

Where's The Power?

As I begin to write this on election day, who can know what the coming days are going to bring? By the time this Focus gets distributed, the elections will be over, and I'm sure we will be in another unprecedented and probably very contentious season in American history! One thing is for sure - the enemy has pulled out all the stops on this one to try to bring our country to ruin, but we dare not let him!!

In the coming days, our enemy is going to be armed and very dangerous; as Christians, we need to step up and disarm him ASAP! Here's one way we can disarm him - by arming ourselves with the TRUTH, with RIGHTEOUSNESS, with HONESTY and INTEGRITY, and TRANSPARENCY. We also disarm him by arming ourselves with LOVE, GRACE, MERCY and COMPASSION. If you add to that WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE, and DISCERNMENT, these are powerful weapons which the enemy can't overcome!

I like what Isaiah 7:9b says: *"If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."* (NIV) In the days, weeks, and months ahead it won't just be our patience that is going to be tested - our faith is going to have to sustain us through what might be some very unpleasant and tumultuous times. Whichever side of the aisle wins the election, the other side is not going to react well, in fact we can almost be certain there will be every bit as much, or even more mud slinging than before the election!

So here's the BIG question: WWJD? I believe He would be the voice of reason in the midst of all the verbal assaults that are coming. I believe He would demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control (NIV) Here's the TPT: *"But the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit within you is divine love in all its varied expressions: joy that overflows, peace that subdues, patience that endures, kindness in action, a life full of virtue, faith that prevails, gentleness of heart, and strength of spirit."*

As humans (even us Christians), we have a tendency to reply to our opponents by trying to out-shout them or slander them just as they have slandered us and ridiculed what we believe, but here's what God has to say in Romans 12:17-19 *"Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord."* (NIV)

God told Paul concerning the thorn in his flesh *"My power is made perfect in weakness."* We can walk through this post election time victorious, IF we are willing to walk in the fruits of the Spirit and watch God's POWER defeat our foes. Amen!