The recent Canadian election has been greeted with mixed emotions and some degree of consternation by Canadians encountered in the west as well as the east. One comment heard in British Columbia was that the CBC had announced the victory of Mr. Trudeau before the polls closed! Since our Canadian contacts are primarily Christian, the general thinking comes forth that Jesus has His Hand upon Canada. Therefore the future lies in His Hands and He will handle the government and the whole area of its politics and policies. This is similar to what was said when the United States leadership passed from Gerald Ford to Jimmy Carter.

One begins to see in life that the psychosomatic systems of men come and go but the deeper and truly important life of the Spirit remains constant and invariable. We saw in Poland and Czechoslovakia that despite atheistic suppression of the Church, God can never be suppressed. How wonderful it was to meet with deeply dedicated Christian brothers and sisters who had experienced the same infilling of the Holy Spirit, but made even stronger than we knew in North America. It is God's Earth—man is His creation—and God will do His will despite the plans and ambitions of earth bound human beings.

It is the heaven bound man who holds the hope of the world and these triune people are being manifested in increasing numbers in our day. We find them in humble log houses in the far north of British Columbia and in the surgeries of major hospitals. One physician in Edmonton said, "I have realized that Medicine as presently practiced is truly a system without life." "It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing." (John 6:63) An orthopedic surgeon resident in Toronto witnessed of the power of the new life in Christ which dispels fatigue and helplessness.

Of course we must begin to see that as possessors of the true and eternal life we must not recline and be silent as we so often have done in the past. Had our Pilgrim and Puritan ancestors been content to submit, the early Christian concept of our democracy would never have been set forth and achieved. Even so, each generation has had to recapture the principles of truth and life. Moses established the Levitical system of priesthood and this priesthood was described as warfare—(Num. 8:25 Amp.). The priesthood of believers must see that ours is a true warfare against the evil which constantly crops forth from the systems of carnally minded man—(carnal mind = sense and reason without the Holy Spirit). Paul tells us in Ephesians 6 that we must put on the whole armor of God in order to do battle against the principalities and powers—evil in high places. "For though we walk in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. For the weapons of our warfare are not physical (weapons of flesh and blood), but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds." (2 Cor. 10:3,4)

Thus the hope of the Western World lies not in the systems of men but in the Kingdom of God. The great move of the Holy Spirit in our day is for the purpose of wresting the people out of the hands of satan. Pierre Trudeau may have already received Christ and become filled with the Holy Spirit. If not, it could happen soon if the saints will pray and believe. The events of life force even the great and powerful to their knees. This was true of Richard Nixon. Dr. Larry Samuels records similar events in the life of Golda Meier and Mr. Begin. In spiritual warfare no man however great can stand before the risen Lord. May Canada continue on in traditional unity of spirit and prayerful thanksgiving for what God is doing in this day.

WSR

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Kay Reed, Eph. 3:20

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BEING "HELD HOSTAGE"

The present vogue of the day no longer is airplane hijacking and other forms of international violence such as was so dreadfully experienced by the Israeli athletes in the Munich Olympics. Since the Amin attempt to hold Israel hostage at the Entebbe airport, the idea has been presented to the world satanic mind that holding people hostage is a means of achieving certain political goals. At this writing fifty American citizens are hostages in Tehran and a similar embassy terrorism is occurring in Columbia. Even Mecca was not sacred enough in the Moslem mind to prevent its desecration.

Day by day in the unfolding of events, the age of Hitler and Mussolini sounds like the good old days, as bad and as lethal as that era was. Hitler killed his millions and international communism kills its tens of millions. St. Paul warns us in 2 Tim. 3:13, "Evil doers and seducers will wax worse and worse." The system of the world with its promises of great and wondrous things produces unending chaos and those who draw aside for a moment of contemplation wonder where it all is going to end.

In actuality it is the whole people of the earth who are held hostage--"...the whole world lies in wickedness." (1 John 5:19) Only God's people are those who are truly free. Watchman Nee in his prison cell was a free man while his persecutors were in eternal bondage. Many famous men with their millions are gone without a vestige of accomplishment for the betterment of mankind--imprisoned in life and in the hereafter by their possessions and the consequences of materialism. Ultimately it is better to be a small dirt farmer in the far regions of the Tennessee mountains than to be held hostage by the enslavement of power, wealth and position.

Jesus asked, "What will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26) What is one willing to give in trade for his mind? Jesus must have been referring to the anointed mind which results from giving the soul to the power of God's Holy Spirit for its purification and magnification. It is necessary that one either present his soul to God or to Satan. Each man must decide what he will do with his mentality. The person who elects the anesthetization of the soul--with either drugs, alcohol, meditative ablation, sexual aberrationism, or money-power-pleasure substitutionism--enters into the hostage system. True freedom is only possible when one allows his human spirit to come under the total control of God's Holy Spirit placing the soul in secondary position. This allows the development of the "mind of Christ" with its consequent soul-peace and eternal life.

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live; that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey His voice and that thou mayest cleave unto Him; for He is thy life, and the length of thy days..." (Deut. 30:19,20)

The choice is ours to make. Each man must exercise his own will in order to choose. A disciple is one who uses self discipline in order (over and over again) to choose the Jesus path. He consistently rejects the self path--the comfort path--the world rewarding path. He takes the narrow and the hard way, one fraught with difficulty and danger. He spends himself in the cause of Christ. No satanic power can touch such a person--even imprisonment and death present no problem. St. Paul tells us, "For me to live is Christ; to die is gain." (Phil. 1:21)" (Phil. 1:21)" (2 Cor. 5:15) "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36) "Now the Lord is that Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (2 Cor. 3:17)

William Standish Reed, M.D.

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