

Refrigerator Notes 13 November 2016
“Stand Firm”
Luke 21: 5-19

1. The 2016 Election is over, and Donald Trump is the 45th Elected POTUS.
2. I suggested from the start of the sermon that everyone please take a step back...AND EXHALE.
3. I also reminded the congregation of 1Corinthians 1:28: “But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly and despised things of the world, and the things that are not, to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast in His presence...”
4. I suggested that we treat the election as one of HOPE, if Donald D is the president for all.
5. The results is just another unexpected storm in life that God has allowed to happen, yet this too shall pass over!
6. Remember, God never gives us more than we can bear.
7. I also reminded the congregation that we are a very resilient, particular people whom God has allowed us to survive these past 450 years or more (through the middle passage, slavery, David Dukes, Civil Rights movements, Jim Crow, tricky Dick policies, Reagan-omics, three Bush fires, the New Jim Crow, and still we rise).
8. In Psalm 71, the psalmist cries out to God for help, because the Psalmist cannot see God’s hands extricating his troubles.
9. I suggested that we use Hermeneutics to interpret what God has in store.
10. Exegesis and not just Eisegesis (our preconceived notions of what we’ve been taught to believe about the bible).
11. As an example, Jesus frequently used parables as a means of illustrating profound, divine truths. Before a certain point in Jesus’ ministry, Jesus had employed many graphic analogies, using common things that would be

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familiar to everyone (salt, bread, sheep, lampstand, light) and their meaning was fairly clear in the context of His teaching.

12. However, Parables required more explanation; a reason why it is important to exegete the text as oppose to using eisegesis.

13. It is a reason to learn how to study the 45th Elect, if you will, as oppose to allowing the news media to wall paper another bad experience in life; but we must learn the art of reading for content and context.

14. Jesus' disciples asked, 'why did Jesus use parables that the people would not be able to interpret...'

15. Jesus told them, "because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand".

16. 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive, For the hearts of this people have grown dull'.

17. Jesus made a clear distinction between those who had been given "ears to hear" and those who persisted in unbelief—ever hearing, but never actually perceiving (comprehending) and "always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth" (apprehending truth) see 2 Timothy 3:7.

18. If you are going to stand for Jesus and Stand on His word, we must learn to stand for truth (which can be a bitter pill and not always sweet music to the ears).

19. The biggest mistake people make, when we're overwhelmed, is focusing on the problem, instead of the circumstances; The reason why people are so tired and depressed all the time, is because they are trying to fight battles that belong to God.

20. I had two words for the people of God...Stand Firm-on the word of God! And watch God work out the situation.

21. **Pray First, Aim** high and keep your **Focus** on God!

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