

THE SHRIVNAUTHs

Proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ



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of this upside-down
world with the

Light of the
Gospel



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“For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ

September 2020

Dear Friends, Pastors, and Co-investors in the City of the Great King,

I want to start out by saying thanks to all of you who have kept your missions support and even increased it during this time of church closures and lock-downs. These are perilous times as the Bible calls it. Your faithful giving and love for lost souls are a great testimony to the Lord and of your love for us. We have seen **56** people trust Christ and **one** baptized for the months of July and August.

I believe churches around the world have been under attack and persecution. Their voices have been stifled and their pillars shaken - I Tim. 3:15. Satan hates the church. It stands in his way. We were closed for four months. In August the government reopened places of worship but only at 25% seating capacity. This means we had to shut down all of our outreach ministries and are unable to bring these people to church. There is a curfew from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am. We had to move our evening services to 4:00 pm. Some of our bus captains are holding outstation “churches” at the homes of some of their bus people. They are meeting outside on verandas and steps.

The postal service in Guyana has recently started to receive overseas mail again after five months. The wearing of facemasks in public is a law here. I’ve heard of those who have refused to wear the mask being fined and taken to jail. Most people are singing the mantra, “Put it on.” We put it on for the Lord’s sake - see I Peter 2:13. We also need it to get into the grocery stores and all public buildings. In the nighttime curfew few people are out. However, this has not stopped the thieves. Fewer police patrol and armed robberies have increased. The thieves see it as a golden opportunity to fill their coffers. Not long ago our church was broken into and they carried away a part of our sound system. We live on the same property as the church and have taken extra measures to secure our safety. Just to give you an idea of how things are here, when we reported the incident to the police, we had to provide transportation for them to come and do the investigation and then take them back to the police station.

With all this going on we have sent our fourth child to Bible college in the US. We only have one left at home and he is soon turning thirteen. As you can imagine, it is a bittersweet time for us as our children leave home one by one. The airport here was closed to international flights for over four months. They reopened in mid-August but only for a limited amount of flights. We quickly booked tickets and were going to go with our daughter Elsie to help her settle into college. Within one week all returning flights were shut down for fear of the spread of the coronavirus. We had to cancel our tickets, car rental, and hotel accommodations. It took days to book them and days to cancel them. We had to send Elsie alone - very sad, but we are glad that she is following God’s plan for her life.

I was reading the book of Isaiah in my Bible reading. Three obscure verses in Isaiah chapter 8 spoke to me. I want to share them with you. Verses 12 -13 says, “*Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; **neither fear ye their fear** nor be afraid. Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and **let him be your fear**, and let him be your dread.*” (Bold print is mine). God told Isaiah, “*Say ye not, A confederacy...*” like the people were saying. In other words, they were saying, “We are surrounded, what hope do we have?” God was saying to Isaiah, don’t think like them and **don’t fear their fear**; let me be your fear - see also II Kings 6:15-18. Isaiah 8:22 says, “*And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness.*” We know the antichrist system is being set up. He is coming, but so is JESUS, and we know who is the winner. There is hope, tremendous hope, in the midst of all of this. Read Eph.1:18-19. Hope is in the middle of everything God does. Hope was in the middle when Jesus died on the cross (Heb.12:2). Hope was in the middle of the story of Lazarus lying in the grave (John 11:21, 25-26, 43-44). Hope was in the middle of Joseph’s story in Egypt (Gen.45:5, 7-8). Hope was in the middle of Esther’s story (Esther 4:14; 8:15-16). We can go on and on, but you get the picture. Hope is in our story too; yes, for such a time as this. Their fear should not be our fear. Our fear is in the Lord. He will send deliverance and it is going to be very, very good. God is doing something about the problems of the world. Habakkuk 1:5, “*Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.*” I believe God is speaking to His people in that verse. The Apostle Paul quoted that verse in his day, and can I say, it is very applicable for us today - see Acts 13:41 and compare also with Isaiah 29:14/ I Cor.1:19.

Until next time or until we hear the shout, the Lord bless you and keep you.

In Christ Jesus the Anchor holds, (Ps.25:5; I Thes.2:4)

The Shrivnauth family

Noel, Charlene, Rydal, Gretel, Elsie and Nolan

for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:” Romans 9:3