

Questioned & Convicted Some Eternal Questions

Romans 14:7-12

ONE THING

“We must not deceive ourselves into thinking we would choose to die for Christ during times of persecution if we refuse to live for Christ during times of peace.”

This year is a leap year...

Because our earth’s revolution around the sun is almost exactly 365.25 days, every fourth year we add an extra day.... February 29th

It was on a previous February 29th that a significant event took place ...

It began a few years earlier...

On August 22, 1944 one million Russian groups that had invaded Romania broke through the borders.

By 1947 the left wing press had accused their president and leadership of so many hidden agendas that the president resigned and Communism took over with absolute government control.

The people had been promised freedom from evil tyranny with everyone becoming equal...

The Romanians soon found out that the atheistic socialism of Communism only brought in another darker evil tyranny.

In 1947, at a gathering of religious leaders, the Communists were convincing the leadership of the various religious groups of the benefits their churches and synagogues would now have under communism.

A pastor by the name of Richard Wurmbbrand along with his wife, Sabina, were present at the large gathering.

They were both deeply burdened in their spirits by this wrong, but sat quietly listening.

Suddenly Sabina leaned over to her husband, Richard, and said...

Richard replied...

Sabina, with deep conviction, said...

Richard stood up, went to the podium and denounced in any way that the Lord Jesus and His Church should come under any government...

On Sunday, February 29, 1948, Richard Wurmbbrand was walking to the church. On his way a car full of Secret Police pulled over and grabbed him. They handcuffed him, threw a black sack over his head and took him off to prison.

Richard was convicted of placing his faith in Jesus Christ over the Government’s laws...

This coming Saturday is February 29th

Romans 14:7–12 (ESV) — 7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. 8 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; 11 for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." 12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV) — 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

When I stand before God what will He be looking for in my life?

ONE THING

"We must not DECEIVE ourselves into thinking we would CHOOSE to DIE for Christ during times of PERSECUTION if we REFUSE to LIVE for Christ during times of PEACE."

"A man really believes not what he recites in his creed, but only the things he is ready to die for."

—Richard Wurmbrand

Question #1: Am I living my life in such a way that I am daily ACCOMPLISHING the Father's WILL?

John 5:19 (ESV) — So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.

Matthew 26:39 (ESV) — And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV) — Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

➤ Key #1 - ALIGNMENT

Romans 12:1–2 (ESV) — 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your

spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Question #2:

Am I living my life in such a way that JESUS is the LOVE of my LIFE?

Luke 14:26 (ESV) — If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:27 (ESV) — Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33 (ESV) — So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Mark 12:30 (ESV) — And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

➤ **Key #2 - AFFECTION**

Question #3:

Am I living my life in such a way that the SPIRIT clearly TESTIFIES with my SPIRIT that I am a CHILD of God?

Romans 8:16 (ESV) — The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

➤ **Key #3 - ADOPTION**

John 1:12–13 (ESV) — But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

The Communist torturers often said, 'There is no God, no hereafter, no punishment for evil. We can do what we wish.' I have heard one torturer even say, 'I thank God, in whom I don't believe, that I have lived to this hour when I can express all the evil in my heart.' He expressed it in unbelievable brutality and torture inflicted on prisoners. —Richard Wurmbrand

→ Some Quotes by Richard Wurmbrand ←

A man really believes not what he recites in his creed, but only the things he is ready to die for.

It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their [the

communists'] terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy.

I have seen Christians in Communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron poker, in whose throats spoonfuls of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold - and praying with fervor for the Communists. This is humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts.

A flower, if you bruise it under your feet, rewards you by giving you its perfume.

My wife and I were present at this congress. Sabina told me, "Richard, stand up and wash away this shame from the face of Christ! They are spitting in His face." I said to her, "If I do so, you lose your husband." She replied, "I don't wish to have a coward as a husband.

There was once a fiddler who played so beautifully that everybody danced. A deaf man who could not hear the music considered them all insane. Those who are with Jesus in suffering hear this music to which other men are deaf. They dance and do not care if they are considered insane.

As communist atheists allowed no place for Jesus in their hearts, I decided I'd leave not the smallest place for Satan in mine.

I had prepared myself for prison and torture as a soldier in peacetime prepares for the hardships of war. I had studied the lives of Christians who had faced similar pains and temptations to surrender and thought how I might adapt their experiences. Many who had not so prepared

themselves were crushed by suffering, or deluded into saying what they should not.

The Communist torturers often said, 'There is no God, no hereafter, no punishment for evil. We can do what we wish.' I have heard one torturer even say, 'I thank God, in whom I don't believe, that I have lived to this hour when I can express all the evil in my heart.' He expressed it in unbelievable brutality and torture inflicted on prisoners.

—Richard Wurmbrand

"We must not deceive ourselves into thinking we would choose to die for Christ during times of persecution if we refuse to live for Christ during times of peace."

**Questioned & Convicted
Some Eternal Questions
Romans 14:7-12**

*“We must not _____ ourselves into thinking we would
_____ to _____ for Christ during times of
_____ if we _____ to _____ for Christ
during times of _____.”*

**Question #1: Am I living my life in such a way that I am
daily _____ the Father’s _____?**

➤ **Key # 1** _____

**Question #2: Am I living my life in such a way that
_____ is the _____ of my _____?**

➤ **Key # 2** _____

**Question #3: Am I living my life in such a way that the
_____ clearly _____ with my _____
that I am a _____ of God?**

➤ **Key # 3** _____