



DAY 13

“You know how to interpret the weather signs of the earth and sky, but you don’t know how to interpret the present times.”

Luke 12:56 NLT

Jesus said to the religious people of this day... you are “weather smart” you can interpret the signs of the weather. This was important for a society that based most of its economy on agriculture. This “spiritual” & agrarian people had no understanding of “spiritual seasons”. How was it that a supposedly spiritual people could be so blind and deaf to the spiritual times they claimed to know? If these “spiritual” people would answer truthfully they would realise **they were not spiritual and did not truly understand spirituality as explained by Jesus Christ**. Even today, people claim to be “spiritual” and move around from one “spiritual fad” to the next. Still, the truth evades them time and again. How can our eyes and ears be “spiritually” opened? We are alive on the earth because someone gave birth to us naturally. Likewise, we must be born of God’s Spirit through a new “spiritual” birth that comes by putting our complete faith in Jesus Christ. The religious people refused God’s Son... and so remained dead. We too will never move forward if we are “spiritually deaf and blind” we need to be alive in Christ to enter the “new season”.

PERSECUTION.

It has been recently published that 73% of the world's Christian believers live in a country where they are persecuted in some form. This is up from 65% a few years back. Persecution can come in many forms. Some Christians are simply discriminated against in their families, communities and work-places. Others face serious economic challenges by being excluded from the economy or by having their business licenses revoked or their businesses confiscated. Some Christians face physical, verbal and emotional violence. Please pray the following:

1. *“Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are”*. 1 Peter 5:9 NLT
 - a. Lord help us to stand firm as the challenges increase. Help those who are active and passively persecuted to stand strong too.
2. *“We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work”* John 9:4 NLT.
 - a. Lord help us to work while the doors are opened. There are windows of opportunity. Dear Holy Spirit, help us to take advantage of these opportunities to share the love and light of Jesus Christ all over the world.
3. *“Remember those in prison, as if you were there yourself. Remember also those being mistreated, as if you felt their pain in your own bodies.”* Hebrews 13:3 NLT
 - a. Help us Holy Spirit to remember those who are suffering and to pray for them as if we were in their shoes.