   Think about it, in the worst relationships we discover our faith, boldness and boundaries.   We learn to QUESTION our beliefs. All of our relationships serve a purpose.  God is in the DETAILS!   Our walk with God requires both a relationship with HIM and OTHERS.   Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul, and love your neighbor as yourself.   Who is your neighbor?  What is your relationship?

Andrew Brunson, in solitary, lost his relationship with others and eventually God.  He lost his sense, faith and belief of God’s presence.  He lost his identity.   Why would God leave him in such a barren isolated broken state?   His message was very powerful… through his brokenness he was REBUILT.    Through despair he found faith and prepared for this season.   It was in total desolation and hopelessness that he was able to confess his utter brokenness.   We learn through the history of Revivals most arrive when mankind is in the deepest despair!  Many seek streams that “avoid” the darkness, deny it, sugar coat it, condemn it and ignore it. We are called to FACE the darkness.    Forsaken is a sense of legally divided, amputated, cut off.   When we ISOLATE INTO LIKE MINDED or HIVE MIND SYSTEMS, We miss opportunities of discovering not only our own relationship with God but with others.   We as a church and nation often hear the words:  God has abandoned our nation that has embraced immorality, murder and abortion, and mockery of His word.  The state of this nation is steeped in sin and darkness leading politically and spiritually.  We probably make Sodom and Gomorrah look tame!

The morals of this generation are questionable.    We can see the glass half empty or full.   **I believe we need BOTH!  The reality of brokenness and the hope  to overcome! God is the God of Details!**   Psalm 37:23 The Lord directs the steps of the godly. *(My favorite verse Romans 8:28 supports this).***He delights in every detail of their lives.**  24 **Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand**.25 Once I was young, and now I am old. Yet I have **never seen the godly abandoned** or their children begging for bread. 26 The godly always give generous loans to others, and their children are a blessing. 27 Turn from evil and do good, and you will live in the land forever. **28 For the Lord loves justice, and he will never abandon the godly.**  He will keep them safe forever, but the children of the wicked will die. 29 The godly will possess the land and will live there forever. 30 **The godly offer good counsel; they teach right from wrong**. 31 They have made God’s law their own,  so they will never slip from his path. 32 The wicked wait in ambush for the godly, looking for an excuse to kill them. 33 **But the Lord will not let the wicked succeed or let the godly be condemned when they are put on trial.** 34 **Put your hope in the Lord. Travel steadily along his path**. He will honor you by giving you the land. You will see the wicked destroyed. 35 I have seen wicked and ruthless people flourishing like a tree in its native soil. 36 But when I looked again, they were gone! Though I searched for them, I could not find them! 37 Look at those who are honest and good, for a wonderful future awaits those who love peace. 38 But the rebellious will be destroyed; they have no future. 39 **The Lord rescues the godly; he is their fortress in times of trouble. 40 The Lord helps them, rescuing them from the wicked. He saves them, and they find shelter in him.**

I have been meditation on The God of DETAILS.   I am finding as I grow in this 7th decade of my life, I am reminded of past events, experiences, details that I just put on a shelf.   Too numerous to recount here, but too many that I want a T shirt made:  YOU CAN’T MAKE THIS UP!  The Lord led me to meditate on Noah.  His background, genealogy, testimony and the PREPARATION to BUILD the ARK.    God led me to this:  God uses EVERY DETAIL of our lives for HIS GLORY.   We overcome by the Blood of the Lamb and the WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY.    The word of our testimony is a LEGAL STATEMENT of the God of Details overcoming, redeeming, saving, leading us to Him.   Despite the trauma, darkness, isolation and woundedness that comes on this path…(I must say it!  This isn’t a Hallmark Movie!)    God meets in and prepares us in the DETAILS of our past, present and future.

 **Reflect on how you got to where you are now.**   What are the details of your journey that reveal HE WAS PRESENT and LEADING despite the circumstances.   We have a GOOD GOOD Father, and any good father, loves to hear his children HONOR them, tell their stories.   I sense that in this season we face**, our TESTIMONY is PIVOTAL** in both the Heavens and Hell.   We bring forth the DETAILS of HIS SAVING GRACE that destroys the lies of the devil.   Our Testimony brings forth LIGHT in the darkness.   So I challenge each of you to reflect, and take into account how the details of your life are manifesting your walk today.  You may believe you are orphaned, abandoned, isolated however Romans 8 reminds us that NOTHING CAN SEPARATE us from the Love of God.   Christ stood in the gap for us!  AMEN!

**Apostasy and Deception**: Usually, when people speak of the “great deception,” they refer to **2 Thessalonians 2:11, which predicts that God will, in an end-times judgment, send “a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie.”** This great deception is associated with the satanic work of the Antichrist and his “displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie” (verse 9). The same passage in **2 Thessalonians also speaks of a great apostasy** that will take place before the man of lawlessness is revealed. Similar apostasies are predicted elsewhere: “The Spirit clearly says that in **later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Timothy 4:1).** Of course, people are complicit in the deception, for they reject the truth and prefer lies: **“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths” (2 Timothy 4:3–4).** Jesus spoke about a time to come when the deception will be especially great when false messiahs and false prophets will appear.

 **Even the people of God could be deceived if it were not for God’s providential protection: “For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24:24, see also Mark 13:5–6, Luke 21:8).** All of these deceptions are instigated by the devil. However, **2 Thessalonians 2:11** also speaks of the deception as God’s punishment on people who refuse to believe the truth. The context seems to be similar to that of the gospel passages above and speaks of one to come who will be especially deceptive: “The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thessalonians 2:9–12, ESV). In this passage, after **people have refused the truth for so long,**

**God causes them to believe what is false—a “strong delusion.” This is not an instance where God actively deceives people; rather, God is simply giving those who reject the truth what they really want.** We see a similar pattern in **Romans 1:18–25 where people reject God’s truth for so long that He simply abandons them to their own sinfulness. They have, as it were, crossed the point of no return: “The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.  “For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.“Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.”** Much the same thing happened to Pharaoh after he refused to let the Israelites leave Egypt, and God hardened his heart. It was not as though Pharaoh would have been an obedient follower of the Lord if God had not hardened his heart. Pharaoh set his heart against the Lord, and God simply confirmed for all time Pharaoh’s decision (see Exodus 8:15, 32; 9:34; 10:1).

**The deception spoken of in the Gospels has to do with false prophets** and/or messiahs who appear and seem to be authenticated by miracles. Taking the futurist position, we see the great deception spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2 as a future event associated with the coming of the Antichrist after the rapture of the church. “Those who are perishing” will willingly embrace the imitation and follow the beast of the end times; they will perish “because they refused to love the truth and so be saved” (verse 10). We don’t know exactly what the great deception will be, only that it will be a strong delusion capable of swaying the world’s allegiance toward the Antichrist. The Bible says that, in the time of the Antichrist and false prophet, there will be many signs to bolster their lies. The false prophet “performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people. Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth” (Revelation 13:13–14). It is hard to imagine, but the deception during the tribulation will be worse than all of Satan’s other deceptions. The Antichrist will have a deadly wound healed, his “image” will breathe and speak and give orders, etc. (Revelation 13:12, 15). In the broader sense, anyone who rejects the truth of God is being deceived, and at some point, God may simply abandon him to the deception that he has willingly embraced. There are plenty of false teachers today who claim to teach God’s Word. Some claim to be Christians, and some claim to bring a word from God from outside of the Bible. It is vitally important that every Christian compare every teaching with what the Bible says and spend the time necessary to evaluate what is being taught. This is the mission of Got Questions, and in keeping with that mission, we would encourage every reader to compare what we say with Scripture as well **Key  Points:**

* The time to reflect on our journey.  God is in the DETAILS and those events/details are Timegates to redeem.   The day I was saved by the Chanting of “I Am” in the coven of witches and new age! \* will share details in another article
* Cades Cove experience as a child.  Stories of Daniel Boone.   Leading to my meeting Cherokee, building relations, then going to the massacre of my own bloodline in Virginia by the Cherokee!   Redeeming that bloodshed.   Goin to Williamsburg, Va with natives and declaring:  Who is the SAVAGE NOW!
* Moravian falls.  The mysticism that is promoted and folklore! Hernnhut and getting the TRUTH.   Meeting the Original Moravians and bringing the Cherokee and Moravians together this spring.    Healing and redemption in the DETAILS of our lives…..
* Having the anchor of seeing the Glass half empty and facing the darkness, the deceptions, and having no fear!  What we see is what HE GIVES US Authority over.
* The key, is remembering, looking at the details and identifying Key DOORS of TIME to redeem thru Confessions and repentance.   Understanding what the deception was, the facts and theology….Kabbalah and new Age Universalism.
* NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD!  NOTHING.

**Love your neighbor as YOURSELF! Love who God made you and the journey!**