

The Correspondent

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study (Adult) 1:30 PM

Bible Study (All Ages) 7:00 PM

www.collinsville-troycoc.org

(618) 667-6708



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

Vol. 49 No. 46

1400 Troy Road Collinsville, Illinois 62234

November 14, 2021

Don't Forget the Seven Thousand

-Renn Ferguson

The past two years, as we know, have been detrimental to the church. Many of our brothers and sisters are forsaking the assembly, not just within the Collinsville-Troy church but in congregations of God's people world over. This is undoubtedly a serious issue that we all must be working against. Not just preachers, deacons, or elders but all Christians in every congregation. Though this is a very serious problem let us, to the best of our ability, not become discouraged. Discouragement is a by-product of the lack of faithfulness exhibited by our brethren. It most certainly has an impact on all that are striving to remain true to God. If we let it, that discouragement can overwhelm us. So how, in this time of trial, can we remain encouraged? By not forgetting the seven thousand.



What do I mean when I say that? Well, I want to direct your attention to 1 Kings 19. In this chapter Elijah is fleeing from Jezebel. During his flight he went to a cave and God inquired as to what he was doing. In verse 10 Elijah replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." (NKJV) After making this statement God directed Elijah to go out and stand on the mountain. While on the mountain God asked him again what he was doing to which he replied in the same manner (v. 14). He felt as if he was the only prophet trying to be faithful to God (1 Kings 18:22). However, what did God say to him in verse 18? "Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." God reminds Elijah that he is not alone and there are thousands that are faithful to God.

It can be easy for us to become so discouraged by the faithlessness of our brethren that we take for granted those who are faithful. Now I by no means am saying that we need to bury our heads in the sand and act like everything is okay because it is not. What I am saying is that possibly now more than ever we need to encourage the faithful to remain steadfast. The Hebrews writer stated, "but exhort one another daily, while it is called 'Today,' lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." (Hebrews 3:13).

Let us not forget the seven thousand.

1 Kings 19

¹ And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.

² Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."