



*Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.*

*May 2017*

*“What is Our Life?”*

My husband, Pastor Jim Craig, has been in the hospital since April 12<sup>th</sup> except for four days reprieve from chemo treatments. We are in a battle for his life, but what sustains him and the rest of us standing as an army, in prayer, is the Word of God and Who our God is.

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, I was sitting at a round table in Jim’s hospital room, asking and thinking in the presence of the LORD about what we might make as an appeal, about any obedience we might do on his behalf, things like that. The LORD spoke, and this is what I believe I heard from Him. It is a message, and it is for all of us.

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What is our life but a vapor? We make our plans. We have our dreams. But God, the Living God, is sovereign over all His creation. The LORD gives and the LORD takes away. Blessed be the Name of the LORD.

And what is the Name? That Name is above every name, in heaven above, and on the earth, and under the earth.

*And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also has highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:8-11.*

That Name is highly exalted inasmuch as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has exalted the Name of Jesus above every name. Nevertheless, God exalts His WORD above His Name.

*I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. KJV*

Yet Jesus Christ is the WORD made flesh, the Infinite God coming in Christ to do the Father's will, namely, to save a people to Himself. Jesus Christ was sent by the Father to save. All those for whom Christ died are saved to the uttermost by the power of God, by the power of God's love, His holiness, His truth, His atoning work. Of all that the Father gives Jesus, He loses none, not one.

It is Jesus who lives the life of obedience that God the Creator is due and requires.

It is Jesus who mediates the Covenant of Grace by which there is peace through the Blood of the Cross, overcoming alienation from the Father because of our sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

It is Jesus who redeems from bondage.

It is Jesus who propitiates the wrath of God, experiencing the agony of rejected love.

It is by the Blood atonement of Jesus Christ that our sins are forgiven, paid for in full, cancelling the debt note of sin and liability.

It is the sacrifice of Jesus, (who in a Body prepared for the purpose of our salvation), which was the Father's will; so by His stripes, we were healed.

The work of Christ on the Cross was a spectacle. Jesus triumphed publicly over the kingdom of darkness and the Devil. What Jesus did destroyed and destroys the work of Satan.

It is Jesus who has ALL DOMINION, all *kratos*, now, in heaven and on earth, all authority.

And to show that the Father was well pleased in His unique Son, Jesus was raised in resurrection glory by the power of the Father's love.

It is Jesus who ascended into heaven.

It is Jesus who sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

It is Jesus who is coming again in great glory.

It is Jesus who rules and reigns supreme, King of kings and Lord of lords. Jesus rules. Jesus holds the keys of death and hades. Jesus judges with righteous judgment.

No matter what happens, no matter our days, we must hold to this Gospel. We must preach this Gospel. We must preserve this Gospel.

*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love [agape] God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28*

*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38, 39*

Fight the good fight. And laid up for you will be crowns, crowns which you will lay at the feet of Jesus. For apart from Him, we can do nothing.

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A surgeon told us that if certain things were to happen, “it will take his life.” But our lives are in God’s hands. Our lives are not our own; we have been bought with a price. Jesus Christ holds the keys of David; Jesus has the keys of hell and of death. (Rev. 1:18, 19). Cancer, or any other created things will bow to the will of Jesus Christ, to whatever He so determines and to whenever He so determines it. Our lives are but a vapor, but the Word of the LORD stands forever. No matter what, we must preach this Gospel into all the world, holding fast to what is good.

Thank you for taking the time to pray for Pastor Jim’s recovery.

Just the Messenger,

*Mary Craig*

Mary Craig, D. Min.

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,  
I have kept the faith:  
Henceforth there is laid up for me  
A crown of righteousness, which the Lord,  
The righteous judge, shall give me at that day:  
And not to me only, but unto all them  
Also that love His appearing.  
2 Timothy 4:7, 8

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