

Bible Drill and Speakers Scholarship Essay

The topic I have chosen for my essay is the following: How have recent world and national events affected my faith? First, to answer this question, one must have faith, and secondly, be well educated and up to date on recent world and national events. Thirdly, one must know exactly what he believes and why he believes it. A person must know these things in order to determine whether or not world or national decisions align with his faith. One must also be strong in his faith so that events throughout his nation or the world do not cause a weakened relationship with God.

I was saved on March 13, 2016 and, hopefully, have been growing in my faith ever since. Throughout my post salvation journey, there have been times where strong faith has been difficult to maintain. This same thing occurs in all Christians' lives. Whether it's a loss of a loved one or a job one didn't get, there comes a time in every Christian's life when he will ask God why. During these times, it will be easy to reject God and lose faith, but we as Christians must do the opposite. The only lasting comfort one can acquire during these difficult times is the comfort of God. We must be close to God and His word during these times. I like to look to Paul as an example of one who "kept the faith" through many trials and circumstances. In 1 Corinthians 11:23-33, Paul lists several of the persecutions and perils he endured as a follower of Christ.¹ For most of us, looking at what Paul went through should make our difficulties seem trivial in comparison, yet in many instances, we lose faith, and Paul certainly did not. Paul did the exact opposite as he stated in II Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."²

Now to the topic of keeping a strong faith through trying world and national events. Although these events may not be as personal as the ones I previously listed, it is still just as important that we

¹ The Holy Bible in the New King James version 1 Corinthians 11:23-33

² The Holy Bible in the New King James version II Timothy 4:7

keep the faith through them just the same. The Bible calls for Christians to be alert, on guard, and sober minded. I believe that being aware of important decisions and events that are taking place in this country and around the world is a form of being alert. Often times when learning about recent world and national events, my faith slips. It is easy to think that God has forgotten about us. We often look at the bad things occurring throughout the world and feel anxious. An example of this is the Covid-19 vaccination controversy, in which some researchers say its safe and others say its quite dangerous as seen in the following quote: “The major concern is the misrepresentation of the Covid-19 vaccination efforts and misrepresentation of the data.”³ losing faith seems to come easy when looking at circumstances and news such as this, but we must remember that, no matter what, God is in control. I often find myself thinking or saying hateful things about those in office with which I don’t agree; this in itself is a lack of faith. We must look to Romans chapter 13, which tells us that all authority is “appointed by God.” although it may seem easier to find the bad things going on in this world and feel as if God doesn’t care, there are many examples found throughout the news of God’s goodness and mercy. One such example is the overturning of the Roe v. Wade decision which was the decision that legalized abortion nationwide. One Christian’s response to this was as follows, “Today is a victory for millions of babies,”⁴ which I believe is the correct view of this decision to aid in stopping the killing of innocent lives. News like this should cause an increase of faith in God among the Christian community, but in saying this, I do not mean that bad news should cause a decrease of faith. I believe no matter what agenda is being pushed or what decisions are being made, we as Christians should remain steadfast in our faith. Now for a Christian just trying to figure out where to stand on certain issues, the best source is the Bible. For instance, where I obtain my opinion on abortion comes from Jeremiah 1:5, Psalms 139:13-16, and Exodus 20:13, where we learn God formed us and knew us when we were still in the womb, and

³ www.science.org/content/article/scientists-quit-journal-board-protesting-grossly-irresponsible-study-claiming-covid-19

⁴ Christianchronicle.org/Christians-react-to-u-s-supreme-court-decision-overturning-roe-v-wade

God commands us not to murder in Exodus 20:13. This is the process a Christian needs to go through when formulating his opinion on what to believe. Often times, this is difficult when so many different ideas and what people claim to be facts are being thrown at us. This is where prayer and faith are extremely important. We must use prayer and reading of the Bible in order to keep the faith when learning about trying world and national events.

In conclusion, keeping faith in God can be very difficult at times, but we must always trust God and look to His word which reminds us often that He is in control of all things. We as Christians must remember what Paul wrote in Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.". In life there will always be trials we don't like to go through and news we don't like to hear; how we handle these things and how we let them affect our faith is up to us. I hope one day to state as Paul stated in II Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have **kept the faith.**"

Works Cited

Jackson, Audrey. "Christians React to U.S. Supreme Court Decision Overturning Roe v. Wade." *The Christian Chronicle*, 29 June 2022, <https://christianchronicle.org/christians-react-to-u-s-supreme-court-decision-overturning-roe-v-wade/>.

"Scientists Quit Journal Board, Protesting 'Grossly Irresponsible' Study Claiming Covid-19 Vaccines Kill." *Science*, <https://www.science.org/content/article/scientists-quit-journal-board-protesting-grossly-irresponsible-study-claiming-covid-19>.

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