

“For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle?” 1 Corinthians 14:8

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“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls...” Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith May 2017

Going Back to the Old Paths, Where is the Good Way!

“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, we will not walk therein.” (Jer. 6:16) Scripturally teaching and practicing New Testament churches are dying right before us every day. There is an entire generation of brethren who have no idea what real Bible doctrine is, let alone how to go about standing for it. Seminary schools turn out pastors that have no fundamental knowledge on basic, Biblical teaching and practices. Therefore, we have little basic, Biblical teaching going on in many New Testament churches today.

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Jude 3-4) The teaching on the Tabernacle, which is a type and picture of a New Testament Church, (Acts 7:38; Heb.8:2-6) is a foreign concept to many in the Lord’s work. The office work of the Holy Spirit within a church, the Lord’s Supper, what makes up Scriptural baptism, and the Bride of Christ are not being taught in a great, many churches today.

Not that long ago, I was asked to preach in a New Testament church in our part of the country. During the message, I mentioned what makes up the bride of Christ. The congregation went from being very engaged in the message to seeing blank stares. I stopped and asked if they knew of the doctrine of the bride of Christ? Many heads nodded yes and I

continued on. Afterward, I asked one of the members that had been there for many years about it. His response was both sad and scary at the same time. They believed in the bride of Christ, but couldn’t say when the last time they heard it taught, preached on, or when it was even referenced. How does that happen?

The doctrines of the Lord have been watered down because pastors have bought into this idea that they cannot preach or teach the hard truths of the Lord because people won’t stand for it. I’m persuaded that many pastors just don’t know the truths, thus we have churches that don’t know the truths.

If you don’t believe this, do this little test. Ask the congregation how God receives honor and glory? First you need to know what the Scriptures teach about the subject. Then listen to the humanistic responses that come forth from the congregation. Are religious groups that do good things in the “name” of Christ giving God glory? Is He pleased? Many unlearned members of the Lord’s churches due to a lack of teaching on the Tabernacle and the doctrines of the Lord’s church, have been deceived into thinking that there is a work to be done outside of New Testament church work. Ephesians 3:21, Romans 16:25-27, and II Timothy 2:3-5 are just a few Scriptures that show God has one way for man to give Him honor and glory. It must be according to truth for man to be rewarded. Acts 20:28 shows us that Jesus died for His New Testament churches. That should show us how important truth is to the Lord.

The Albany Missionary Baptist Church of Albany, Oregon, is one of the Lord’s New Testament

churches. We are striving to teach and stand for these basic, Biblical teachings found not only in the New Testament, but also shadowed in the Old Testament. Especially seen in the tabernacle are beautiful, deep truths concerning the Lord’s church in the New Testament age. We have been striving to keep these “old ways” as the Lord has commanded. (John 4:24) Recently, we, as a church, were approached by some brethren in another city that desired to get back to the “old ways” and follow the Scriptures in how to live and serve the Lord. We met with them bi-weekly, then weekly for almost a year looking into the Scriptures on what God desired out of all of us. After much prayer, the Albany Missionary Baptist Church, being lead by the Holy Spirit of God, voted to begin working to establish a New Testament Church in this city.

I’m reminded of a passage in the book of Job 21:6-15. Mankind was going about everyday life. Everything seemed fine, except that they had left God out of their lives and went to the grave with no knowledge of the ways of God and saw no need to seek Him out. It’s a sad day in which we live. We need to continue to stand for the truth of God’s Word and be busy about establishing New Testament churches as set forth in the Scriptures.

If you’re looking for an old fashioned, Bible believing, teaching, and practicing work to help support, please feel free to contact us for more information about this work and the man.

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Do you support your pastor’s wife?



This article is not designed to tell people how to idolize or worship their pastor’s wife, but rather how they can uplift her as a Godly woman put in a unique position within the church. The items listed are all supported by Scriptures, and while this writer fully recognizes they can and should be applied to other church members in many cases, they are especially lacking when it comes to how people treat the pastor’s wife. As you read this, don’t just go through and discount everything because “we should do that for everyone”. Take the time to examine where you might be failing in these areas, and be willing to TRY to improve in these areas. God’s Word promises that if you diligently strive to be a blessing to others, you will reap blessings in your life as well. (Galatians 6:7-9)

1. *Pray specifically and consistently for your pastor’s wife.*

Prayer is the most important thing you will ever do for your pastor’s wife. I made this number one because ironically, if you are not praying for her, it is likely that you will struggle with supporting her in the other ways outlined in this article. But, if you are spending the time and effort in prayer for your pastor’s wife, it will be easy to support her in other ways. Funny how that works!

There are many examples of prayer in the epistles, either of Paul praying for church members or church members praying for Paul. (Colossians 4:1-4,12; Romans 15:30-33; Romans 1:8-10; II Thessalonians 1:11-12) James 5:12-18 reminds us how powerful prayer is, whether for illness, (almost every pastor’s wife is affected by some ongoing health issue) or simply for things of concern. Philippians 4:6 tells us to let our requests be made known to God, and I Thessalonians 5:12-13 reminds us to esteem them highly who are over us in the Lord. Therefore, the ultimate question is this: “Do you truly care about your pastor’s wife?” If you truly love and respect your pastor’s wife, then you will pray for her like Paul prayed for the members of the church in Ephesus. (Ephesians 1:15-23) We pray about the things of importance to us, (take a minute to reflect who and what you pray for frequently) and if your pastor’s wife is important to you, you will pray for her often. Then the other things on this list will be things you will want to do as well.

Here are some specific areas of prayer that your pastor’s wife needs:

~Pray that she will continually nurture her relationship with God and that she will be a Godly woman of spiritual beauty and strength.

~Pray that she will love, honor, and support her husband, and that their marriage will be strong and Christ-honoring.

~Pray that she will have wisdom and strength to raise Godly children.

~Pray for her emotional and mental stamina, especially when she is under pressure or attack.

~Pray that she will fit comfortably into the role that God designs for her in her present season of life and ministry.

~Pray for her on Saturday afternoons/evenings and Sunday mornings. The enemy seems to be especially active on that day, trying to ruffle things up for Sunday. Ask any pastor and his wife and they will tell you that this seems to be a common pattern.

2. *Ask her how you can serve her and then follow through on your commitment.*

The reason you should ask your pastor’s wife how you can help is because we, as New Testament church members, are commanded to have a servant mentality and minister to others. (Matthew 20:26-28; Galatians 5:13-14; Galatians 6:2,10) If these verses don’t convince you, consider the fact that we are supposed to be like Christ, and Philippians 2:1-8 demonstrates how Christ made Himself a servant. If He could lower Himself to serve others, why can’t we be servants to others as well?

Whether your church has 20 members or 200 members, your pastor’s wife is likely overseeing several ministries for the women and children within the church. She likely needs help in those areas. Did you know that she hates to “beg” for volunteers? She knows you have a busy life and that when you give your time to the church’s ministries, it is a sacrifice. It means the world to her when you come to her and say, “How can I help with _____?” or “Can I take something off YOUR schedule this week?” or “What do you need me to do and/or bring for _____?” When you ask these questions of your pastor’s wife, and follow through with your commitment, you will cause her to breathe a sigh of relief. It is stressful to “chase” people down and ask a second time. (Proverbs 10:26) You want to bless you pastor’s wife? Look for ways to help. Be a willing volunteer, and follow through with your commitment.

3. *Support her husband well.*

Monetary support is important, but just as important, if not more, is that a church supports their pastor spiritually and will follow him as he follows Christ. When the pastor is not followed and shown respect, it hurts God, which is the first reason for not doing so. In addition, when someone disrespects their pastor, it puts a strain on their pastor’s wife as well. (Hebrews 13:7,17; Galatians 5:14-15; Proverbs 18:6-7; Proverbs 10:19) God has put that man there for counsel. (Proverbs 11:14) If you need something else to convince you of the importance of this, take a look at the children of Israel in Numbers 16:1-50. The children of Israel suffered greatly because of their disrespect for their leader, Moses. They are our example, I Corinthians 10:6,11, and if we look at them, we can see that God takes respect for His men seriously.

Don’t criticize her husband to others. Leadership carries huge responsibility. In most cases, he’s doing the best he can. Instead of criticizing him, pray for him.

Don’t criticize her husband to her. Nothing is more awkward than hearing a complaint about your husband, who also happens to be your most favorite person on earth. In some cases, the complaint should go straight to the pastor. In other cases, it shouldn’t be said at all, not to the pastor, not to his wife, and not to other members of the church. The pastor is the servant of God and should be respected as such. It puts his wife in a very awkward position to hear people complaining about her husband, who is also her pastor.

4. *Be a trusted friend to her.*

Your pastor’s wife is likely a friend to everyone, but

may feel she is friends with no one. Relationships within the church can be very tricky for a pastor’s wife. They can go sour at a moment’s notice. Most pastors’ wives have been betrayed by at least one person in the church who once called them “friend”. Be a trusted friend to your pastor’s wife! Pray for her, reach out to her, keep confidences, don’t gossip about her, don’t turn on her, and don’t monopolize her time. You know all the things you do for your friends, do those things for your pastor’s wife. Be an easy person to have a relationship with. Be the kind of person who, if she were looking for a best friend, she would consider you. But, don’t get offended if she doesn’t spend every second with you. Her time is very much divided between many needs. Being a friend to her should be something you do in an effort to serve the Lord, (Colossians 3:17,23) not an effort to make yourself feel better, or to feel like you have more friends. (Proverbs 18:24; Proverbs 17:17; Proverbs 27:9-10; Proverbs 12:25; Proverbs 15:13,17; Matthew 7:12)

5. *Shed your expectations.*

Everyone has a set of expectations about the pastor’s wife. Even if you think you don’t, you do. You measure her by your own perception of what you think she should be. But, what if it is your thinking that is flawed? (II Corinthians 10:12-13,18; Matthew 7:1-5) What God wants your pastor’s wife to be and do is between herself, God, and her husband. You are supporting her when you give her the freedom to be who God wants her to be. This may be a sort of progression, depending on the ministry, location, tenure, culture, season of life, health, talents, gifts, and other factors of her life at any given time. You are supporting your pastor’s wife when you consciously shed your expectations and do not let them shape your impression of her. This is not necessarily a one-time thing! It’s more like a string of choices you make over time in relation to your pastor’s wife. (Romans 12:3; Romans 14:7-13,19) The whole passage in Romans 14 is dealing with not letting things of the flesh be what separates brethren in Christ. Whether someone ate herbs or meat in this time had a big effect due to the change in the law and what was clean/unclean. God told them to not let these things separate them and cause judgment. Instead, they were to recognize that God had placed that person there and to focus on the things “wherewith one may edify another”.

6. *Give her grace to be imperfect.*

Your pastor’s wife is a flawed sinner, just like you. She is going to sin. She is going to let you down. She is going to disappoint you. She is an imperfect wife and mother. She is not a super “Christian”, even if she teaches a class, leads a ladies’ Bible study, and does personal work. She may lose her temper or speak words that she regrets. She may not listen well sometimes when you are sharing something really important. She may have marriage struggles, or even struggle with depression at times. She may need counseling at times. This should not surprise or disillusion you. Rather, it should motivate you to pray for her and to extend the same grace to her, you want others to extend to you in your failures. (Romans 15:10; I Corinthians 12:22-26) Her struggles and imperfections are often put on display. I promise, she is very aware of them. Remember the woman in John 8:1-11 who was actually caught in adultery? Christ re-

Do you support your pastor’s wife?

Continued

buked those who ostracized her and pointed fingers at her in their haughtiness. Did He excuse her sin? NO! She was made aware of her sin. She was quite conscious of her own sin. Christ forgave her of her sin that she recognized and He also reminded everyone else that they were sinners too. Your pastor’s wife needs grace from you. The Lord is there to convict, and we cannot see the ways that He may have already intervened in her life to bring her closer to Him. Don’t wait for her to fail just to rub it in her face; support her by not expecting her to be perfect. Help her draw closer to the Lord when she is tempted, just like you are.

7. Come along side her instead of thwarting her.

Maybe this one sounds a bit odd to “non-pastors’ wives”. However, every pastor’s wife has or has had one or more person, typically women, who attempt to thwart her involvement in the church. These same people will often turn around and criticize her for not being involved enough. Diotrephe did this very thing in Ill John 9-10. He was forbidding people who were truly trying to put the Lord first, simply so he could feel better about himself. Perhaps jealousy, or a desire to have the attention is at the root of this type of behavior; but, whatever the reason, it is very discouraging. Look at the example of Mary in John 12:1-8. She tried to do something to honor the Lord, and then Judas came along and criticized it. Look also at the example in Mark 10:13-16 where people were bringing their children to Christ. The disciples tried to “shoo” them away. In both of these instances, Jesus was there to verbally correct those who tried to deter others from doing something for the Lord because it wasn’t the way they thought it should be done. If Jesus hadn’t been there to stop the naysayers, would those acts for God have been done at all? Would the zeal of those individuals have been snuffed out by the harsh words of someone who shouldn’t have commented in the first place?

For pastors’ wives, it is exhausting to have everything you put your hand to being criticized or boycotted. The constant drama of disgruntled people fighting change and progress in the Lord’s work is wearisome, to put it mildly. If your pastor’s wife is involved, thank God for that! Encourage her. Support her. Even if her ideas are not your ideas, jump in and help. If she’s doing things differently than you would, let her explore her talents and spiritual leadership. Who knows, you may find that her ideas work out well. Instead of judging her motives and creating an atmosphere of competition, come along side her as she serves. (I Corinthians 3:3-9)

8. Give her space to be “in process”.

Inward sanctification at salvation is instantaneously performed by God. Outward sanctification is a process as we yield and submit to the will of God in His Word. Isn’t it interesting how we graciously allow ourselves to be “in process” in our service to God, yet we expect our leaders to be farther along in that process than we are? Perhaps we unconsciously think they are, or should be finished with their “process”? Your pastor’s wife may not have been saved as long as you have, or may not have had the opportunities to

mature spiritually that you have had. Sanctification is not a ladder whereby we climb higher and pass each other. Rather, it is a timeline whereby *God is continually working to bring us closer to Himself as a more holy child of His*. It is not a competition. This process is different for each church member and is individual. Who are we to decide where each other should be, or to measure spiritual maturity by our own selves? (II Corinthians 10:12-13; Galatians 1:10) God did not choose her to be a pastor’s wife because she had “arrived”. Most of the time, it is the opposite. God chooses the lowly to serve Him. (Psalm 51:17; I Corinthians 1:27) Consider David, who was the youngest and least experienced of Jesse’s children, and yet he was chosen by God to be the king over Israel. He was a man after God’s own heart, but yet not sinless. To mankind, David appeared unprepared and unfit. However, to God, as He knew David’s heart, David was the correct choice. (I Samuel 16:1-13; Acts 13:22)

Consider Rahab, a harlot, who helped the spies for the children of Israel. Because of her willingness to accept the Lord and to submit to serve the Lord, she was allowed to be part of the lineage of Christ, the Messiah. (Joshua 2; Matthew 1:5) God works with lowly sinners, and those who are willing to be used by Him are those who *can* be used. You can support your pastor’s wife by acknowledging that she is growing in Christ just like you. Instead of separating from each other, we should be trying to grow together in the Word of God. (II Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:19-22)

Many times, we look for physical things to give to our pastor’s wife to show that we care. We put together gift baskets or buy gift cards, but we fail to examine how we are spiritually helping them. Thoughtful gifts and acts of kindness are nice, but it’s the things money can’t buy that matter the most to your pastor’s wife. Will you pray and ask God to show you an area where you can better support your pastor’s wife? You might be amazed at how He answers!



“For, brethren, ye have been called
unto liberty; only use not liberty
for an occasion to the flesh,
but by love serve one another.

For all the law is fulfilled
in one word, even in this;

Thou shalt love thy
neighbour as thyself.

But if ye bite and devour one
another, take heed that ye be
not consumed one of another.”

Galatians 3:13-15



Substitute Society!

Much of “Christianity” today is nothing more than modern Phariseism, an attempt to justify every inconsistency that finds its way into society.

Men make substitutions in the most intimate parts of their lives and their relationships. Then they wonder why difficulties beset them. Consider two of these substitutions:

1. Money for Affection ~ Many men today would rather give their wives the “checkbook”, than a warm embrace or a loving kiss. It’s simply easier to give money than one’s self.
2. Things for Time ~ Many men would rather buy their children things than spend time with them, even though the giving of self is the evidence of love.

Religion has also made substitutions and, in doing so, have lost must much of the essence of Biblical wisdom which is vital for a vigorous and productive people for God. Local, New Testament church members today must understand that *substitutions* are not *originals*. In the “Christian” community today, people substitute:

1. Talent for Anointing ~ This is an evidence of relying on the external rather than the internal. We must realize that God commits to character, not talent. Christianity was originally defined and respected as Christ-likeness. This should still be the definition today, but many have lost this definition. (II Peter 1:3-15)
2. Remorse for Repentance ~ Sorrow for getting caught is not sorrow for having sinned. Human sorrow and Godly sorrow are as far apart as Hell and Heaven. (II Corinthians 7:8-11)
3. Traditions for Commandments ~ Religion and true Christianity are incompatible. Jesus rebuked those who substituted religious tradition for the commandments of God. (Matthew 23:1-36)
4. Respectability for Righteousness ~ We are not saved by our culture, but by the blood of Christ. Some people are viewed as better by nature than others are by grace, but natural graces are no substitute for saving grace. (Romans 3:21-26)
5. Passion for Obedience ~ Mistaking a mere emotional experience with God as a genuine love of God can cost you your soul. The evidence of love is obedience to the Word. The Word is clear salvation must be first and salvation is by grace through faith alone, not by works. If the Word of God does not have Lordship in your life, then Christ is not the Lord of your life. (John 14:15)
6. Status Symbols for Relationships ~ Stained glass windows, spiritual exercises, or any other aspect of religious life can never be a substitute for a vital relationship with the Living Lord! (John 14:1-6)

“God is a Spirit:
and they that
worship him must
worship him in
spirit and in truth.”

John 4:24

Back to the Old Time Religion

We have replaced old time religion with a formal, ritualistic, dutiful, unconcerned, going-through-the-motions type of worship. Because of this, we are turning to entertainment oriented worship. We try to justify it by saying that we are making it interesting. There is a sincere need to roll back the religious calendar. Our forefathers in the faith demonstrated a religious fervor that we have sadly lost in these modern days.

We need a pure religion, and undefiled that is of feeling.

Acts 2:15, 47 shows us that these were so yielded to the Spirit that onlookers thought them to be drunk. It caused them to praise God publicly and this touched others, causing them to turn to Christ and follow the Lord. This was a genuine, Spirit inspired joy. It was not a working up of the flesh or a pretense like so many today.

Acts 8:8 shows us that great joy came as a result of the Word of God being preached. This didn't happen by entertainment, but by the Word causing them to become excited about the works of Christ.

Acts 16:34 shows us what the Word of God produces. It produces a heartfelt excitement that produces rejoicing. The Word of God brought salvation and obedience to God. Then, joy followed. The Word of God became precious to the jailer because of the effect it had on him.

We need a pure religion, and undefiled that is of respect.

Acts 2:47 shows that respect of God's Word causes others to see and desire to follow God. Laborers were added to the Lord's church because there was an example of righteousness set before the people.

Abraham was faithful. In Genesis 21:23-24, Abraham kept his word. He was concerned about the feelings of others.

In Romans 16:1, the Spirit through Paul respected Phoebe because of her faithfulness and her example. He recommended her because of her faithfulness. He spoke well of her. He was not jealous or hypercritical like we are sometimes today.

In I Timothy 5:17 we are shown by the Word that we should respect the call of God on a man and the office he holds. God put him there. (Acts 20:28) We should follow him as he follows the Lord. (Hebrews 13:7,17) We should respect the office and the leadership because God put the church and that leader together for a purpose.

We need a pure religion and undefiled of Godly fear.

In Romans 3:18 the Bible tells us that some do not fear God. We have allowed humanism to elevate man to the position of God. Many today worship man in-

stead of God. They look at God as a "powder puff" God of love alone. They fail to see that God is a God of justice, wrath, anger, and hatred also. We fear men too many times and allow that to hinder us from preaching the Gospel and standing for truth.

In Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, man is commanded to fear the Lord. God will punish all sin. (Proverbs 1:7) God is a God that can destroy both soul and body in Hell. (Matthew 10:28)

We need a pure religion, and undefiled of humility.

James 4:6 says God punishes the proud but blesses the humble. Matthew 18:4 shows us that God wants to use those that are humble. The humble shall be blessed of God. Matthew 15:26-28 shows an example of God granting petitions when one humbles themselves. Many people today are lost in their sins because they refuse to humble themselves before God.

We need a pure religion, and undefiled of discipline.

Discipline brings us to a place of humility. When a child is disciplined, they are brought to a place of humility and then obedience. (Proverbs 22:6; Proverbs 22:15; Proverbs 29:15)

I Corinthians 5:1-5; Titus 3:10; and II Thessalonians 3:6 give local church bodies the instructions to discipline her members. This discipline is in order to preserve truth in the local body, but also in order for the disciplined member to repent.

To have a pure religion, and undefiled that is full of feeling, respect, and humility, we must have respect to God and obtain Godly fear. In this modern day, we need to go back to the old time religion. Each local body must examine themselves and see their down failings. (II Corinthians 13:5; I Corinthians 11:28) We each, as members of our local bodies, need to go back to the place where we are seeing God, seeing ourselves, and then moving forward in a closer fellowship with our God. (Isaiah 6:1-8; Romans 2:4; Hebrews 12:1-2) Let us go back to where that God is real to us and we live as vessels for His use and not our own. (I Corinthians 6:19; II Corinthians 13:5) Let us go back to the place where we remember what God has done for us. (Lamentations 3:19-23) Let us go back to the house of the Lord and remember what it felt like to have that close fellowship we once had.

**“And let us arise,
and go up to Bethel;
and I will make there
an altar unto God, who
answered me in the
day of my distress, and
was with me in the
way which I went.”
Genesis 35:3**

THE FAITH IN THESE LAST DAYS!

"The faith" has reference to the "whole body of truth", not to the individual's personal confidence. Titus 1:10-16; Luke 18:8; Jude 3 are all verses showing us that we need to stand for "the faith".

Paul was obedient to the faith. (Romans 1:5)

We are commanded to stand and to be strong in the faith. (I Corinthians 16:13)

We are told to examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith. (II Corinthians 13:5)

We are told to continue in the faith. (Colossians 1:23; 2:7)

Churches were and are to be established in the faith. (Acts 16:5)

We are to strive together for the faith of the gospel. (Philippians 1:27)

There is only one true faith or system of doctrine and practice. (Ephesians 4:5)

Jesus told His first church to teach only the things He had commanded them. (Matthew 28:20)

The Lord's New Testament churches are not freelancing. We have been given instructions of what we are to carry out, teach, stand for, and to live by. (II Timothy 3:16-17; I Timothy 3:15)

In the latter days, we have been warned what can happen if we are not careful with the faith.

Some shall depart from the faith. (I Timothy 4:1-6)

Some will even deny the faith. (I Timothy 5:8)

Some will cast off their first faith because of the lust of their flesh. (I Timothy 5:11-12)

Some shall be seduced from the truth because of the love of money. (I Timothy 6:10)

Some will err from the faith because they believe the false science of the world instead of God's Word. (I Timothy 6:20-21)

Some will overthrow the faith of others by their false doctrines. (II Timothy 2:17-19)

Some will even be reprobate concerning the faith. (II Timothy 3:8-17) They will become immune to the truth. No amount of logic or demonstration will convince them.

What is our responsibility then concerning the faith?

Is it just that we simply accept it?

No, it's more than that.

Is it just that we simply preach it?

No, it's more than that. We are to be reminded of it. (I Timothy 4:6)

We are to meditate on it. (Joshua 1:8)

We are to let it be our life. (I Corinthians 16:15)

In these last days, will the Lord find faith when He returns?

Yes, because of Matthew 16:18 we know He will.

But will He find you in the faith? (Matthew 28:20; Ephesians 3:21)

***“Say, will He find you and me still watching,
Waiting, waiting when the Lord shall come?”***