Kingdom Vision

Part four of the series, "Thrive: Spiritual Health in Times of Crisis"

Sunday, August 23, 2020 | Pastor Russell Tolentino

Crisis and persecution will come to every believer.

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. ¹⁹If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. ²⁰Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. ²¹They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me." (John 15:18-21 NIV)

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33 NIV)

Perseverance through crisis comes as we keep an eternal perspective.

"...Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy." (John 16:22 NIV)

"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹²I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength. (Philippians 4:11-13 NIV)

Eternal rewards promised for those who persevere.

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴" He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' ⁵He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.'" (Revelations 21:3-5 NIV)