

“Survival of the Remnant(s)”

Reflection & Discussion Questions

03/14/20

You are invited to use the following questions for personal reflection or small group discussion:

1. Watch the amazing story of Wisam from Adventist World Radio: <https://youtu.be/n8DxkM99IAs> (video link)
 - a. What inspires you from Wisam’s experience?
 - b. What might God be calling you to do in response to his testimony in your own life & witness?
2. Biblical history reveals that God has always preserved a remnant of His people to represent His kingdom and be ambassadors of His love, grace, and truth. Revelation 12:17 reveals that “the dragon [devil] was enraged with the woman [God’s people], and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring [remnant of her seed; remainder of her descendants], who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”
 - a. How have you seen the rage of the devil against God’s people in your own life?
 - b. What does Revelation 12:17 mean to you personally?
3. The root idea of “remnant” carries the meaning of “those who survive a major calamity.” What biblical examples can we find in Scripture of God preserving a remnant of His people to carry on His mission and represent Him on this fallen planet down through history?
 - a. Genesis 7:23 = What major calamity is the context of this verse and who was the remnant here? What did God do to preserve them?
 - b. Genesis 45:5-8 & 50:20 = How did God preserve His people in this period of history? How did God turn the horrible experiences of Joseph’s life around and work it together for good? How might God be doing something similar in the challenging circumstances of your own life right now, even though you maybe can’t yet see it?
 - c. 1 Kings 19:10,14,18 = Elijah thought he was all alone. Today we might feel the same. What does the Lord’s answer to Elijah in verse 18 say to you today?
 - d. 2 Kings 19:3-31 = Even through the devastation of the Assyrian & Babylonians invasions, God was passionate to preserve a remnant of His chosen people through whom the promised Messiah would come. In what way(s) can you cooperate with God to “take root downward and bear fruit upward”? What does it mean to deepen your roots in the Lord, and what does that look like for you right now in your life?
 - e. Isaiah 46:3-4 = Looking back over your life thus far, what has the Lord brought you through? How has the Lord held you up and carried you through it all? What challenging circumstances have you survived, and in what way did you sense the Lord caring for you?
4. Isaiah 10:20 reveals that a remnant of Israel would turn to the Lord and rely on Him.
 - a. What does this mean for us to do the same today? How does one rely on the Lord?
 - b. In verse 24, God says, “Do not be afraid,” no matter what is against us and no matter what is beating us up in our lives right now. What helps to calm your fears during such times?
5. Ezra 9:8 and Romans 11:5 state that at this present time we too have been given a moment of grace to be among God’s remnant people in these last days. After all God has brought us through thus far, what does it mean to you to believe and trust His grace and know that you are part of His people (His family)? In what way is He calling us to be involved in His mission today as that “remnant of His gracious choice”?
6. No matter what happens to us here in this life, what encouragement do you find in Paul’s words in Romans 8:31-39? What do these words mean to you today?