

August 23, 2004  
118 West Side Rd.  
Judsonia, Ar.  
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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Greetings in His name.

Recently in conversing with a brother he mentioned that the present people of the Lord ought to be the most spiritual. Because we are so near the return of our Master., and we have so many examples of disciples who were steadfast in the past.

However, history is against this testimony. In Noah's day the righteous had dwindled to only eight souls. Even in Elijah's day of miracles the Lord reminded him that he had 7000 who had not bowed their knee to Baal. Even this number seemed to surprise Elijah.

Jesus says. "When the son of man returns will he find the faith on the earth".

The gates of hell will not prevail over all the churches, But they will be few and weak.

In Matt. 24/12 Jesus says the love of many shall wax cold.

"The spirit says expressly that in the latter days many will depart from the faith."

Reading of the ten virgins, half failed to endure because they had no extra oil. This seems to tell me that testing will become more severe as that day approaches.

While fellowshipping with some brethren, we tried to compare our lives with N.T. christians. It was not very encouraging. In fact I wondered about my sprritual tempature.

The departure from the Lord seems not first to be doctrinal, but upon "leaving our first love". Rev. 2/4.

I had the knee surgery July 30<sup>th</sup>. All is going well. I was in rehabilitation for two weeks at the hospital. I am now home, and will continue taking rehabilitation as an outpatient three times a week.

I really do appreciate your prayers in this matter.

*Thanks very much for the prayers for June, July & August  
I have not completely recovered from a virus.*

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus

*Edgar D. Sullivan*  
Edgar D. Sullivan

*Please forgive me for being late in writing*