



*The New Life Mission*

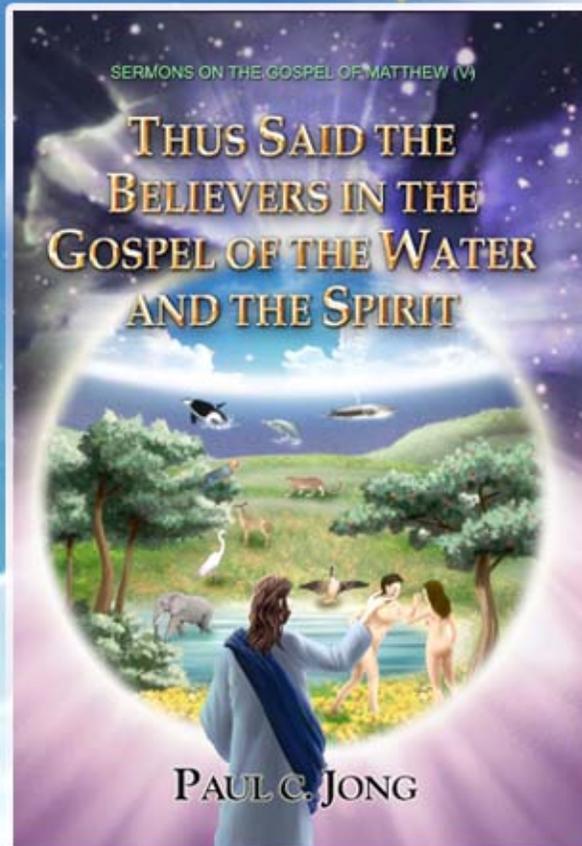
SERMONS ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW (V)

# THUS SAID THE BELIEVERS IN THE GOSPEL OF THE WATER AND THE SPIRIT

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# The New Life Mission

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## *To the People of Jesus Christ, the King of Kings*

The Apostle Matthew is telling us that the Word of Jesus was spoken to everyone in this world, for he saw Jesus as the King of kings. Now, Christians throughout the world, who have just been born again by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit that we are spreading, are indeed yearning to feed on the bread of life. But it is difficult for them to have fellowship with us in the true gospel, for they are all far away from us.

Therefore, to meet the spiritual needs of these people of Jesus Christ, the King of kings, the sermons in this book have been prepared as new bread of life for them to nourish their spiritual growth. The author proclaims that those who have received the remission of their sins by believing in the Word of Jesus Christ, the King of kings, must feed on His pure Word in order to defend their faith and sustain their spiritual lives.

This book will provide the real spiritual bread of life to all of you who have become the royal people of the King by faith. Through His Church and servants, God will continue to provide you with this bread of life. May God's blessings be on all of you who have been born again of water and the Spirit, who desire to have true spiritual fellowship with us in Jesus Christ.



SERMONS ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW (V)

**THUS SAID THE  
BELIEVERS IN THE  
GOSPEL OF THE WATER  
AND THE SPIRIT**

**PAUL C. JONG**

**Hephzibah Publishing House**

A Ministry of THE NEW LIFE MISSION  
SEOUL, KOREA

*SERMONS ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW (V)  
THUS SAID THE BELIEVERS IN THE  
GOSPEL OF THE WATER AND THE SPIRIT*

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## Preface

Across the nations, many people are receiving the remission of sin. As a result, we are in need of people to lead them and give them guidance in their walk with the Lord. We should lead those who have received the remission of all their sins into God's Church. I strongly hope that many leaders will rise up in every country of the world. I wish I could dispatch all of my staff workers to go out in the world as messengers of God, as missionaries. However, if they were sent across the nations, who could support the gospel of righteousness here for God's work as the ornamental knobs of the lampstand? I, therefore, hope that God's workers will rise up in every single nation for this solemn ministry.

This publication is one of my spiritual growth series for the future leaders of the redeemed. As I serve the Lord, I believe that God's people will rise

up. In anticipation of the future leaders, I have prepared these sermons on tape, which I present to you now. The sermons, which have been edited and translated for the purpose of training the leaders of tomorrow, will bring the soul-nurturing messages to your hearts.

I believe that these sermons will be spiritual food indeed for all people. Because it is impossible for all of us to have fellowship face to face with believers and God's workers from other nations, I hope that through sharing this book, I can have spiritual fellowship with them, who have already believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We are all thankful that God has made us His workers, by feeding us the Food of Life.

We have, so far, published over 20 books in English. And we have found that many of those who have read the books are thankful for their receiving the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Now, through the sermons for spiritual growth, I will once again testify to them that



the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the only Truth that gives life. I am sure they, after perusing this book, will come to realize all the Scriptures are filled with the Truth of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. And eventually, all people in the world will deeply understand that the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the only Truth. Once they realize the Truth and throw away their emotion-oriented faith, their hearts will be filled with the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the only way to the everlasting redemption. And they all will live as the disciples of Christ; become His instruments that save the lost souls; and do His work for the lost sheep across the nations by placing their faith in the power of the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

As every plant blooms and then bears fruit, I believe the power of the true gospels not only blesses those who believe but also allows them to lead their lives as God's workers. They will be blessed in body and spirit. Now, God's workers in all nations will sow the seeds of the gospel of the water and the

Spirit, and save countless people from their sins. As we preach the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we will continue to win. We will bear more fruits of God with the belief in this true gospel. We are living in the time of harvest and we shall have a greater yield of fruits of salvation. Now, we believe in His Word, are thankful to Him, and glorify Him.

If God permits, we will continue to do these things and more. And I believe He will bless every one of us. May God give abundant spiritual and physical blessings—the blessings of the holy faith from Heaven and the fatness of the earth—to everyone who believes in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

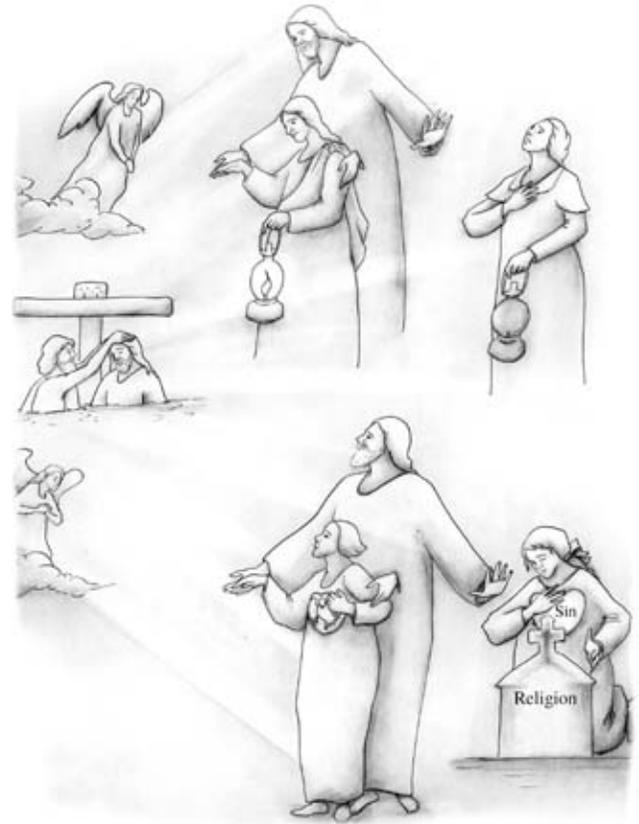


**Paul C. Jong**



# CHAPTER

# 24



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## **Prepare for the Second Coming of the Lord**

< **Matthew 24:7-31** >

**“For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of**

**desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened. Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is**



**in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together. Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”**

A thought occurred to me, “How much time from this moment on will be left for the righteous to gather together and offer worship?” I think about 10 years

should be sufficient. And, I worry over how we, the righteous, will endure when the tribulation truly arrives until the time of the rapture. However, on the other hand, a feeling of thankfulness also arises. It is because I have thought about the fact that if we were to stay alive until the rapture we would be able to taste the glory of getting raised before the Lord and having been changed without having suffered death. By saying, “*Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet*” (1 Corinthians 15:51), the Apostle Paul told us that if we were to stay alive until that moment, we shall all be changed in the twinkling of an eye, be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17). Therefore, I don’t know whether to say to you that you and I have been born into good times or to say that you and I have been born into bad times. It is because a life of faith isn’t a theory but rather a reality.



## How Will the Righteous Endure for 10 Years

It is of great importance how we, the righteous, will live by faith for about 10 years from now. What I am saying to you is that even if our Lord does not come within 10 years from now, it is very important for us whether or not we live out our faith for about 10 years in this world which is headed toward destruction.

I am not intimidating you. Right now, the world has agreed on the Uruguay Round and is moving toward the direction of worldwide economic integration under the banner of free trade. All countries of the world are now bullying Korea to relinquish protective trade policy at this time and to open up for agricultural products. Looking at such events, I started thinking, “They are really putting up quite a show. Soon, they won’t even have food for themselves, yet they are making all that commotion to have Korea purchase their food. With a worldwide

famine for about 2 to 3 years, the food supply will hit the bottom and all will starve to death. But despite such circumstances, why would they come to a weaker nation and make threats and commotions to have it purchase their food?”

At one time, Gorbachev, a political leader of the former Soviet Union, pushed forward with opening up the former Soviet Union and its reform under the banner of perestroika. At the time, Gorbachev was in the midst of high popularity, but I was sure back then that Gorbachev would surely be toppled and his policies would never receive support. The Bible says that *the king of the North* will invade Israel at the end of the age (Daniel 11:9). It doesn’t make sense for Russia, a country soon to be like that, to be shouting out for any democracy and political reform. That country is fundamentally very violent and bellicose. Even though the country had dissolved the union and divided itself into various independent nation-states, and even though it shouts for reforms, the nations will fight with each other later on, and in the end they



will be united once more. Those nation-states will come together as one once more, and then make war against the entire world. A country that could do so is the former Soviet Union.

And so, when the popularity of Gorbachev was soaring, I had said mockingly, “Ah, soon that man will step down from his office. Right now, he is enforcing policies that do not make sense.” And, when I said it people who hadn’t been born again that were around me pointed to me and said that I was a crazy man. They said cynically, “What do you know? The United States is cooperating with the Soviet Union’s open-door policy and the entire world is applauding. Yet, what do you know to say a thing like that?” I said to them, “Let us wait and see if it really happens. Wait just a little more and Gorbachev’s reform policies will become quite unsatisfactory. And soon, he will step down from his office.”

Incidentally, after a little while he did step down from his office. By then, the sinners looked up to me

somewhat. They were saying, “That man is surprising. Wow, how did he predict that?” Dear fellow believers, am I smart? Did I say those words because I was smart? No, that is not the case. Because it is shown in the Bible, I had said those words by believing in the Bible as it is. Because I believe in the Word of God in which He says faith is the substance of things hoped for and because I believe in things turning out according to the Word, I was able to speak out those words by faith. In a country where there is freedom of religion, can’t a man speak out of his faith? If a man can’t, then it would just be a communist country. Whatever the case, because of that happening, my popularity was raised a bit among the sinners.

## **A Grave World**

Dear fellow believers, please take a look at how the world is turning out. You might be in a very good



mood, but once you ponder how the world is turning out, your hearts can never be just jovial. When you come here to Chuncheon from Sokcho, you will be following the upper stream of the Han River. As I go back and forth from Sokcho several times every year, I have noticed that the water level is declining. At first, when I was going back and forth from Sokcho to Chuncheon, I noticed that the water level was high, nearing the riverbank. But, year after year, the water level shrunk little by little up to the point now where it is no longer a river. It is just ditch water trickling down the middle of that wide riverbed. It is said that the Amazon River, which is the largest river in the world, is drying up like that, and truly, this world has become a place where one has to be concerned more and more about water shortage due to drought.

Because of the shortage of snowfall this winter, it is said that the shortage of drinking water will be severe next spring in the southern region of Korea. It is said that immediate drinking water will be in

absolute shortage, let alone that for industrial use, as well as that for agricultural use. Later, water coming from the bathroom will seem too precious to just let it go to waste, and so we might even have to drink that water by collecting it and then purifying it. There is a strong possibility for that to happen. Thus, I am truly thankful for living in the northern region where there is a lot of snow. I was born and raised in Busan, but if I had been down there I would have been collecting and purifying water mixed with urine and feces of people up the river and then drinking it. However, I am living here in the northern region and I am so thankful for not having had to do so.

## **When Will the End of the Age Mentioned in the Bible Begin?**

Precisely, when is the day that this world will completely come to an end? When will the rapture occur? This is the biggest concern for all people. The



greatest matters that the entire humankind is concerned about are these three questions: When will the tribulation begin? When will this world come to an end? And, when will the rapture occur to the righteous people who have been born again of water and the Spirit? The Bible often says that at the end of the age, there will be tribulation. It is written that the nation of Israel will fall into tribulation and suffer tribulation for three and a half years. Also, it is said that those among the people of God who endure to the end times will receive salvation. And the Bible says that the end of the world is near.

The nation of Israel had lost its country for about 2,000 years and was rebuilt just recently. That country has sprouted once more and now puts forth leaves in abundance. And the Lord has said that when that country becomes a bit more exuberant, it will be invaded by enemy troops once more until it recognizes and accepts the truth that Jesus who had come in the past is the Savior that they have been waiting for. Then it will live in the midst of

tribulation. A conceited person will sit on top of a place where the ark is laid, inside the Temple of the nation of Israel, and the person will proclaim, “I am God. From this moment on, I completely prohibit your offering sacrifices to God.” The Lord has said that for three and a half years, there will be tribulation upon the people of Israel as well as the entire world. The Book of Daniel says that hence, three and a half years after the nation of Israel has gone under tribulation, the end will fall upon this world.

## **Then, What Point in Time Should We Consider as the Beginning of Sorrows?**

When does the Bible say will be the end of this world? Today, we are going to think about this and how we will live from now on.

The Gospel of Matthew chapter 24, in its entirety,



speaks about the end of the nation of Israel and the end of this world. And so, this chapter is referred to as the chapter of the end times. The disciples first asked the Lord, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming and the end of the age?” And the Lord answered and said to them, “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”

With the Word, the Lord spoke of the end of the world in a long series as if it were a novel. Also, the Lord spoke of the things that will happen in the end times repeatedly. Thus, the born-again righteous can understand this passage by reading it once. In other words, it is said that destruction shall overtake the

sons of darkness as a thief, but all sons of light, not sleeping, shall watch and be sober for that day (1 Thessalonians 5:4-5). People of this world cannot understand the Word of Christ concerning the end of the world.

First, the Lord spoke of when the tribulation will begin. It is shown in verse 6, “*And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*” There will be so many wars and rumors of wars. However, it is said that that will not yet be the end.

In verse 7 and 8, it is said, “*For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.*” Dear fellow believers, in the future, nations will rise against nations, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. Soon, worldwide famine will worsen. And countries will create alliances and fight each



other. In order to defend one's country, it would have to possess nuclear weapons. When wars pervade, weaker nations that do not possess nuclear weapons will be crushed to destruction by stronger nations.

Also, even if the powerful nations do not use military force through trade wars, they will devour those nations that are weak. Using the WTO system established through the Uruguay Round, all the powerful nations will make pacts that are favorable to them and try to dominate weaker nations. People say that globalization is beneficial, but it isn't always good. With the finalization of globalization, the world will become one, and an absolute king will come to rise. Then, at the end, he will coerce every one into receiving the mark of 666. In other words, this world is right now crying out for globalization in order to head toward the end.

Wars rising from countries and nations fighting against each other are categorized as an artificial calamity, but what can we do about the two calamities brought on by nature, that is, famines and

earthquakes? All over the world, the number of famines and earthquakes are on the rise. Currently, there are so many people dying because of famine. Not long ago when Ethiopian refugees and Somali refugees were shown on TV, you must have seen images of children in starvation with their belly bulging out due to abdominal dropsy. When I saw those children with bulging bellies I was reminded of my younger days.

When I was young, I barely had anything to eat due to a food shortage, and so I had a figure similar to those children. It was right after the Korean War (1950~1953) and the entire nation was in ruins. And, it was very difficult to survive. When you pick out some edible grass from the field and boil it in a pot for a long time along with a handful of rice, you get a grass gruel that is thin and light. My mother would take some of that, put it in a bowl, and stir it. You were able to count the number of rice grains in them. There are a few grains of rice and some leaves of wild edible greens, but the rest is just water. And so,



no matter how much you would eat them, you could not help but feel hungry. You would eat and eat trying to satisfy hunger, but when you tried to get up, you were unable to do so because of so much water filled inside your stomach. And so, in order to stand up, you had to do so by just barely getting support from the legs of the dinner table. The bulging stomach looked full, but because it was filled with water, which lacked nutrition, you were in so much hunger. That is why, when I see those Somali children with their bellies bulging out, I am able to understand how hungry they must be.

## **Many Sinners Will Die of Famine**

In the future, Somalis won't be the only ones dying of famine, but rather there will be many people all over the world dying of famine. Earthquakes will also occur everywhere. Yesterday, a strong earthquake occurred in Japan. I heard some news

from Pastor Kim, and it is said that at least 2,500 have died and the number of the injured is over 4,000. This earthquake was a strong one, measuring over 7 on the Richter scale; there were many losses, houses crumbled, roads were destroyed, and railroad tracks were cut apart. Japanese pride themselves on building the sturdiest building structures in the world. Yet, so many buildings came down because of the earthquake. Rev. Kim said that the number of dead would rise higher because they haven't been able to dig up people buried under the rubble.

About this time last year, there was a strong earthquake in Los Angeles, California, USA. US geologists are predicting that a super-scale earthquake will be occurring in the western part of the US in the near future. Geologists can find out how large of an earthquake will be occurring and approximately when, by basing it on information concerning structures of the continental plates and their moving speed. The recent earthquake in Japan was made up of three continuous shocks. There were



much more losses because strong aftershocks had shortly followed the initial tremor.

Thus, what we fear the most is the coming of famines and earthquakes on a worldwide scale. Famines and earthquakes are scarier than wars. Dear fellow believers, even though there isn't anyone shooting guns, when a famine continues for a few years people turn feeble and die. What I am saying is that there will come a tragic time when people will just die because there isn't any food, even if they were to struggle restlessly to live. Right now famines have already begun all over the world. And unusual changes of weather are accelerating all over the world. Not too long ago, I heard that Los Angeles issued a state of emergency because of a winter tornado. Such events will occur more and more in the future. Please know that such natural disasters will continue to occur more and more.

Korea is a country that has a water shortage. Most people don't understand the seriousness of water shortage. However, as I watch the television, I see

how serious it is. And, when you see reservoirs getting dried up around you, you would probably understand its seriousness. We view it more seriously because it is written in the Bible that such things will be occurring in this world at the end of the age. Our Lord has said that there will be such things happening at the end of the age. He says that once the calamities start, nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. He also says that famines will occur and earthquakes will break out in various places. What is more, He says that these are the beginning of sorrows. Because the Lord said that these are the beginning of sorrows, they are very serious.

Of course, there have been earthquakes on the earth since the beginning, and they still exist today. In other words, earthquakes have always occurred. However, the thing is that from now on, earthquakes will be occurring all over the world at the same time. As of recent, there have been earthquakes even in Korea, a region that supposedly had hardly any



occurrences of earthquakes. There are magmas flowing underneath the earth's crust, and it is reported that there has been a change in their flow. There are so many abnormalities in weather that typhoons are occurring even in winter.

Just in Korea alone, there were many great abnormalities in weather. The Lord has said that when there are frequent famines and earthquakes on earth, be warned that they are the beginning of sorrows. What it means is that that would be the beginning of the tribulation. Frequent occurrences of calamities are the warning signs of the tribulation to come. God turns up the warning siren saying, "From this moment on, there will be the tribulation," and that time is when there will be occurrences of famines and earthquakes in various places and many outbreaks of war. When the calamities occur, an alarm will ring, signifying that the tribulation has come upon this world.

All living creatures have the power to know beforehand the coming of natural disasters and to

cope with them instinctively. When you go to seashores, there are worm-like creatures called, sea-slaters. They seem somewhat odd. Sea-slaters are creatures that live on seashores feeding on dead animal flesh. Those creatures live between rocks along the seashore or on a bed of pebbles. But on some days, you can see that these sea-slaters have crawled their way up into fields that are about 10 m high up from the seashore. When adults see this phenomenon, they say that there will soon be a tidal wave. They say, "Listen to me child. Starting today, do not go into the sea. There will be a tidal wave at the seashore." "No, what do you mean by tidal wave? The waves are so calm, yet how could you say there will be a tidal wave?" "Listen carefully to me. Know that a tidal wave will come when I say it will. Just wait a day or two. See if it really comes or not." No matter though, the sea seems so calm. It looks as though it were a lake. However, in fact, the sea is very calm before a tidal wave. But in two or three days, the sea begins to move all of a sudden and then



it surges and overturns. Great waves turn the sea floor upside down. Waves five to ten meters in height form and tidal waves come ashore.

Dear fellow believers, people cannot see the tidal wave coming, yet how is it that such trifle creatures know of it before we humans? They flee to a safe place a couple of days ahead of time, and then when the tidal wave passes they go back down to the seashore living as they had before. They can be found in great numbers. People cannot see the calamities that they are about to face, but the fact is that trifle creatures see them coming very well. Thus, I think that is why there is a saying, people are no better than trifle creatures.

Our Lord says, *“When it is evening you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red;’ and in the morning, ‘It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times”* (Matthew 16:2-3), and He grieves. Even while we are going round and round,

just eating food, going to the bathroom, falling asleep, and then waking up, there is one thing that we must know. We must go on living with a proper understanding of how this world will change in the future and of what the Lord has said about this day and age, all the while thinking about them.

Once calamities start in this world, He says that famines and earthquakes will occur frequently and that many wars will occur due to nation rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom. And He says that many people will die because of such calamities. When nation rises against nation, and country against country, what will happen is that the stronger countries will be devouring the weaker ones. At a time when country rises against country, and nation against nation, a good neighbor policy set in the past gets ignored. In order to survive, a country will be swallowing up weaker countries. Put differently, a strong country will resume a good trade relationship, but when the partnering country starts to disobey its terms, it will crush the partnering country with its



military force. It means that such happening will occur amongst countries in this world.

As the calamities occur rampantly in this world, the nation of Israel signs an agreement with a certain country. “Let us not go to war against each other.” But all of a sudden one day, that country betrays Israel and invades rapidly. We should know beforehand the fact that when the nation of Israel gets invaded by a certain country, we have entered the last phase toward the tribulation. The tribulation is seven years long, but the duration of the tribulation that we have to go through will be three and a half years. It is three and a half years from the moment when the nation of Israel gets invaded by a certain country and its entire territory gets completely burnt to the ground. Daniel and the Apostle Paul speak of this part. The Prophet Daniel said, *“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three*

*hundred and thirty-five days” (Daniel 12:11-12).* 1,290 days as well as 1,335 days refer to a time period that is a little more than three and a half years since the beginning of the tribulation.

Those who endure for three and a half years since the beginning of the tribulation get to receive the salvation. Our Lord comes down to this earth to reward those who had endured to the end, not having bowed before the idol of the Antichrist, not having received the mark on their hands or forehead, and not having betrayed the Lord God. That will be the end of the world. For the first time since the creation of the heavens and the earth, the beginning of His work, this world will be coming to an end.

And, the Lord will build new heavens and new earth out of this planet, and then, by renewing this world and all the creation, He will have the righteous live for one thousand years. The Book of Revelation speaks of this. We must know that there will be only three and a half years left for this world when a certain country invades the nation of Israel, burns the



nation of Israel down to the ground, and erects its own idol inside the most holy of the Temple. When the tribulation comes, soon there will be the rapture, and the world will come to an end. The entire history of humankind begins in the nation of Israel, moves around the globe once, and comes back to the nation of Israel where it concludes. And the end of the world comes.

God created Adam and Eve. By making them be born again by the gospel of the water and the Spirit, He created the descendants of faith. Starting from Adam, God allowed his descendants to flourish and continued to let the descendants of faith, such as Seth, Enoch, Methuselah, Noah, and Abraham, remain on this earth. Also, through His righteous people He unfolded the history of this world.

The nation of Israel will be invaded and be burned to the ground by the enemies at the end because the people of Israel do not believe in Jesus Christ. The people of Israel still do not accept Jesus as the Son of God. By giving the land of Canaan to the

descendants of Abraham, God had promised that He would have them live there forever. And, He told them to carry out circumcision as the sign of His promise. However, the people of Israel did not accept Jesus who had come to circumcise the hearts of all humankind. They did not accept Jesus as the Son of God. And so, the fact is that God wants to give the nation of Israel a chance to turn back by making it go through hardships one more time before He ends this world.

By making the nation of Israel surrender before the Lord through the tribulation, the Lord is bestowing grace upon the people of Israel so that they would believe in Jesus as the Savior and thus become God's people. Because the Lord had loved Abraham and had made a promise to him, He will take the descendants of Abraham as people of Heaven, even through a coercive way. In order to present Heaven to the remaining people of Israel by making them be born again by having them believe in Jesus, the Lord focuses the end of the history of



this world on the nation of Israel. The fact is that God is giving the people of Israel a chance.

When the people of Israel believe, “Jesus Christ is the Son of God,” and accept Jesus as their Savior, this world comes to an end. As soon as they start to believe in Jesus as their Savior, God will be giving them the spiritual land of Canaan, that is, the everlasting Kingdom of Heaven. God will bring this world to an end when He fulfills that single promise to the people of Israel. All that God has promised to us as human beings has been fulfilled already and the only remaining promise is His promise to save the descendants of Abraham. As soon as that promise gets fulfilled, the Lord can then bring the Millennial Kingdom to this world. Furthermore, the Lord will be unfolding new heavens and new earth of an everlasting world upon the righteous, and thus, an age of everlasting happiness will begin.

## **The Righteous Must Closely Observe the Nation of Israel**

In Korea, there once was a group of people called, Dami Mission, who were seducing the world by saying that Jesus would come October 28, 1992. To say that Jesus was coming despite the fact that the nation of Israel wasn't even invaded was nothing more than a delirious utterance spoken out of ignorance of the Bible. To those who were claiming that Jesus would be coming on October 28, 1992, I said, “How could someone who claims to have faith in Jesus be so imprudent? Do you not know the Bible? Do you believe so without the knowledge of the history of the nation of Israel? What does God say about the end of the world in the Bible? The reason why God has to burn the people of Israel down to the ground is all shown in the Bible, yet you do not know the reason? Right now, this nation of Israel has become a powerful nation by sprouting new leaves like that and then becoming a fig tree full



of leaves like that. Isn't the case that so many countries throughout the world are right now showing animosity toward the nation of Israel?" As such, I admonished them.

Even in the United Nations, the nation of Israel is treated like a stumbling stone. Even though Israel is an explosives warehouse of the Middle East and acts like an eyesore to many countries, the entire world cannot bring the nation of Israel under its control. God allowed the people of Israel to resume their land about 2,000 years after the loss, just as He had promised, "I shall make you know that I am your God." God had made promises through numerous prophets of the Old Testament, and He did actually fulfill them. For a country that has been devastated for about 2,000 years to be rebuilt is an unprecedented event in history. It is something that can never happen without the working of God.

What we should remember is the fact that this country has now become a powerful nation. The nation of Israel is strongly intact like so. Thus, how

can Jesus come? That nation has to be burned down to the ground for Jesus to come. Why? It is because the Lord will burn that nation down to the ground at least once to save the people of Israel. And thus, after the people of Israel have been born again by believing in Jesus Christ, the Lord will come to wake those who are sleeping in their tombs and having received the remission of sins and to bring His people, that is, His children up to His Kingdom. When the Lord created humankind He had the intention to take them up to the Kingdom of Heaven and live together with them forever, and on the last day He will bring all the righteous people up to Heaven by saving the people of Israel.

## **Now Is the Beginning of the Tribulation**

When famines and earthquakes occur frequently in this world and when the risings of nation against



nation and country against country begin, you should know that the tribulation willed by the Lord has come. As it is said, with recurrent releases of gas, dung is soon to follow, when the signs that are said to appear at the end of the age start to occur frequently that will be the beginning of sorrows. All that you and I need to know is the fact that the world has gone into the tribulation from that moment. Dear fellow believers, do you understand? As for you and me, I hope that we will lead a life of faith with the understanding of the beginning of the tribulation.

Dear fellow believers, right now you and I can smile with composure, and even if the tribulation comes, I wonder if we might be able to still smile. I think that we, brothers and sisters, will be able to gather together and giggle and chuckle with pure happiness, even if the tribulation should come. It is because there will be so many things to be happy about when we gather together, no matter how bad the world is turning. I believe we will be able to smile even during the tribulation because our Lord

will have turned us into the righteous filled with hope.

The Lord speaks of when this world will come to a perfect end like so:

*“At that time Michael shall stand up,*

*The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;*

*And there shall be a time of trouble,*

*Such as never was since there was a nation,*

*Even to that time.*

*And at that time your people shall be delivered,*

*Every one who is found written in the book.*

*And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,*

*Some to everlasting life,*

*Some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

*Those who are wise shall shine*

*Like the brightness of the firmament,*

*And those who turn many to righteousness*

*Like the stars forever and ever.*

*But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the*



*book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase” (Daniel 12:1-4).*

On what does the Bible focus lastly? It is on the people of Israel. What does God consider as the target of the end of this world? God considers the nation of Israel. God said, *“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1).* Accordingly, through Daniel the prophet, God is saying that the tribulation will fall upon the people of Israel also. Also, He says that at that time the Angel Michael shall stand up. Furthermore, in the midst of that tribulation He says that many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to an everlasting life. In other words, in the midst of the tribulation, there will be the rapture of which the Apostle Paul spoke. The fact is that the rapture will

occur during the seven-year period of the great tribulation.

The Book of Daniel says, *“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. “But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days” (Daniel 12:11-13).* Blessed are those who wait and come to the 1,335 days, approximately three and a half years. It is said that those who endure for a period of a little more than three and a half years, starting from the beginning of the tribulations, will be blessed, because the rapture will occur at that time. This is written in Second Thessalonians chapter 2, and the Book of Daniel also records this Word of prophecy. It is said, *“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety*



*days,*” and this means that the abomination of desolation will be set up in the Temple when a certain country takes hold of the nation of Israel.

The most important thing for the people of Israel is none other than the Temple. The most important thing inside the Temple is the ark. Inside the Holy Place a veil is set up once more, and behind the veil is the Most Holy where there is the ark. And there you will find the ark. The ark, rectangular in shape, measuring 110cm in length, about 70cm in width, and 70cm in height, is covered by a lid called the mercy seat, which has figures of two golden cherubim at either end facing each other with their wings stretched out. When you open this lid called the mercy seat, inside the ark, you will find Aaron’s rod that budded, a golden pot that has the manna, and the two stone tablets of the Ten Commandments.

Once a year on the Day of the Atonement, the High Priest laid his hand on the head of a goat. Having transferred the sins of the people of Israel over to that goat, he then drew blood from it by

cutting open its throat. And as he collected the blood in basins and sprinkled it seven times on top of the Mercy Seat, which is the cover for the ark, the people of Israel got to receive the remission of sins. Because this is carried out at the end of the sacrificial ceremony of the Day of Atonement, it was of great importance. Even though Jesus has already offered the eternal sacrifice for atonement in accordance with this sacrificial system and thus has become the Savior, the people of Israel are still offering this legalistic sacrifice because they do not believe in the eternal sacrifice for atonement that the Lord has fulfilled.

But, when the end of the age comes, a certain man will go on top of the ark, and saying that he is God, he will block out everything so that people cannot offer sacrifices before God. Because the people of Israel regard that as something that is worse than loosing in a war and dying, when that happens it will be the end for that nation. To the people of Israel, religious oppression that does not allow them to offer



sacrifices is the same as death. It is said that a certain powerful ruler will appear and “take away the daily sacrifice and set up the abomination of desolation.” In other words, it is telling us that when a certain idol is set upon the ark and people are made to worship it, let it be known that it is time when the tribulation is moving toward its peak. The exact same thing is also mentioned in the Book of Second Thessalonians.

In the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians, chapter 2, it is said, “*Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God*” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4).

What the Apostle Paul says starting from the middle of verse 3 to verse 4 is the same thing as the Word in the Book of Daniel which says they shall take away the daily sacrifices and place there *the abomination of desolation*. Here, in Second Thessalonians chapter 2 verse 4, it is said, “*Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God.*” The Apostle Paul says that *the abomination of desolation* is a man. He is saying that a certain man will sit on top of the ark and say, “I am God.”

In the First Book of Thessalonians chapter 4, verse 15, the Apostle Paul, quoting the Word written in the Old Testament, says that there will be rapture. Henceforth, many saints as well as those in Thessalonica started to lead a disorderly life little by little as they waited for the time of the Lord’s second coming and the rapture of the saints. And so, the Apostle Paul went on to say clearly that first there will be the falling away, then there will be the nation



of Israel getting invaded, and then someone will go on top of the ark of the Israeli Temple and show himself that he is God. And after all that, he said there will be the rapture of the righteous. Thus, the fact is that the rapture of the righteous will occur during the tribulation of the nation of Israel. Do you understand this?

Theologians mostly profess the ‘pre-tribulation rapture’ theory. It says that all the saints will go through the rapture and be taken up before the tribulation falls upon this world. Furthermore, certain people profess the ‘post-tribulation rapture’ theory. However, all those are groundless claims. One has to speak by basing on the Bible, and thus, if one were to groundlessly profess and believe in the time of rapture, it would be the case that that person is foolish. The rapture will occur precisely in the middle of the tribulation. That is, it will occur right past the halfway mark of the Seven Year Tribulation. It will occur during the tribulation of the people of Israel.

In First Thessalonians chapter 4 verses 15 through 18, it is said, *“For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”*

Dear fellow believers, the Lord says that He will descend to this earth with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. When would be the time for Jesus’ second coming? It is written that as the people of Israel suffers the tribulation, our Lord will descend in the midst of showing all His glory with the voice of an archangel, and with the blasting sound of the trumpet of God so that He may show us who Jehovah God is. The Bible



tells us that although the Lord in His first coming was born in a manger, the Lord in His second coming will descend with all His majesty. It is the case that angels and heavenly troops will line up on either side far and wide, and our Lord will descend down the middle escorted by angels.

The Lord who has saved sinners from sins is the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords. All things of the universe were created by our Lord. There isn't a single thing that wasn't created by the Lord. Thus, all things are of the Lord. Our Lord even received the power of judgment from God the Father. The Lord also received the power to pass judgment and to give salvation. He received every authority. The Lord is the King of all kings, the Lord of all lords, the King of Righteousness, the King of Peace, and the King of Wisdom. And as it is said that such Lord will come, when will that be? When does He come for the second time? He will be coming at a time when the nation of Israel is in the midst of an unbearable tribulation.

At that time, the Lord will awaken among us saints those born-again who had died first, that is, the righteous who were asleep in their graves. When our Lord died on the Cross, wasn't it a fact that many tombs had opened up? Actually at that time, some saints who were in their tombs came out as the living. The dead came back to life and walked about. And, they bore witness to their resurrection (Matthew 27:52-53). The fact is that the Lord had already shown us that the rapture would occur in the future. It is the case that He had shown us ahead of time that the saints sleeping in their graves will come back to life in the future.

How do we know when the Lord will come? And, how can we foresee the end of this world? How can we predict the rapture and the end of this world ahead of time? We must understand that the time for the righteous to be taken up by the rapture is at hand when the people of Israel fall into the tribulation. Whenever there is something about the nation of Israel on TV I watch attentively. Right now the



nation of Israel is in the midst of negotiating with the surrounding Arab nations. The people of Israel are making an agreement with Jordan and a peace treaty with PLO. They were unimaginable in the past, but now, Israel is signing agreements with its surrounding nations if at all possible. Israel has become a good-hearted nation.

When I turn on the television once in a while, a man of short stature named Premier Rabin is shown. He tries to resolve conflicts with the surrounding nations through dialogue and does not resort to a military conflict. I read a newspaper not long ago and found that Premier Rabin had announced a nationwide state of emergency. Why? The fact of the matter is that all the nearby countries are in possession of nuclear arsenal. The nation of Israel is always under an emergency because no one knows when a nuclear war will erupt.

Right now, the nation of Israel has a hostile relationship with all the surrounding Arab nations. When those Arab nations join hands with a country

that has a powerful military force and attack Israel all of a sudden, Israel will just have to suffer. The Bible said that the great enemy of Israel will swoop down like a swarm of locusts. Which country can do that? Just wait and see. Precisely, only two countries are capable of invading the nation of Israel. It will be either Russia or the European Union. Not just any country can invade and claim victory over the nation of Israel. The nation of Israel itself is a powerful country. A country that challenges the nation of Israel cannot be but a powerful country. In the future, Russia and the former Soviet Republics will again be united as one. Also, EU will wield its power all over the world once more. It's not just my story, but rather, it is something that the Book of Revelation and the Book of Daniel speak a lot about.

We must focus on this part. We should not just say, "Let us wait unconditionally, the Lord is coming." Dear fellow believers, how can we just wait low in spirit? The Lord has revealed through His Word the time when He will come so that the born-



again can understand. As for the children of light, the Lord will not be coming like a thief to them. If we were to wait for the passing of three and a half years from the moment when the nation of Israel falls under the tribulation, the Lord will come exactly at that time. After the nation of Israel gets invaded by some country and fall into ruins, the tribulation will come. It will fully become an age of the tribulation.

Then, why didn't our Lord speak of things that will occur in other countries throughout the world at the end times? Our Lord speaks of the history of the entire world focusing on the nation of Israel as its benchmark. What does Jesus say when a disciple asks the Lord, "When will the end of the age fall upon this world?" *"The Temple of the nation of Israel will be thrown down, not one stone be left here upon another. I will bring it down. And, there will be wars for nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And, there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. All these are the beginning of sorrows."* He said it like that.

It isn't the case that our Lord didn't speak of it. However, we don't know it well mostly because we aren't able to understand it properly from our side. Dear fellow believers, you don't realize just how much we have to study and how much we have to read the Bible in order to understand this single passage. There has to be much preparation in order to speak about one passage before a crowd of people, and when we want to speak about the end of this world, the fact is that we must focus on the people of Israel. When that country gets invaded and brought down to ruins, the tribulation will begin at that moment, and from that moment on if we wait for exactly three and a half years, the Lord will come. It is mentioned in the Book of Daniel.

## **The Calamities Have Already Begun in This World**

Then will the world be peaceful when the nation



of Israel gets swallowed up by an enemy country? That is not the case. The world ends. In the Book of Revelation, it is said that a third of the trees will be burned up. And it is said that water will turn to blood. It means that people won't be able to drink water. Thus, all the conditions for the world to come to ruins and for all the people to die will be met. It will become a world where one would not want to live in. When that happens, all that the righteous have to do is to wait for the second coming of Jesus. Even so, instead of waiting haphazardly, we must see what will happen to the nation of Israel in the future, and we must believe in the truth that there will be exactly three and a half years left for the second coming of the Lord once the nation of Israel loses from a war against a certain country. If such things occur in Israel and if we doubt even then, saying, "Well, a war is always something that one can win and lose," and do not prepare by faith then it will be too late.

When the nation of Israel gets invaded, the person who seizes that country will be the one who has

seized the entire world, and that person will precisely be the Antichrist getting used by Satan the Devil in order to control the entire world. The Devil makes people bow before his idol set in the Temple and the Devil gives power to that idol. The Devil carves and erects an idol, and by giving it power, the Devil makes that idol speak. And the Antichrist kills all those who do not bow down to his idol without exception. And then servants of that Devil who are in all places seek out and kill those that do not submit to the Devil. Killing off all those people who do not submit to the Devil, that is the law of the Devil.

To control people, servants of the Devil place the mark of the beast on people's right hand or on their forehead. And, as for those that do not have the mark, they do not allow them to neither buy nor sell things (Revelation 13:16-17). That is the last calamity. Thus, it is written in the Book of Revelations that even though all those who haven't been born again become servants of the Devil by bowing to the idol and receiving the mark on their hand or on their



forehead, those whose name is written on the Book of Life suffers martyrdom for having refused to receive the mark to the end because of their faith in God.

Because such tribulation will come and people of this world will all be standing against God bluntly, God will come to pass judgment over this world. The fact is that the Lord will come down to this earth personally. At that time, the people of Israel who hadn't bowed to idols and hadn't received the mark until that moment will believe in the Lord and be raised before God. Actually, the people of Israel are more devout in faith than us. For them, there is only one God. Thus, they cannot worship anything other than Jehovah God. Also, because they have already suffered endless pain for having worshiped so many idols, they no longer do things like worshipping idols, ever again. Also, because they are well versed with the Word of God, they know that Jehovah God is the very God who has allowed them to reclaim their land. They believe in and follow the very God

whom David had believed as the God who had saved them.

Therefore, we must keep our minds fully collected. Until the nation of Israel gets invaded and something fearful happens inside that country, the righteous has to collect their minds fully. When the time comes, be known that the day of the rapture has come close and let us not even be thinking about marrying or giving in marriage. Our Lord has said, "Woe to those who are pregnant at the time of the tribulation." Thus, He is telling us to know the times and not to even think about getting married when something like that happens to the people of Israel

But, it will be better to get married if you are prone to do this that you are told not to do and are about to go crazy wanting to get married. However, do not forget that you must go on living by faith, knowing that there are only about three and a half years left for the world from the time when such things happens. When that moment comes, you might not even be able to hear the Word of the Bible



because those who believe in God will be killed and any large-scale gathering will not be permitted by the government.

## **When Will the Rapture Occur?**

I hope you realize the fact that the rapture will occur during the great seven-year tribulation. That is, once the nation of Israel suffers the pain of destruction, let it be known that the day has come, and we must keep our faith to the end with the faith that if we were to endure just a little, we will go before the Lord without having tasted death. And so, I spoke to our ministry workers. I said to them that if we were to truly endure just a little in this day and age, we will taste the glory and calamities will fall upon the nation of Israel. I also said to them that calamities will fall upon this world and calamities which people cannot endure as humans will occur all over the place throughout the world. God will kill

those who have gone against Him by allowing calamities and disasters to occur at that time.

People of Israel get invaded and thus the act of offering sacrifices to God inside the Temple for worshipping God becomes forbidden, and it is said that the number of days for that period to pass will be 1,290. Then, that makes about three and a half years, doesn't it? If we wait a bit more, Jesus will come before 1,335 days are up. Therefore, if there are some people of Israel who could wait until that time, then they will be considered blessed. As for us, even if we don't wait for 1,335 days, the end will come during that period of time.

Then, the question of how will we be waiting for three and a half years is crucial to us. How will we endure three and a half years? And, as I now speak to you about the end of this world, I say to you from this moment on that the calamities have already begun in this world. I want to tell you that the age of sorrows has begun in this world and that the countdown toward the end of the age has begun.



Now, we must verify this through the Word, and if it is the case that we believe this, we must think about what we must do. Should we wait for the tribulation just sitting around? What must we do now? The Bible says that the tribulation will come upon this world and that the end will come, but it is also said that the end will come when the gospel of the baptism and the blood is preached to the ends of the earth. From here, we can find an answer to the question of what we must do. From here on out, I would like to speak a bit about this and then draw this sermon to a close.

What must we do now? From now on, we must not put our hearts in things of the earth. If we do not teach those who do not know this in advance before it happens, we will be rebuked by God and we will be reproached by the saints as well. Dear fellow believers, do you think there is a difference between leading a life of faith knowing that the calamities have begun in this world and just facing the calamities without having any knowledge

beforehand? There is a great difference. It is because if you were to go on living without any preparations in your heart, it would be hard for you to keep the faith at the end. This is something that I must tell you because you cannot fall into hardships and face difficulty in keeping the faith.

## **Calamities Have Begun**

Dear fellow believers, not only the recent earthquake in Japan but also famine and earthquakes all over the world, as well as nation rising against nation, and kingdoms against kingdoms, have begun to occur. Our Lord said, in the Gospel of Matthew chapter 24 verse 7, that this is the beginning of sorrows. And the fact is that this Word has come true before you and me in this present day. Just as the gospel has come into our hearts, I hope you will realize that this beginning of sorrows has come down before you and me in this present day. Do you



understand this? I have clearly stated this fact to you. Do not complain later on, “Pastor Jung didn’t even preach that to us.” I have already said that to you for certain.

If it were the case that there is much time left for this world, then all we have to do is to lead a life of faith like this all through our life time, and come to God when the Lord commands us to come and sleep when He commands us to sleep a bit somewhere. However, the reason why I say this is because, in truth, the age you and I live in hasn’t much time left and the time for our Lord to fulfill all that He has promised is really close at hand. Now, when what is meant to occur breaks out, we must be able to face it tranquilly by knowing about it in advance and having prepared for it. Just as someone on his or her deathbed would try to settle everything and does what must be done before dying, we must go on living having prepared our faith, prepared for the rapture, prepared for a life of faith, and made plans on how we are going to live. We must live out our

faith properly by knowing what things need to be settled and how to lead a life of faith.

We won’t just die having lived this way and that. During our time, a great upheaval will occur on this earth. To put it easier, I am saying that the end of this world will come, just as people have always been worrying. Soon, great natural disasters that people only heard about will occur in this world. What do you think of this current world? Do you think that it is the beginning of sorrows or do you think it still isn’t? What are your thoughts? As for me, I think that the calamities have already started. Although we realize that it is the beginning of sorrows, if we do not precisely point it out within the Word, we would just be forgetting about that fact, and when the tribulation actually does arrive, we would just be submitting to the mob of the Antichrist out of confusion.

I believe precisely that the Lord will come. But if I am to tell you about this in a way that you can understand, the fact of the matter is that even if the



Lord doesn't come for 10 years, this earth in the ten-year period would have gone through so much change that people would no longer be able to live in it. I am not saying that the environment will become completely inhabitable, but rather, I am saying that people themselves cannot survive due to so many occurrences of natural disasters and endless sweepings of wars and pestilences. But, the Lord reduces that unfathomable tribulation just a little instead of carrying it out to the very end. For whom does He do so? He does so for His chosen ones. He reduces the period of tribulation for you and me. He does so because it seems that we won't be able to endure to the end.

Also, He focuses on the people of Israel again. He said, "*And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath*" (*Matthew 24:20*), but why did He say this? It is because people of Israel must never walk very far on the Sabbath. Along with that, He told us to pray so that such things may not be in winter because the Lord knows that when winter

comes at a time when we are under hardship due to calamities, we would be in pain even more. At the end of the age, God will be most concerned with none other than the people of Israel. The very last thing that God will do for the people of Israel is the work of saving them.

From this moment on, the righteous must not put their hope on things of the earth. If you really believe in the Lord's return, you will not put your heart in things of the earth. But, if you do not have faith in Him, then you will put your expectations on things of the earth and invest in them. Instead of investing your treasures in things of the earth, invest in Heaven which does not rot away. By that, I am not saying that you should donate money to me, but rather, I am asking you to invest yourself in the precious works of the Lord instead of investing in works of the earth that bears no fruit. Dear fellow believers, the most foolish person is someone who treasures things that are on the earth but then loses them all to calamities without even having used any of them. Do not



become such a foolish person. You must truly be wise.

If we were to go to Yanbian, China with just 500 US dollars, we can hire about seventy natives there to do work for a week. We can gather up seventy people as housekeepers and then say to them, “Please wipe the floor over here.” Thus, the room would be wiped clean. Then, we say to them, “Place some cushions here and have a seat. Now, we are going to start the work. Take a Bible. And, open up to a certain passage. Now, I am going to say some things to you. Your work is to listen to what I am saying from this day on.” And that is in fact gathering up seventy people and preaching the gospel to them. Since we can employ them for seven days, we can have them receive the remission of sins by feeding them for seven days with the Word. 100 US dollars is said to be worth half a year’s worth of salary for people of that country who do not have particular skills enrolled in physical labor. Hence, I want to invest money in those kinds of things. And we can invest

your material things there also.

If the Lord comes to this earth seven years from now, what will you do at this moment? If it is the case that the tribulation has already started as of now, in the mean time, what do you think we must do? All we have to do is to try to live well with what we have left, and then be devout to the work of spreading the gospel. Also, as we continue to work in our workplaces, we must serve the gospel with material things that we gain from work, and we must carry out the work of harvesting those souls that remain by investing in the spreading of the gospel all those material things that God’s workers have saved through frugality. You and I must carry out the work of spreading the gospel all over the world. We must put all our efforts into this work so that we can spread the gospel to everyone, not only those in Korea but also those around the world.

How do we put to use what we have before we go to Him? Dear fellow believers, carry out your duties at work faithfully. As for those who preach the



gospel, be faithful in the work of spreading the gospel. As the end of the age draws nearer, you must be even more faithful to your duties. “Alas, I now have done this much, so I don’t need to do more.” You must not think like that. It is said that the end will come when the gospel is preached all over this world. If your material gains are needed in the spreading of the gospel, be diligent in earning money and heap up your treasure in Heaven.

A stupid person invests his life in things of the earth when it is said there are only about 7 or 10 years remaining in this world. However, a wise person, if it is the case that the person believes it, invests his precious things in the work that can save a great number of souls. Dear fellow believers, in Yanbian, China, it is said that the temperature goes down to minus 40 degrees in Celsius during winter. But if one were to buy an electric heater and use it there, one would not get cold at all. As long as we go there with money, our ministry workers as well as our brothers and sisters do not have to go through

hardships.

Thus, it is necessary to live wisely, using money in service of the gospel. We must use money wisely. We are really going to go to Yanbin and carry out what we have told you accordingly. We are going to contact a human resources company and say to them, “We are looking to hire seventy people for a week.” Then, we will give salaries to those seventy people and bring them. And we will intensively preach the Word for about a week to those seventy people. Wouldn’t it be so good to come to us to work for about a week? They will be listening to the Word all day long sitting comfortably, and then they will be given money and salvation. Thus, who would be more fortunate than those people?

Dear fellow believers, do you know why we purchased a new video camera? I really don’t like being videotaped, but nevertheless, we bought a video camera. We bought it in order to spread the gospel. And, instead of taking videos of only me, we can take videos of all the ministry workers in each



church delivering sermons and distributing them to the souls living in a region like Yanbian. Because we cannot always be with them, I have purchased the video camera so that they may see and hear the Word of God and believe. We must diligently share the gospel with others.

We must think about how we are going to live out the end of the age, and we must live out the remaining days meaningfully. I count the things that I must do from now on. I often think it would be good to spend what material things we have on the spreading of the gospel like this. In all honesty, is there a church that preaches the true gospel besides us in Korea? No, there isn't. Even in Korea there are so many places where the church needs to be built. Dear fellow believers, there are many chapels in Korea, but there isn't one that preaches the gospel. And, there are so many people who have died without having heard the gospel. Even now, you don't know just how many people haven't even heard of the gospel of the water and the Spirit, not even

once. Thus, I wish to preach to them the gospel, and I hope that many of you will rise up as workers who will be serving the Lord to the fullest.

## **As for You All, Do not Set Your Heart on Earthly Things but on Heaven**

The end of the age will surely come. As for you the saints, please devote yourself to your livelihood diligently. As the end draws near, you must be loyal to the work that you have taken responsibility for. With not much time left, if you were to set your hearts on impertinent things, your salvation could become a futile matter. It is said that at the end of the age, the Lord will separate the wicked from among the just and then appoint them their portion with the hypocrites (Matthew 13:47-50). Having received one talent, the one who had hid it in the ground instead of engaging in a trade concerning the gospel, is the



wicked. As the end of the age draws nearer, do not make light of gathering together. Gather together at the church and unite with the church. That is the way for you and I to keep our faith until the day the Lord will come.

Furthermore, as for you all, pray before God more and more and think with reason about the Word you have heard before God. Instead of claiming to have reached an understanding after having seen visions, all the while having babbled along with eyes closed trying to speak in tongues, think about the Word you have heard with reason. And then, set up your faith inside your heart. Then make plans for a life of faith with regard to how you are going to live. And with those plans, come forth to your spiritual leaders and consult with them

And as for you students, please study hard. Students have to spread the gospel to their friends all the while studying diligently, and office workers must spread the gospel to their co-workers all the while working for the company. As for you who own

businesses, please sponsor the gospel while carrying on your businesses diligently. And as for you ministry workers, please use your material possessions entirely for the spreading of the gospel and devote all your heart and energy into that mission.

Dear fellow believers, people of faith must not do the work of investing many material things in earthly matters. If you possess material things, you ought to invest them in the spreading of the gospel. This year the Church is going to try to enter the region of Yanbian, China and preach the gospel there. So then, you all must also unite your hearts and think about what you can do for the righteous work of preaching the gospel in Yanbian, and you must truly resolve to work entirely for the gospel for the rest of your life. All of you, please do not place your hearts in earthly matters, but rather, let us go on living with our hearts set toward Heaven. ☒



## **Cast away Your Selfishness In the Last Days and Keep Your Faith**

< Matthew 24:9-14 >

**“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”**

I went to Injae on this Monday. We the staff

workers discussed future planning at the Injae Retreat Center and came back on Tuesday. It took four and a half hours because it was the last day of the big holidays and there was a serious traffic jam. Big holidays are, indeed, big holidays. Only one and a half hours distance took four and a half hours. Have you enjoyed your holidays? Did you have delicious foods?

Today we read the Scripture starting from Matthew 24:9. Here our topic is about the Great Seven Year Tribulation. *“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.”*

This Scripture passage tells us about the coming age of the pale horse, when Satan works through an empowered antichrist, after the age of black horse. At this time, people who are not born again through the



gospel of the water and the Spirit will hand in the born-again to martyrdom. At this time, the born-again will not only be hated by one or two people but by all races because of their faith in the name of Jesus. During this Great Seven Year Tribulation, the world divides into two groups of people—those who are born again and those who are not, and all the races hate all of the born-again. All the people in the world shall hate the born-again. And families, friends, and our acquaintances lead us to tribulation and martyrdom.

The Scripture passage says, “*And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.*” This tells us about the phenomena that will happen when tribulation comes and selfishness in man’s heart goes to an extreme. There are twelve sins that come from a man’s heart—evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness (Mark 7:21-22). If we analyze these sins one by one, we understand that

all of them are originated from selfishness. These sins come from a selfish and egotistical greed. One murders for one’s own interest, one commits adultery to satisfy oneself whether others want it or not, jealousy also comes from selfishness, one has hatred when one’s heart doesn’t like someone, one has pride when one thinks that he or she is the best, and foolishness occurs when things don’t go the way one wants. Every sin comes from egotistical selfishness.

Men’s nature has changed that way after Adam and Eve sinned. So every man is born selfish and his or her selfishness becomes extreme in the worst days of tribulation. Having the evil in one’s heart spilled out, lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. The love of many will grow cold because people will forsake their righteous behavior and faith, and instead pursue their own self-interest.

When does the love in your heart cool down? When you think that someone is selfish, your heart toward that person cools down. It is rather okay when the other is insufficient. One’s weakness and



shortage can be understood, accepted, and tolerated. But when a person is too selfish and egotistical, your heart deserts him or her. You will not bother to look at him. Then wouldn't it be so difficult for one another?

At the last days of the great tribulation, selfishness grows to the highest. Schindler, who saved a lot of Jewish lives during the World War II, said to a German officer that "Human pretends to be good when he is in a nice environment but when life becomes difficult evil comes out from within his heart." So it is. In the last days of the great tribulation, selfishness comes out from everyone's heart and grows to the highest.

It is said that people's love will grow cold at the last days. "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold." These are the things that shall happen at the end of the world. In the Great Seven

Year Tribulation, antichrist will show up and reign with violence for seven years.

God has planned to unfold human history as four stages (Revelation 6:1-8). First is the age of spreading the gospel, second is the age of war caused by conflict of ideas, third is the age of famine and disaster, and fourth is the age of the Great Seven Year Tribulation. Now we are living in the third age of disaster, and after this age the age of the pale horse, when Satan and antichrist rules the world, will come.

In John 3:16-21, the passage says: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 'He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come*



*into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.’”*

God came to this world as the love and the light. Jesus Christ came to earth to point out the evils in people, to make them turn back from their evil ways, and let them receive salvation given by God, but the people who were doing evil hated the light and didn't come to the light. This is because that their evil behavior will be revealed in the light. Hating the light means that the people know that the light is righteous but they love the darkness more, do not believe in Jesus Christ, and do not come into the light. It is because that they think their selfishness will be revealed in the light. People have concealed the evils of their hearts and thoughts by the limewash of ethics and morals to make it look good before men's eye.

Therefore, people know that the righteousness of God is right, but they try to stand away from the light because of the fear that their evil will be exposed in the light. One only has to come before the light and acknowledge, “So I am,” and believe in God's righteousness, but one confronts and hates the light because their selfishness might be exposed. Such people just have to acknowledge their selfishness and filth before God, and accept God's salvation.

Obviously, God, our heavenly Father, has sent His only begotten Son Jesus Christ to this land. Jesus took upon Himself all the human sins of the world by being baptized by John the Baptist, died on the Cross, was resurrected, and thus gave us salvation. People will be saved if they believe in this obvious Truth of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. God has sent His Son to this earth not to judge the people by their sins but to give eternal life to the ones who believe. God has done it to deliver the people out of their egotistical sins and to bring them out from the judgment. But there are people who believe in this



Truth and there are people who don't. The people who do not believe in this Truth are already condemned. People are already condemned in their hearts because they don't reveal their selfishness and maliciousness in front of God and ask for His compassion. Now when it is time, they will receive the final sentence and immediately go to hell. But the believers will receive salvation.

What is sin? The Bible says *“And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil”* (John 3:19). People are not saved but condemned by their sins because they love themselves more than the Truth. In the last days, you will sight collective egotism even from the religious groups. For example, people want to go to big churches if it is possible. They think that there are lots of benefits if they go to big churches. Those places have lots of factors that can fill their selfishness. Those people are relieved and enjoy their faith being acknowledged by the others. Irregardless,

they are actually weak in faith, even though they are proud of being members of a socially recognized association. Thus, people are prone to go to big churches to be acknowledged instead of insulted even they will go to hell at the end because of their false faith. And this is because they have extreme selfishness. Such selfishness has created big churches and big denominations. It is because of their selfishness that many Christians claim to believe in Jesus and try to be in big denominations acknowledged by the world.

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* Even though the Truth that Jesus has completely saved us by taking upon Himself all our sins through His baptism, dying on the cross, and being resurrected from the dead is so obvious, there are lots of people who don't believe in this Truth. It isn't because the Truth is incomplete but that they try to conceal their sins. This is called the sin of selfishness. And this



selfishness becomes extreme in the last days of the tribulation.

There was this happening this holiday. A man loved a woman so much but the woman's family didn't allow their marriage. So this man planned and killed the woman's family with a shotgun on this New Years Day. Every person has one's own personality and isn't it possible for you to say that you don't like someone when you don't? Does it make sense that this man shot the woman's family who opposed the marriage? Are the woman's family quarries? Also, there was this case that someone was killed by talking long on the public phone. Definitely people's selfishness has become extreme.

Do you know why people prefer strong and good cars? It is because of their huge selfishness. Nowadays there are lots of RV jeeps with tough bumpers. There are lots of Koreans showing off by driving these 30,000 dollars worth of jeep. Why do people prefer this kind of car? It is all because of their selfishness. Let us think there is a collision with

this kind of car. Who has the high probability to die? Of course, the driver driving with a small vehicle with thin bumper. So people prefer high quality cars with strong engines, thick metals, slick appearances, and big bumpers because they are selfish, want to show off, and be safe. This tendency comes from the evil heart of human beings. In other words, it is to satisfy their selfishness and vanity.

Take a serious look at human society. Aren't there so many products of selfishness? Don't people fret over to set up a big tombstone at a good spot of good land? Will the dead person know whether his or her tombstone is big or small? The living are only trying to take pride. It is that small tombstone that hurts one's pride. One may be satisfied because one can dance up and down when he shows off the big tombstone saying, "That is my own ancestor's." Does this make his ancestor know? Will the dead know whether someone throws a stone or pours shit on it? People try to build a big mound over every grave, make the tombstone big, and make a tiled roofed



house over the tomb only to show off.

In Taiwan when one's parent dies, they put models of refrigerators, televisions, and similar stuffs in the marble-made tomb house. I am so surprised to hear that the best propitious site for a grave in Taiwan nearly costs 11.2 million US dollars. Undoubtedly it is partially because of human affection towards the dead family members but their main motive is to show off their family fame. And they do so because they believe that their ancestor-gods will bless them when they worship them in excess. You see that at normal times selfishness is shown this way. Wouldn't it be even more extreme at the last days of tribulation?

At the end of the world, those people who have not been born again will do great evil with Satan's spirit. These people know well that they are to be condemned by God. They know better that their thoughts and hearts are so wicked, filthy, and savage to the extent of making them sick of themselves. They think about themselves and know that "I will

surely go to hell," and thus they say, "Let me do more evil before I go to hell." It is not because the Lord hasn't given us perfect salvation that the people are not saved from their sins. It is because they themselves hate the light of the Truth.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, God has sent Jesus not to judge but save us from our sins. We should know that the purpose of sending His begotten Son was to save us. And we should believe in the Truth that Jesus was baptized to take away from us all our sins on the Cross, died there, was resurrected from the dead, and thus saved us from all our sins. Many people suffer critical losses because they don't believe in this Truth. Many people have the desire to enjoy this world saying, "I can't believe the Truth even though I shall go to hell later," and they don't accept the Truth. We should know that lots of things like this happen in the last days.

Presently we are living in the third age of the black horse, and there are huge numbers of people



starving to death. Not so long will it be before one third of the world is ruined by the war. And at the last days when the selfishness in men's heart comes out to the full extent, what would happen to this world? This world becomes a warlike and dreadful place where it shall be even hard to breathe. At that time, antichrist will show up and start to work, which God told us to be the time of the great tribulation. At the time of great tribulation, many born-again Christians will be put to death. This means that all the people who don't surrender to antichrist and desert God shall be killed. This time will certainly come and we know that it is coming near.

All our books from series number 1 to 10 are published in English. In these books, I have dealt with all the topics that Christians all over the world consider important. Through these books, people will learn that Christianity all over the world is an illegitimate faith. And these books will create a great sensation to the people who had wrong faith but were seeking for the Truth. These books will entirely

change the people's beliefs and they will truly be born again when they believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

We shouldn't become a selfish person in this last age. Naturally people are born selfish, but people with true faith live for the spirits of others at least. The truly born-again live for other's interest and for the salvation of the people who they haven't met. Righteous men are also only human beings and therefore are selfish. But the righteous should live for the benefits of others, and these are true Christians.

In these holidays, you have met your families. If you meet your family members who are not born again yet, they ask you, "What do you do for a living? Did you make some money? Do you have some money in your bankbook? What are you going to do in the future?" When there is a family union, some members who are successful have high spirits while members who barely live hang their heads in shame. Like a small dog whining in front of a big dog, the poor shrink in front of the rich. You will also



have these hearts. The desire to compare with others, to be in superior position, and to be servile in front of the strong—all these come from men’s selfish hearts.

We, the righteous people, should know that lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold at the time of the Great Seven Year Tribulation, and thus, we should cast away our selfish minds. When a man casts away his or her selfishness, pure love comes out. At the very least, the righteous that have received the remission of sin should hold back their selfishness and have faith that enables them to sacrifice themselves for the lost souls. We the righteous should have this faith and sacrifice to spread forth the gospel of the water and the Spirit, stand in the awe of God, love our brothers and sisters, and live for the ones who haven’t yet received the remission of sin.

The most fearful enemy to our belief is selfishness. Selfishness kills people. Selfishness kills our faiths and thoughts toward God, quenches the desires to follow God, and make us live self-centered

lives by estranging us from God. Thus, selfishness is absolute evil to our lives of faith. If we know well about the dreadful results of the selfishness in our thoughts and hearts, we will be able to desert our selfishness and spread out the gospel until our Lord comes back.

Today’s Scripture passage says, “*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*” When this gospel spreads out to the end of the world, our Lord will come. We are planning to spread out this gospel to one third of the whole world this year. As we see that our Lord has given us such hearts, we know that “It is near to the time that our Lord will come.” When this gospel spreads out all over the world, the end comes. People can’t live any longer even if they want to. Though people yearn for a better world, the world is going to become just a little better while we can spread out the gospel, and at the time when the will of God would be met to an extent, the world will soon be out of order. Then total



chaos will come soon to this world. As the Lord said the gospel would spread out all over the world, I believe as it was said.

You might wonder, “How will the gospel spread out all over the world?” But you will see God does things by amazing ways that a human thought cannot perceive. God works in an uncommon way to spread out the gospels all over the world. For example, we saw that there are often cases of some Israelis ordering rather Russian books than Hebrew books. They might be Russians living in Israel or might have lived a long time in Russia and came back to their motherland and ordered our Russian books. One of them is said to have received the remission of sin after reading our books and the person is spreading out the gospel to other near people. Jesus said that the world would end when the gospel spreads throughout the whole world, and like this, the gospel is continuously being spread out. We believe, once the Lord works, the gospels will spread out even to those countries forbidding Christianity.

I think that “At the last days selfishness will overspread the world and the world will be in great trouble.” Thus we the righteous should live out our lives with faith by casting away selfishness until the Lord returns. Whether the born-again righteous people have good faith or not depends, needless to say, partially on one’s faith in the Word of God, but also on how far one throws away his or her own self-centered thoughts and sacrifices for others. At this last age, Satan fosters selfishness even in righteous men’s hearts and makes their religious lives difficult. But as much as Satan hinders our religious lives, we the born-again, as the children of God, should know Satan’s plan, embrace God’s love, and lead religious lives without selfishness.

Now the teachings on the basics of the gospel have been made set forth in ten books. I thank God that there was a great step in spreading out the gospel. We could do God’s work because we worked together. Looking at these things I have a joyful and graceful heart. As we have these people who are



-serving the gospel, the gospel is spread out all over the world. The born again, who have been serving this gospel, triumphed over their selfishness, while those who have deserted the church after receiving the remission of their sins have pursued their selfishness. Remission of sin might be the same that they received but the latter can't be blessed with the joy of spreading out the gospel because they followed their selfishness treating it as precious treasures. My fellow believers, how can all the people in the world receive the remission of sin if we don't cast away our selfishness and serve the gospel? How can others receive the remission of sin if you only live for yourself?

We see our church ministers as well as our brothers and sisters sometimes stain their hands with dirty things, work outside when it is cold, and work inside until they are utterly exhausted. The world still has hope and yet people are saved because each of you have thrown away your selfishness and served in and out for the gospel, for the Lord, for the lost souls,

for God's will, and for God's righteousness. You were also saved by this way. Who among you would have received the remission of sin if the seniors who have been saved prior to us hadn't served the gospel and pursued only their own selfishness? A flower doesn't blossom by itself but there should be a trunk, branch, leaves, and a flower cup to make a flower blossom. To blossom, a cup will keep the life of the flower; the branch will give the nourishments. And if the flower blossoms by itself without these, not only will it look bad but also it is impossible. Every factor should work together to make a flower blossom, make a flower become beautiful, and glorify God. But if you don't function as a cup, then how can the flower of the gospel bloom? I know well that the gospel is spreading out all over the world because all of you are loyal at your place to serve the gospel. I am thankful for the gospel is spreading out a lot and I expect big fruits of our services.

This year the gospel will spread out a lot. I believe our Lord will do it, and I pray and serve for this



purpose. Let us serve our Lord with joy and without discouragement, until He comes. He will soon come. I hope He comes back shortly. How about you? Don't you like that our Lord will come back when the gospel is spread out all over the world and all the people with humble hearts believe in Him without fail? I yearn for the day to come quickly when all the people who are to believe have faith in Him quickly, for the nonbelievers will not believe anyhow.

A person who conceals his selfishness and pretends to be good is prone to refuse this gospel. By contrast, people who come forth to the Lord saying, "I am so insufficient. But I believe my Lord will save me," will receive salvation. There are only two groups of people in the whole world; the pros and cons of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who are selfish don't believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, but those who honestly seek God's compassion will receive salvation by believing in this gospel.

God wants the gospel to spread pervasively and

impartially. I believe that God will end the world in His proper time when the gospel is fully spread all over the world whether the people believe it or not. God will give all the people the opportunity to believe in the gospel saying, "You don't believe. You are already in hell. You believe. Your sins are remitted and you are saved," and then He will straighten out the world.

When the gospel is spread all over the world, God allows the world to suffer the Great Seven Year Tribulation and let Satan run to the extreme one last time. I believe that Jesus Christ, the King of kings, will advent to earth and shut down the Devil and his subjects up, punish the sinners, and give the Millennial Kingdom to the righteous. The Lord lives with the righteous for a thousand years, and after a thousand years, He casts the ones filled with selfishness, who have rejected God's love and His righteousness, into hell, where the fire is not quenched forever. After the Millennial Kingdom, the ones who believe in God's righteousness and are



saved by God's love will live as the kings at the Kingdom of Heaven forever. This is God's scenario. If we have lost many things for the gospel on earth, at that time, God will give us much in return.

Even in the future selfishness in our heart will move a lot. However, as long as you are not a fool, you all will know whether it is helpful or not to pursue this selfishness. I admonish you to first look at the everlasting returns, possess the everlasting life with faith, and keep your faith in His promises.

I thank God for giving us the privilege to get into the everlasting Kingdom of Heaven. Amen. ☒



## **Recognize the Coming of The Tribulation and Defend Your Faith**

< **Matthew 24:29-31** >

**“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”**

In today’s Scripture passage we read these words, “*after the tribulation of those days,*” it tells us in this verse that there really will be great tribulation on the earth. There will be natural calamities such as: terrible pestilences, wars and earthquakes, as well as calamities caused by humans. These are things Scripture mentions as the tribulation. It clearly says the sun will be darkened immediately after the entire tribulation has passed. We should be giving this much consideration instead of simply thinking that; “These are things that will happen in the end time.” We just cannot afford to glance it over if we were to apply this passage to our own lives.

The sun will be darkened immediately after the tribulation. How frightening it will be if the sun is darkened! Have you ever imagined the sun becoming dark? How terrifying would it be if the sun was darkened and the world gets filled with darkness during the daytime when the sun should be shining brightly! But that’s exactly how it’s going to be after the tribulation. It is written, “*The moon will not give*



*its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.*” It tells us at that time, the moon, the stars and the powers of the heaven will be shaken, then they will all fall from heaven and will no longer give there light, the sun will also be darkened. The world will then no doubt become a very dark place indeed. No matter how many electric generators humans may have, there will not be sufficient to light up the world. As the result the entire human civilization would have been ruined, and the entire world would have become pitch dark just like the sun, the moon, and the stars.

Honestly speaking, I get terrified and scared when I think about this world after the tribulation. Can you imagine the stars of heaven falling like celestial missiles? Have you seen the movie “Deep Impact”? There will be even greater catastrophe if the stars would fall from the sky. The world will be shaking, how scary is that? Will this really happen, or not? It will really happen. This is something that will really happen on the earth after the tribulation.

Then when will this tribulation begin? Scripture tells us that the beginning of the tribulation is when famines, earthquakes and wars become prevalent and when nations rise against nations. What will it be like when the tribulation begins? At the beginning of the tribulation Satan will be very active and will deceive many people. He will be at war against the true believers, therefore Scriptures record that God will send down from heaven the calamities of the seven trumpets and the seven bowls filled with the last seven plagues. It says that God will send down these calamities. One-third of the trees will be burned up. Something like a great mountain burning with fire will be thrown into the sea, and then a third of the sea will become blood, a third of the ships will be destroyed, and a third of all living creatures in the sea will die (Revelation 8:7-8). And great hail from heaven will fall upon people, each hailstone about the weight of a ‘talent’ (Revelation 16:21). These disasters are just a part of the seven calamities to come. It says that Satan will be against the people



even as these things are happening.

The sun will immediately be darkened after the passing of all these calamities. It means that the sun will suddenly become pitch dark. It would be less frightening if the sun gradually became dark. But how frightening would it be to face such sudden darkness! How frightening is it when the electricity of your house is cut off without prior notice? When the lights go out at night we are unable to do anything and become rather frightened. How frightening would it be if these calamities really happen after the tribulation? That ‘the sun will be darkened’, ‘the stars will fall’, ‘and the powers of the heaven will be shaken’ means that the whole God-created universe will be shaken, and it will be in absolute chaos as the heavenly bodies break away from their established orbits, crashing into each other and falling away.

During this time the ‘sign of the Son of Man’ will appear in Heaven (Matthew 24:30). Would it not be extremely frightening if the stars of the heaven

should crash into each other with violent sounds never experienced before even with the electrical lights on? But unfortunately there will not be sufficient electrical power, how frightening would that be? The passage reads, “then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven,” this means that the Lord will appear at that time. It is written, “*And then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*” People of all the different tribes in this world will be so very frightened that they will be mourning when they see the Lord coming as the Lord of Judgment with great power and glory. The Scriptures says that they will cry out and mourn when they see the sign of the Lord’s coming.

Matthew 24:31 states that; when the Lord comes, He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. It says that the Lord will come on a cloud with great



power and glory, and He will send out the angels with the sound of a trumpet to gather together His elect from every corner of this earth. This is what the word ‘rapture’ really means at the time of the Lord’s coming. It is the event of the Lord lifting up the believers from this earth.

That is why I regard the truly born-again believers as very precious people. I also think and believe that ‘the believers’ work of sharing the gospel for the salvation of souls is precious as well. We should be proud of the work we do in the Lord and treat one another as ‘very special individuals in Christ’ because these things will surely take place on this earth, and the Lord will surely come with great power and glory. Our Lord will definitely come in this manner, and we are the precious people of God who will be living with the Lord eternally after being caught away.

Therefore whilst living on this earth, we should really care for one other. And we should live out our faith by believing that we will live with the Lord in

the Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal Kingdom of Heaven after the rapture. My earnest desire for all of us who have received the remission of sin is to really care for one another, to uphold one another in the Lord, and to live with the understanding that each one of us is a precious child of God.

At times I have these thoughts running through my head. The Lord will come at a time when this entire universe, the sky, the wonderful Milky Way, as well as this earth are completely destroyed and demolished. What then will the Lord actually do with this ‘destroyed’ world? Will the Lord start a new development project to rebuild the earth for us to live in for a thousand years? Certainly not, that is not the way it is going to happen. The Lord says the following words often in the Book of Revelation, “*I make all things new*” (*Revelation 21:5*). When He says these words, He does not mean that He will reconstruct the world by relying totally on human resources and technology by mobilizing human power.



We may think, “We will never be able to reconstruct this world should the universe be utterly destroyed,” but I believe the Lord who has created everything in this universe can again create another world. Also the Lord is very able and will recreate this universe anew if it does get destroyed. The Lord will again make both this universe and this world anew. I also think that the Lord can create another world on an undisturbed planet and have us live there. In any case, I believe it is the power of the Lord that He will allow us to rule over the world with the Lord as kings for a thousand years, and then live happily for all eternity in the Kingdom of Heaven.

When we look at ourselves, including the work we are doing, I am convinced we are doing this precious work. We will be ‘lifted up’ when the signs of the Lord’s coming appear after the tribulation. The Lord said that He would first resurrect the believers who are asleep in the grave, and then send the angels to gather the born-again believers from every corner of the entire world. All the born-again believers, ‘dead

or alive’ will be transformed and lifted up to the sky at the time of the Lord’s coming in the sky, and that our bodies will be transformed into spiritual bodies which will neither deteriorate nor become old.

The Word in Revelation clearly says that God will choose 144,000 from the Israelites, 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes, and save them by putting a seal on their foreheads. The Book of Revelation then says that countless number of people clothed with white robes will stand before the Lord giving Him praise. John the Apostle, who recorded the Book of Revelation, asked the Lord who these people clothed with white robes were, the Lord replied saying that these were the ones that had come out from the great tribulation. This means in the end times the Lord will save many, many people.

During this time, those who have received the salvation by believing in the salvation of the Lord who had wiped away all of their sins, will resist and disobey the rule of the Antichrist and be martyred. It means that, during the time of tribulation, many



people will believe in the Lord as their Savior and His salvation through the ‘water and the blood’ with their life on the line. Then the Lord will transform those who are still living who had received the salvation from the Lord. The Scriptures declare that the Lord will lift them up, protect them, transform their bodies into heavenly bodies that will never deteriorate, and make them glorious and happy forever. I believe it.

During this end time, many people will come to believe in this gospel of which we are now preaching. During the tribulation, those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will defend their faith with their lives, and many will become martyrs for their faith. I believe that there will be a very large number of people receiving the ‘authentic’ salvation in the end time. That is why each one of us is so very precious. Each one of us who has now received the ‘authentic’ salvation and serving the Lord in this born-again Church is precious. That is why we care for one another, uphold one another,

bring our strengths together to serve the Lord, and live together as a single family before God.

In fact all the people in this world who have received the remission of sins ‘in God’ are one family. It is a blessing to be living as one family and to be upholding and caring for one another with love until the day of the Lord’s coming. I believe that we have to really love one other before we meet the Lord. That is why we need to look within the Church to see if there are any souls that need caring, souls that need to receive the remission of sin, souls that are going through difficult trials because we have not cared for them properly. We need to visit and care for each other and to encourage and support one another’s faith.

The Word of God as recorded in this Bible will certainly come to pass. Tragically people do not believe this because they are so ignorant. The Word of God will really come true. I have witnessed it so many times, and I am experiencing it at this time too. In my heart, sometimes I curse those who challenge



this precious gospel, by saying; “You are mounting up God’s curse over your heads. You will surely be cursed. Be cursed. Be crushed by God and come back to the Lord as lowly beggars with nothing.” There were many instances when this actually did happen the way I was thinking. I saw what happened to them and realized that God’s curse will be upon me too if I challenge God.

All people who have not been born-again will eventually face this reality. When people who ‘are not the born-again’ go against God’s Church, and should the born-again people ‘curse them in their hearts’, the curse will certainly fall upon these very people who have gone against God’s Church. God made Abraham the source of blessing. And He said, *“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”* (Genesis 12:3). People should ‘recognize’ the truly born-again people and be kind to them if they desire to be blessed. People receive the greatest blessing of their lives, by

receiving the remission of sins, when the born-again people share this gospel with them. If the righteous really wants to send them to hell, all that they have to do is to just leave them alone and not share the gospel with them.

There is nothing else that they have to do for it. It really happens like that. No matter how smart and powerful one might be, if someone who has not been born again, should be ‘cursed’ by the righteous, saying; “You shall be cursed!” What we need to remember the born-again cannot do such a thing like this groundlessly, but should someone become an enemy of the righteous people and hurt their heart very harshly, then the born-again could very well pass on such a curse. There is evidence of this happening where some have actually died as the result of having been cursed.

A few years ago the grandfather of one of our sisters was harassed and persecuted and was forbidden to attend God’s Church. So this sister prayed in her heart. “God, please take my grandfather



away as he will not accept the true gospel and continues persecute me to the end,” and it actually came true. A long time ago, there was a brother who went to serve in the military, and there was one senior soldier who often harassed him. He had such a hard time, and he once asked me, “Pastor should I report this matter and they will send him to jail? He is constantly beating me up and harassing me, and I could send him to jail if I file a complaint.” I told him, “You don’t have to do that. If he’s really bothering you, then just pray to God. God will then use other means to send him to jail.” After a while, I received a phone call from him. He said, “Pastor, that guy actually went to jail.” I said to him, “Why are you so happy about him going to jail?” He replied, “Well, it’s nothing to be overjoyed about. But he went to jail anyway.” God is really on the side of the righteous. God will actually do such things if the wicked keeps harassing the righteous people of God and continue to hurt their feelings.

Really speaking, the righteous keep on giving

away good things to everyone in this world. They give much to people around the world. What about the people who are not the born-again or those who are simply evil? These people borrow and take from the righteous, but never pay it back. Instead they fight and quarrel with the born-again. That is why I live boldly as I serve the Lord even though I am so insufficient. I can do this because I believe that the Lord is taking care of me despite all my insufficiencies. When someone goes against us and does terrible things to us, all we have to do is to pray to God and curse them, “You shall be cursed. You will go to hell anyway, and you shall lose everything in this world. When I observe the way you are living, that is exactly what will happen.” Then we will witness the Lord taking everything away from them, sometimes even their very life, and the truth is that I did not have to do anything but only pray. Because we are witnesses to such things, we can now live boldly relying on God. We can be courageous and boldly share the gospel by relying on God who hears



our prayers.

We are the righteous and the precious people of God, and ‘the people’ who believe in this gospel and share it with others; we are indeed very blessed people. Firstly after having received the remission of sin the blessing might not seem much, but the fact is that this is truly an amazing blessing of God. How many people have heard this Word of the Truth, this gospel of salvation, which tells us that God has wiped away all of our sins? Among all the wonderful and joyful news that you have ever heard in your life, what could be better than this? There is no news more wonderful than this, the news that Jesus had come to this world and had taken upon Himself all our sins by being baptized and that He has saved us by taking those sins, being nailed to the Cross, shedding His precious blood, and receiving the full punishment for our sins which was meant for us. In this world I have not heard any news that is more beautiful than this.

We once were people destined to go to hell due to

our many sins. But the Lord came to this world, saved you and me through the water and the blood, and made us the righteous people of God by blotting out all our sins. How precious are we? The Bible says, *“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12-13)*. So how great is that? To those who sincerely believe in Jesus by having received His baptism, shed His blood, wiped away our sins and has now become our Savior by receiving the judgment on our behalf. As the result of this we have been given the authority to be called the children of God. These are the ones who have accepted Jesus and His salvation.

What a great blessing it is to be a child of God! When those who ‘are not the children of God’ become abusive and challenge the true children of God, will have to be extremely careful, as they will inevitably face utter destruction. They will



experience hell on this earth before they actually go to hell. When a righteous person has been done wrong by a non-believer who flaunts his wealth and power, causing misery to the righteous, and whose heart has been pained, should then curse that person, “You shall be cursed. You shall be penniless, and be a beggar all you life.” And that will be the end for that sinner who is cursed. A righteous person may say these things without much thought, but God the Father listens to the wishes of His child and fulfills them. Therefore, those who have been cursed by the righteous will face destruction.

That shows how blessed we are as children of God. What a great blessing it is to be a child of God! But just being a child of God is not everything. Becoming a child of God without having the authority as a child of God amounts to nothing, but we do have the authority as a child of God. Doesn't a child enjoy the authority of their father in his place? Doesn't the child inherit this authority? Like this example we are the same. Do not underestimate the

salvation you have received. You must realize what great authority you have come to receive through salvation. That is why we never submit to this world. We seek and pray to God with wishes in our hearts, serving and following the gospel by faith. And the Lord will lead us on a virtuous path as we live by such faith.

The world is now becoming more and more unified. A representative of the IMF (International Monetary Fund) announced recently that they would increase the value of US dollar. The US stock market became uneasy and soon after the stock market crashed. One person's announcement created havoc, and the stock market crashed. Of course this immediately led to an even greater price drop of Korean stocks, validating the saying, “When the United States coughs, Japan catches a serious case of flu, and South Korea catches pneumonia.” In these times the world has become interconnected as one. Korea would almost automatically be ruined if the US stock market should crash. Circumstantial



changes in superpower nations will have repercussions throughout the entire world even though there may not be any serious changes within the less powerful nations. The world now is like a single organism that has a mutually connected relationship, moving as cogs in the wheels that are in synchronized gear with one another.

Many peculiar weather patterns and phenomena are occurring around the world these days. When there is a drastic change in the weather, we should not be careless and just say, “Well there was a change in the weather condition. That kind of change is nothing.” But you no doubt know very well that a disastrous weather phenomenon in one country could have great economical impact on your country and bringing along severe consequences as well. We are now living in very precarious times. This is the period just before the tribulation. We should know that the earth does not flow along peacefully all the time. It is now flowing along with a ‘hint of chaotic danger’. Natural calamities will not only happen on

earth, but will also happen outside the earth’s atmosphere, resulting in satellites and other electronic equipment in space will become useless. This world ‘will suddenly’ be faced with the tribulation.

Wars will also erupt all over as if unintentionally. People will be against each other, and nations will rise up against each other. A missile of say mass destruction could be fired upon another country unintentionally, and that country hit by the missile will not just sit idly by. It will respond in the same way, and a war will erupt in that manner. The United States these days are developing space stations outside of the earth’s atmosphere equipped with laser beams which can shoot down missiles inside the flying zone of a country that fired the missile. Although the United States is actually doing this, the problem is that the whole world is not moving along according to the US plans. That is why the entire world these days have become very anxious about China. China has a huge population, and there is



hardly any effective measure against the ‘human numbers strategy,’ which professes, ‘try and wipe us out if you are able to.’ China will become a country that will wield great power in the end time. Already we are experiencing China’s influence in the world community is beginning to increase substantially. No one knows what the world will be like in the future.

And the world today is integrated through a new technology field called the Internet. Through the Internet people are able to connect with an infinite storage of information, and are able to go anywhere in the world. The entire world could communicate with each other at anytime and pay a visit to the United States at any moment using the Internet. This is really amazing because you do not need much money to share this infinite amount of information and knowledge.

Korean people in the United States are able to communicate face to face with their families here in Korea by simply using the computer screen and a camera. Not only that a book hundreds of pages long

could be sent within a few seconds using a compressed file format. The Chinese translator of our books in China sent a Chinese version of our first book through the e-mail in a compressed file format. How wonderful is it that we could just decompress the file, print it out, and look at it? How costly would it be and how long would it take if we were to do so using a postal service? But they just compress the file in China and click the “send” button, and we receive it after a few seconds right here in Korea, sitting in front of our computer. We live in that kind of age in which the world is changing at an amazing speed.

The world has truly changed so much. Even this will become old-fashioned soon. This is an age when 100,000 well-trained Internet hackers are more useful than one million soldiers. Hackers go into other people’s computer files and programs, destroy their system, and steal information. It is like a spy or a guerilla working in cyber space. There are not many things that we can’t be done with a computer these days. That is how some unscrupulous people use the



computer to hack into bank computers, get secret passwords for other people's accounts, and transfer money into their own accounts. They just sit in front of a computer and simply transfer other people's funds into their own accounts.

As credit cards are being used more than cash these days, you should use credit cards very carefully. You must be ever so careful about using credit cards just anywhere and of course lending them out to others. Some time ago I went to a small business product exhibition in my town called Chuncheon City. I wanted to purchase a specific product, and the vendor insisted on me paying for it with my credit card. I wanted to purchase it with cash, but the vendor wanted me to use a credit card. He said that he would give me a discount if I were to use a credit card, and this is the way things are these days. But I do not trust these people. How do I know they will not make a copy of my credit card and use it illegally? I can't help it even if you do think that I am being a little too cynical. I do have much doubt

about many things. I think, "No, I had better not give you the credit card. Why won't you take my cash? Normally it would be better for the merchant to sell for cash. Cash is always better than a credit card. Why do you want my credit card? You are probably gaining something from the credit company, and there must be a reason why you would want credit card instead of cash." This is the way things are going in our times.

I wish for you to understand that we are at the doorstep of the great tribulation. I want to share the gospel with the entire world and the people around us because we do not know precisely when the tribulation will actually begin. We will still be able to share the gospel even when natural disasters, wars and earthquakes start becoming prevalent, but we will not be able to share the gospel as actively as we do now. How could we share the gospel freely during the tribulation? How will we work vigorously through the Internet, gather together to have worship services or to listen to God's Word, share fellowship,



publish books, and share bread together? How will we be able to do all these things? We will not be able to do so at that time. That is why we are sharing the gospel now. We are sharing the gospel with all our hearts even though we lack much. Although I am unable to save the world from the tribulation with supernatural powers in a flick of a finger like Superman, but I can share the gospel to save many people from their sins, and that is much more precious.

We are working hard to share the gospel as rapidly as possible. That is why we are publishing books and distributing them through the Internet. We do not have much ability to do anything else, so we go on publishing many books and distributing them to people so that they may read them and believe in Jesus. To tell you the truth our books are like ‘spiritual nuclear bombs’. At first people do not take it very seriously, but as they continue reading our books, they will begin to see, “Jesus wiped away all my sin in this manner” and come to believe and

receive the remission of sins. It could be that some readers of our books may not believe it right away, but when the tribulation falls upon this world, they may come to realize the Truth saying, “There is no hope except for the receiving of salvation from God,” and believe in God’s Word. At the time of the tribulation, many people’s hearts will be well prepared for the harvest. People who have no hope cannot help but wait for God’s salvation. In this hopeless age, there is no other hope except the faith in God’s salvation. This is the greatest hope, the ultimate hope, and the most definite hope. There is nothing that can be compared with this hope.

How many people do you think will receive the remission of sin? God said, “*Gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other,*” and these chosen people are, like us who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. He will lift up all these believers in the world and crush and trample on all those who are left in this world, those who do not believe in this true gospel. God will



crush and trample these non-believers, kill them, and bring them back to life again only to cast them into the eternal fire. The final end for them is hell.

Those who challenge God the Creator will face the wrath of God exactly as God has said in the Scriptures. God will show His wrath on those who do not believe in Him. When one person goes against another person, the worst thing that can happen is one being put to death. But when one challenges the Lord God the Creator, that person will be thrown into the eternal fire. That is God's fair judgment. It is all right to challenge one another and play games and all that between human beings, but a person will end up in the eternal fire if that person does not believe in Jesus Christ, who created this entire universe, rebelling against and challenging Him. God will show what a great sin it is to rebel against, and challenge Him. II Thessalonica chapter 1 says *“In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* People are not excluded

from the judgment just because they do not believe in God owing to their ignorance. Do you think that will appease God?

Let's read 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 together in one voice: *“since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

This Scripture passage says that there will be an eternal punishment of destruction for those who do not know God. Those who do not know God are somewhat like the beasts that perish (Psalm 49:20). You were very able to see that there is God and that He is the Omnipotent God, the Creator of the universe, just by looking at God's great creation (Romans 1:20), and people will not be able to escape the judgment by saying that they did not believe because they did not know God. People will receive



the judgment according to their disbelief. A student who does not know the answers to the test questions for having not studied the test material will receive a failing grade. In the same manner, God will completely dispose a person as a non-believer if that person does not know God who came by ‘the water and the blood’. It means that God will send the non-believers to hell, cast them into the fire and fan the flames (Mark 9:49). There will be many, many people like that in the end time.

The very work that Jesus accomplished here on earth is this gospel. The gospel means the good news. The gospel has the power to rid one of sin in one stroke. The word “power” is translated in Greek as “*dunamis*” and in English we get the word “dynamite” coming from this. Our Lord has taken upon Himself all of our sins through the baptism and saved us by receiving the judgment on the Cross on our behalf. What blessed news this is, and how very powerful, like dynamite! Were not the sins that were in our hearts removed since we heard the gospel and

believed in it? “Jesus has taken my sins away through His baptism and received the full judgment for those sins. All the worlds’ sins had been transferred onto Jesus. Therefore as a result of this righteous Act, we no longer have sin.

The power of the gospel for sure, is like the explosive power of dynamite. We had many sins in our hearts, but these were removed in one single stroke through this awesome gospel. The gospel has this kind of power. The gospel of the water and the Spirit has this power being the true orthodox gospel. By being born again His way, we go to heaven and become the precious children of God, gaining this authority as ‘the children of God’ by being obedient and believing in this gospel. And by having this Heavenly authority as the rightful children of God we will rule over this world.

Therefore being born again by believing in this very gospel of the water and the Spirit God gave us is truly a great blessing. Although it may not seem so according to the worldly standards, there is none who

has received greater blessing than you and I as we consider God's Word as the ultimate Truth. There is no one in this world who has received greater blessing than you and I even if we do suffer through many challenges and difficulties in life and are unable to do many things people of the world enjoy doing. We are nevertheless truly blessed. There is no one who has received greater blessing than us even if we were to die at this moment. We have received this amazing grace. That is why we are always full of contentment in our hearts. Although we may seem unfashionable and to be a small group, we nevertheless have received such a great authority and blessings from God. We are people exactly like this.

That is why the people who have received the remission of sin should not compare themselves with one another as the world does. They should not hate each other, but love one another and help one another whenever they can. We should help one another by faith, share fellowship together, and live as one body of Christ until the day of the Lord's coming. Not

even one among us should fall in our journey of faith. Even the Apostle Paul also said "*Therefore comfort one another with these words*" (1 Thessalonians 4:18). I also say to you to comfort one another. We should realize that we have been most blessed. We should care for one another and serve the gospel, realizing that we don't have much time.

If we share the gospel until the time when we are unable to do so anymore, the tribulation will then become apparent. And when the tribulation period is about to end, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give off its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the sky will be shaken. Then the Lord will come. The signs of the Lord's coming will appear in the sky. The Lord will suddenly appear in the midst of clouds with the trumpet sound of the archangel as He descends with His angels in the sky. No glorious scene on this earth will ever compare with the sight we will see on that day. A grand entrance of the Roman emperor will not compare with its magnificence, and the respect bestowed upon



a visiting chief of state from another country by honor guards will not compare with such majesty. We will see the Holy, majestic, and powerful King of kings appear before His creation as God the Creator, but very different from the modest appearance of the Lord in His first coming.

We will witness this incredible sight at the time of the Lord's second coming. The Lord will come soon and therefore we should now live in this world by faith, caring for one another, and in the end we will be lifted up to be with the Lord when He returns. Soon after this event of the 'rapture of the saints' this world will be destroyed.

The Book of Revelation states that the Lord will crush and trample those who reject the Lord's love and all those who challenge this gospel because He will be filled with wrath, *as it is written, "And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs"* (Revelation 14:20). This verse tells us that the Lord will crush

and trample all the non-believers and it has a further meaning that being; the Lord's wrath has reached its full measure.

The Creator is so very angry at His creatures that He is going to crush and trample on them. This is exactly what will take place during the tribulation. Not only will Satan harass the people, but also along with this, God will pour the tribulation upon them. During this tribulation period, God will pour down His wrath upon Satan and all those who do not believe in Him. However I do believe that God will shorten the days of the tribulation and will pour at this same time His blessings upon us because there will be many of us righteous people in the midst of that tribulation. We must also pray and trust God to pour upon us such grace. Then I also believe that God will pour His grace upon us even in the midst of such terrible circumstances.

Dear fellow believers live your lives quietly by faith, for you do not know how this world will change in the future, am I right? Because this world



is changing at this rapid pace, do not think it is changing in whichever direction? This is definitely not the case at all. All things of the future will be fulfilled exactly in accordance with the Word of God.

In the very near future, the various peoples and tribes of this world will jointly establish a certain important organization. Do you know what type of organization this will be? This organization will possess great power to unify this world as one. The organization will insist that it is for the citizens of this world's own welfare. Currently we are witnessing a worldwide campaign being waged, and this is called the human rights protection campaign.

The 'human rights protection campaign' proclaims as its main thrust that everything we do is 'for the people' and that we must protect human rights. And its most important priority is always placed upon the people and for the people. This sounds very appealing indeed. But in essence whoever only thinks about the people is in truth rising up against God. If this movement for humanity

becomes organized and gains worldwide recognition and respect, there will eventually be another organization led by a 'certain individual' which will amalgamate with this organization, this individual will soon challenge God with his false power. And as the result of this newly amalgamated organization it will now grow to a huge behemoth, and any other institution or organization that does not follow its principles and wishes will be simply destroyed and pushed aside.

We are now seeing this 'type of movement' already taking shape around the world. Such movements have in the past manifested itself on religious unification movements around the world. The religions of the world namely, Buddhism, Catholicism, Judaism, and Christianity are making great efforts for unification at this time.

There is a Buddhist temple nearby Deacon Lee's house, and during the last Christmas season, the temple had a "Happy Birthday Jesus" placard hanging in its front. We saw this placard whilst we



were driving and were passing by this Buddhism temple; we were all taken aback and very surprised. Not only that, a certain church in the beginning of last April, actually had a placard hanging in front of its building that advertised “Celebrate the Coming of Buddha.” How could this be happening? Maybe it appears good to see different religions sharing good relationships with one another. But on the contrary we should realize this is a frightening cunning scheme of Satan. What do humans do when they get together? They go against their own Creator God.

In Psalm we read 2:4, *“He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision.”* God sits and laughs at people who join together like this and challenge God in the name of serving humanity. Serving humanity seems so altruistic, but it is actually a very frightening way of thinking. Who would oppose the idea of establishing an organization that will serve human needs? Everyone will be happy with it and naturally join the organization. Who will oppose it when they say ‘anything that does not

benefit humankind is an enemy of the humankind?’ The organization is just fine if it really serves human needs and respects God. But if the world becomes unified and is led by ‘an organization’ that only serves the human purpose, such an organization will wield amazing authority and will eventually challenge God.

People will be convinced and say that it is solely for humankind, but they are actually rising up against God. Even though we must believe in God, if we were only to serve human needs, people will then say, “It does not matter if people believe in Buddhism, Muslim, or Confucianism. We should leave them alone. They should do as they please. Why do you people insist that all of us need to believe in a particular religion as a must? Why should we believe in one God? That is persecution of human rights, not protection of them. It is being against the protection of the human rights,” and as the result of this they will persecute and go against those who believe solely in God.



Human rights movement will prevail strongly throughout the world in the end times. These types of movements are very frightening. The thought of it makes my hair stand up in fear. As I witness a trend such as this, I think to myself “Wow, this is an amazingly huge movement that is only possible in this day and age.” If this were so, were there not any human rights campaigns back in the previous century? Oh Yes, there was human rights campaigns like this before as well. But fortunately they were established and contained within individual countries. But now this campaign is a worldwide one. Did you know that the environmental protection campaign has now unfolded and been accepted worldwide? Human rights protection movements are now all around the world. In some ways it may seem like a good thing, but actually it is a very harmful organization. If all the people of the world were to unite their power and make a world that serves only human purposes, then it will become a terribly powerful tool for Satan to be used against God.

When that eventually happens, God will crush and trample this world, killing everyone with hail from the sky or wiping them all away with water and fire.

Because these signs are now becoming more apparent in our times, I am telling you this in advance that we are all heading towards the end time when humans will be waging a war against God. We will not be able stop this trend of the world anyway. Therefore we should not waste our efforts trying to stop the world from rising up against God. We just need to do what is expected from us. Do you think these things will come about? Maybe there are those who think these things will only happen depending on the amount of commotion we create?

We just need to be faithful to the Great Commission of the Lord to spread this awesome gospel throughout the world. We will be able to share this gospel with about half of the world by the end of this year if we are faithful to this task. According to my evaluation for the year, I have the full confidence that this can be achieved. Those who quietly do their



best in doing their entrusted work do not create all kinds of commotion. Such people just get on with their work quietly, and it may not seem like much. But in the end we were able to see that an incredible amount of work has been achieved. It is all because they have worked at a reasonable and consistent pace resulting in substantial results.

We believe that everything will be accomplished on this earth exactly as it is recorded in God's Word. And I believe whole-heartedly that the last of the days are not that far away. Therefore we must discipline ourselves even more and devote our remaining days to the preaching of the gospel, because the Scriptures declares: The Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ☒



## What Will Happen After the Tribulation?

< Matthew 24:29-31 >

**“Immediately after the Tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”**

We will look at today’s Scripture passage, and we will study what will happen after the Tribulation and what God wants to teach us concerning it. The Lord said, *“Immediately after the Tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.”*

The first part of Matthew 24 says that many of us who are born again will be handed over to death and others that are alive will endure untold hatred and persecution from all people until the end. These that are alive will not suffer physical death until they have received their salvation. When the *Tribulation* comes upon this land, there will be some people of God who will be martyred and some who will even hide in underground drainage pipes until the Day of the Lords appearance. Simply put, this world at this time will be in total chaos.

What did the Lord say about the way things will unfold after the tribulation? Firstly, He said that the sun would be darkened. And He also said the moon



will not give its light, the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heaven will be shaken. This means that the preaching of the gospel will be impossible during this time when the people of God and His servants who are born-again suffer death at the hands of the servants of Satan. Will the Lord leave this universe unscathed at that time? It says that the sun and the moon of the sky will not give light. It teaches us that God will do this immediately and suddenly. And He also says that the stars will fall from heaven and that the powers of the heaven will be shaken. It means that the harmony of the universe God has created will break down. In the solar system, all planets revolve around the sun. But the Lord teaches us that the order of the universe will collapse after the tribulation. That is why we need to accept this teaching and keep it in our minds.

What would happen if the sun does not shine and give off its much-needed heat? What would happen to the earth? It would be very dark place, right? What about all the plants and trees? They would all die.

What about people? If there are no plants, people will not be able to live either. And what would happen if the moon does not illuminate at night? It would always be a pitch-dark world. The Lord teaches us what will take place after the tribulation here on earth. It would be somewhat unfair if the world continued on regardless even after the born-again people suffered through the tribulation. But the bible informs us that the world will be destroyed immediately.

## **We Must Believe in the Teachings Concerning the Events after the Tribulation**

There is no reason for God to let this world continue on after the born-again children of God go through the Tribulation. In addition, can you imagine the stars falling from the sky like celestial missiles? Have you seen the movies ‘Armageddon’ or ‘Deep



Impact'? These movies are about some heroic individuals saving the earth from an asteroid that is falling toward the earth at a tremendous speed, ready to bring on the total destruction of the earth. In a desperate act to save the earth, the main characters fly a spaceship to outer space and track the asteroid, and they then destroy the asteroid in the sky with a nuclear bomb. It was impressive to see how a single meteorite having been blown apart from the asteroid could fall into the Atlantic Ocean, which created a huge disastrous tidal wave (tsunami), and wiped away large cities on the east coast of the United States.

The earth will be like that in the end. Such science fiction movies are not made without any basis. It is actually very possible. The scientists inform us that the dinosaurs had suddenly disappeared from the earth because such an asteroid or a meteorite with a diameter reaching a few kilometers had fallen on the earth and the resulting dust from this devastating impact had covered the whole atmosphere of the

earth, which lead to an ice age. By the way, when the Lord says, "I will do this," we should understand what He is saying and believe in what He says.

In reality, it is very difficult for us to imagine such a thing. We sometimes see disastrous events like planes crashing down, rocks falling from the mountain, and large ships sinking. But it is hard to imagine the stars of the universe crashing into one another, large meteorites and asteroids speeding down like unguided missiles and crashing into the earth at an amazing speed, and with the result the earth immediately turning into a ball of fire, eventually bringing its end speedily. But they have made these frightening movies under the validation of scientists because the possibility of such disasters occurring is more than enough. It is hard to comprehend the Lord's teachings about the period after the tribulation with our limited intelligence, but I believe it is very possible because that is exactly what the Lord tells us in the Scriptures.

If the earth is totally demolished, it will be



impossible for us to live on it unless the Lord renews it. That is why the saying “*Behold, I make all things new*” is recorded in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 21:5). The Lord says that He will make anew this world and will reign with us for a thousand year, and He will later dwell with us eternally in a place called “*a new heaven and a new earth*” (Revelation 21:1).

The Lord continues, “*Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*” It is said the signs of the Lord’s coming will appear in heaven. We do not know exactly how the signs will manifest it self, but the Bible tells us that He will come with a glorious and magnificent presence surrounded by the host of archangels. The sky will be full of magnificent stars shining ever so brightly. And the angels and the host of Heaven will enter amongst the white clouds, and the Lord will appear, sitting on the white throne in the sky. It

teaches us that all those who are alive after the tribulation will see this glorious sight with mourning and anguish as they actually see the coming of the Lord after the showing of these many signs.

Why would people cry at that time? Those who do not believe in the Lord will cry in fear of the judgment because they did not believe, and those who do not believe with the correct faith will cry regretfully for their ignorance of the true gospel. Some will say, “Oh, God lives, and Jesus is God,” and cry regretfully for not having believed. And some who did believe in Jesus but were not born again for they had been misled in their faith will cry out in fear of the judgment to come, as they see with their very eyes the coming of the Lord.

If that is what the Lord said, that is the way it is going to be. Some people live in ‘cuckoo land’ all of their own making as if they are going to live forever, and they steadfastly and firmly believe that the universe will never be destroyed. But the end of this world will definitely come when the Lord returns,



and whether our Lord will come shortly or not depends on whether the Lord's will has been completed or not.

When the gospel is shared even to the ends of the earth and all those who 'deserve' the receiving of salvation have received their salvation, then the Lord will completely demolish and send the host of angels with the sounds of the trumpet to bring together the chosen people from one end of the earth to the other. It means that the Lord will send the host of angels after the seventh trumpet sound following the tribulation to gather all the elect from the ends of the earth. There will be this glorious rapture on earth then. The rapture will occur with the coming of the Lord upon this world when the Lord returns with the sound of the trumpet and of the archangel. It means that the Lord will lift the believers up to Him in the sky then.

The stars of the sky will fall toward the earth like unguided missiles, and huge tidal waves and other disasters will then take place, making the earth an

extremely difficult place to live in. God also said that He would return to this world after the Tribulation and rapture the righteous who had lived through and survived all these disasters as well as the believers who are already dead. This is the time when the rapture will occur. Why would the believers be lifted up to the sky? It is because this land will no longer be suitable for human habitation. How can we live on this land after such decimation? Of course the Lord could renew the whole universe just simply saying these words, "Let there be a renewal of the universe" like the time when He had created the world. But the Lord says that the only the true believers will be raptured at that time.

## **The Rapture**

The Apostle Paul says in the First Thessalonians chapter 4 that our Lord will rapture the believers with the sound of the trumpet of the archangel. It says that



the believers will be lifted up to the sky. Let us now look at the *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18* together: “*But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*”

We must understand what the Lord is saying to us about the things that will happen after the tribulation through the Word, which is recorded in Scripture. The Lord says through Paul, “*For the Lord Himself*

*will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord*” (*1 Thessalonians 4:16-17*). The Word states clearly that the signs of the Lord’s coming will appear after the Tribulation with the sun losing its light and heat, the moon also will give up its light, and the stars will fall away. The Scriptures also tell us that He will descend upon this world with the archangels and the sound of the trumpet, and send the angels to gather God’s elect from the ends of the earth. Here the word “to gather” really means the “rapture.” When we look at this, we can see that our Lord will rapture us after the Tribulation when the end is very near.

God commands the angels to gather all God’s elect from one end of the earth to the other. The words ‘God’s elect’ refers to those who have received salvation by believing in the only true



gospel of the water and the blood of Jesus Christ in their hearts. God is doing this to fulfill His objective of accepting them as His children and to eventually live with them for all eternity. These words of God means that after the Tribulation He will send the angels to gather all the elect in Christ, those who have received salvation and eternal life and become sinless children of God by believing in His gospel of the water and the blood, and then rapture them all.

Those who have been born again will definitely be raptured after the Tribulation. Even though you may have never experienced flying in a plane, God will have you flying at high speed at that time. All the overweight people will be raptured and including the underweight people will be raptured as well. The born-again will be raptured regardless of their weight. The Scriptures tell us that ‘only’ the children of God who have been born again of water and the Spirit will be raptured.

Those who believe in eschatology with their own man made set of deadlines interpret the number

144,000 recorded in the Book of Revelation as believers of their own respected denominations. Some denominations in this world even hand out identification cards as a proof of the ones ‘chosen to be raptured’. And some of these groups have already passed membership beyond that number, and if that were the case, it means that they no longer need to evangelize. These man made claims do not make any sense at all. Even the amongst the Evangelicals there is much confusion about the rapture. We must simply believe exactly according to the recorded Word in the Scriptures.

What do the Scriptures say about the rapture? The Scriptures clearly tell us that only the children of God who have been born again of the water and the Spirit will be raptured. Concerning this number 144,000, which is recorded in the Book of Revelation, is the number referring to the number of people from ‘each Israelite tribe’ who will be receiving salvation at the end time (Revelation 7:4). And the number of the Gentiles who eventually receive salvation during the



Great Tribulation will be countless as it is recorded, *“After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands”* (Revelation 7:9). People generally come to a false and senseless conclusion because they interpret the Scriptures anyway they want to. One thing the bible is very clear about is that a person with sin in their hearts will definitely not be raptured regardless of their denomination.

## **We Must Not Be Deceived by the Doctrine of “Pre-Tribulation Rapture”**

The Evangelicals claim the theory of “pre-tribulation rapture,” that is to say; the rapture will come before the Seven Year Tribulation. Therefore

they claim the following, “You will not even have an opportunity to spend the riches of this world when you are raptured. So instead you should give the riches of the world to the church as an offering and use it for the Lord’s work.” This is really a fantastic idea for requesting offerings and donations. It is their intentions to sanctify their religious leaders and to accumulate vast riches of this world with this false doctrine of the rapture. Even in our locality, I am really dumbfounded to see that there is a certain church that is collecting funds to build a three million dollar edifice of a church in these economically difficult times. These people are tragically using the false pre-tribulation doctrine of the rapture to accumulate their own wealth.

If I were so sure that the rapture would take place before the Tribulation, even I would be up there with them telling you also, “Give everything you have to the Lord and go before the Lord without having any money left over.” However, we find in the Scriptures that the time of the rapture is definitely not before the



tribulation. The Seven Year Tribulation can be distinguished by the first three and a half years and the second three and a half years. The Scriptures inform us that the Antichrist will appear after the first half of the Tribulation and set an idol in his own image in the Temple of the Israelites, claiming, “I am God.” The Antichrist will rule over the world during the latter half of the Tribulation and persecute the righteous people of God, and the rapture will occur during the second half of the tribulation although the Lord did not specify exactly when it would occur.

Why does He not make this clear to us? It is because the lives of the believers would be in danger if the exact time of the rapture were to be known. Those unbelievers would persecute the born-again believers to death if they knew exactly when the rapture would occur. God the Father has not specified the exact date of the rapture, because it is for our protection even though we understand that it will happen some time during the second three and a half years period of the Tribulation. This is the wisdom of

God.

During the Tribulation period, most of the born-again believers will be martyred. But some of them will escape and survive. The Lord will finally destroy this land at a time when the gospel can no longer be evangelized, and He will appear in the heavens and catch all of us up with Him in the sky. He will first lift up the brothers and sisters who are sleeping in the grave, and then He will transform all the surviving believers everywhere in this world and lift them up too. The Lord told us this clearly in the Word. Therefore we shall not be deceived by the false doctrine of pre-tribulation rapture. Do not be deceived. One thing is very clear: We will be raptured after the Tribulation. Our Lord said that He would send His angels to gather us from every corner of the earth after the Tribulation. We must believe in this steadfastly and unwaveringly.



## What Will Happen During the Times of the Third Seal and the Fourth Seal?

Let's read Revelation 6:5-11 together: *"When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, 'Come and see.' So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, 'A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.' When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, 'Come and see.' So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth. When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and*

*for the testimony, which they held. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, 'How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?'* Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed."

Verse 5 states that a black horse appeared as the third seal was opened, and the black horse having a pair of scales cried out, *"A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius."* These words have the meaning that there will be a great famine. The Scriptures continue, *"When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, 'Come and see.'" So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him."* The period when the fourth seal is opened is the time when the events after the Tribulation have unfolded.



The period when the third seal is opened is the time when we suffer the tribulation. The time of the third seal is when there are disasters, earthquakes, famines, and other calamities, and the time after the Tribulation is when we are martyred. Many people will suffer death at the time when the pale horse appears. There will be the rapture at that time, but the Lord will continue to postpone the time of the rapture until the number of the true believers He desires has been fulfilled. This number however will be filled very quickly, and those who have already been martyred will be mentioned when the fifth seal is opened. What will happen when the sixth seal is opened?

We shall find the answer in the Scriptures. Let us look at Revelation 6:12-17. *“I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the*

*sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?’”* We can see in this passage that there will be a great number of martyrs after the first half of the Seven Year Tribulation and that the rapture will take place right after this. We must not be deceived regarding these matters.

There are many around who claim to have been born again and to have received salvation. But the reality is that those who have not been born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit do not have the Holy Spirit within them. Those who do not have the Spirit within them are not essentially the righteous, no matter how much they claim that they



do not have sin. You must truly become the righteous, not just claiming to be the righteous superficially.

What does God's Word in Matthew 24:41 tell us, "*Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left,*" This verse means that God will look into people's hearts and see whether or not they have received the remission of sin through His gospel of the water and the Spirit and thus have the Spirit within them, and He will take only those who have the Spirit within them. Those who merely claim to have been born again just by lip service will not be lifted up. One thing we must understand clearly is that those who say "Do not accumulate wealth. Give all you have to the Lord because you will be raptured before the Tribulation" are all false prophets. And those who claim to have received the remission of sin without the Holy Spirit within them are not truly the righteous before the Lord. We must also understand is the fact that the Tribulation as mentioned in the bible will definitely happen and we should believe in

the coming of the Lord, living faithfully serving the gospel, and preparing our hearts.

The Lord tells us, "*Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.*" We must do exactly what He tells us to do. These are the times in which we are living of much deception, propagated by the false prophets. They keep telling us, "Now is the time just before the Tribulation. But we will be raptured before the Tribulation because we are the born-again. We will go before the presence of the Lord anyway. So people let's give all the material wealth to the Lord and prepare ourselves to meet the Lord." They keep deceiving the people in this manner.

There will be one more thing that will occur throughout the world, when people forget about their respected families and schools, just to get together in their churches, and cry out "Lord, Lord," like the Dami Mission. Because such phenomena occurs more frequently these days, we should be ever more focused and live out our lives with greater dedication



to the evangelization of the gospel. We must believe in the fact that the rapture is an event that will occur when the end of the world is imminent, and we must be faithful in our responsibilities until the day we will no longer be able to preach the gospel.

And at the end period, the unified government of the world will do everything in its power to persecute the righteous believers and distort their true faith. At that time the preceding servants of God will be persecuted first, and many will be martyred and go on ahead before the Lord. But I tell you do not be afraid. Though some will go before others, our final destination has already been decided. Please do not be deceived by all the false doctrines of the rapture, and stand fast to the very end. In Christianity there are many strange things occurring these days, because false prophets have spread much of their false doctrines. Many have sold their houses and even divorced because they have fallen for the false doctrine of eschatology. The false prophets who claim to be the righteous just by giving lip service are

the tares that Satan has planted in this world. Their purpose is to shut up people's hearts, so that they will not believe in the fact that the end time is very close.

I sincerely desire all of you to realize that we must live by faith because we do not have much time left over in this world. What I mean by saying this is that we need to focus our efforts more acutely and serve the gospel by faith. It is more beneficial if you do not quit your job or business that you do for a living now, but rather work hard in it. Also at the same time give your heart towards the sharing of the Gospel by faith, and use your money you have earned for the serving of the Lord and the bringing of people to Christ, rather than spending it on yourself like before you were saved.

Here are some wise words of encouragement; Do as you faith leads you concerning the remainder of your life. We should nevertheless take care of our own families, work hard, make money, and carry on nurturing our children. Through the strength the Lord provides us, we must serve the Lord with all our



hearts, with all our souls, with all our physical capability, and with all that we have. We must serve the Lord with our faith and with our time. Again I will repeat to you, do the things well for your family and in your social life, *but do not leave the Church*. Serve the gospel in one mind and purpose with your minister and the Church, and share the gospel with as many people as possible. Share it with their family members in order that their entire household will be saved.

Work with the Church wholeheartedly. It is a great blessing when you become one in mind with the minister in the Church. Do you understand this? Please do not say that you are going to sell your house and donate all the proceeds to the Church. Such type of action will not be of any benefit to the gospel. Let us not fill our heads with nonsense just because the coming of the Lord is near, but let us walk by faith diligently and share the gospel with each person we come across until the day we meet our Lord.

When the world is almost completely destroyed, the stars of the sky will fall down like unguided missiles, nuclear wars will erupt, the earth will split open, and this earth will become a garbage dump filled with agonizing excruciating cries. And then our Lord will appear in the sky, and we will be raptured. You should always remember that you can not do whatever you want to do by not witnessing to others, just because you now know the end time is very near. Knowing that those who have been born again will be raptured and have eternal life, we should go on living in this world with hope. At that time of the Lords appearing we will all be transformed to a holy body like God and be raptured. It will be much more gratifying to know that we will descend again to this earth with the Lord and rule like kings for a thousand years when our Lord renews this entire universe.



## **Let Us Spread the Gospel to Every Person to the End of This World**

Do you know, it is God's will for everyone living on this earth to be saved. The Lord said that he would come after this gospel has been spread throughout the entire world. How can the people of this world be saved if we would be raptured before the Tribulation? If we do not evangelize this gospel, then who will? Is it possible for a person who has not received the remission of sins share this true gospel? Absolutely not! that is not possible. How can a person proclaim this gospel without knowing it? How can one witness the gospel without believing in it? A person who has not received the 'remission of sins' will receive the mark of the Antichrist. Then who will be the ones martyred? There are many martyrs mentioned in the Book of Revelation. Will those who have received the mark of the Antichrist be martyred? No, that does not make any sense at all. The truth is that those who have been born again

through the water and the Spirit will embrace their martyrdom by faith.

We must learn from this Word of God written under 'spiritual inspiration' and live by faith according to its teaching. Then and then only will our hearts will be comforted. Just accept the fact that we will share the gospel until the end time. I am comforted when I think that I will live until the Lord's coming.

There are not that many people in this world who speak about the doctrine of rapture in the same manner as we do. Most people say that the rapture will occur before the Tribulation. They keep on saying, "You will be raptured before the Tribulation. So friends serve the Lord diligently with all your strength and ability as if you were a wealthy and powerful individual before all that is yours become useless." There are just too many false preachers around who keep on deceiving people in this manner. Please keep in mind that the rapture is an event that will take place when the end of the world is very



near. The rapture will take place at the time of the Lord's coming. Therefore, we should live out our lives with the conviction that we will go on living until the end of this world, the end of the earth, the end of the universe, and we must share this gospel to the very end. Have a solid concrete conviction about this important matter, and be careful not to be deceived and lose everything you have. If someone should tell you this nonsense, please rebuke these people with the Word of God, as it is written in the Scriptures.

Many believers wavered at the time when the Apostle Paul wrote the First and the Second Book of Thessalonians. Some of them quit working because they believed they were going to be raptured soon. So seeing this situation the Apostle Paul wrote in the First and the Second Book of Thessalonians that those who do not want to work shall not even eat. The First Book of Thessalonians shows clearly that they surely had a great deal of problems with this end time matter. That is why Paul states clearly, "*For the*

*Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first"* (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

The Bible is very clear that the rapture will occur at the time of the Lord's coming with the sound of the archangel's trumpet. The Scriptures tells us what will happen during the second half of the Seven Year Tribulation after the first three and a half years of the Tribulation have passed. My friends there are not that many days left before the coming of the Lord. Our time 'in tribulation' is not to far off; this is because the Lord has said that He will take away a portion of it.

During this period, there will no doubt be people that we must share the gospel with. When we are unable to share the gospel with the people of this world anymore, we can then share the gospel with our family members. We should share the food we have, and also share the gospel with them everyday. We should share the gospel with our close relatives,



distant relatives, in-laws, and whoever else comes to us. So we see at that time, we shall share the gospel one more last time, and when we are unable to share it anymore, all we have to do is to endure just a little longer. Then the Lord will come after the end of the Tribulation.

Let us believe in the return of the Lord, and let us believe that we will be going through the rapture at the end time. And let us share this gospel to the very last soul on this earth until the end of this world and the end of our lives, and let us be lifted up before the Lord. ☒



## **Serve the Lord With the Talents God Has Given You**

< Mathew 24:32-44 >

**“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. No One Knows the Day or Hour. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and**

**giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”**

In this Winter Discipleship Training Camp, there are 18 souls invited to the gospel class. I sincerely hope that our Lord may open up the hearts of these souls and let them receive the gospel. And when you pray, you should pray to God to save the souls of the



attendants at the gospel class as well as your families and your acquaintances. Before you came to this camp, your ministers must have told you often that all the facilities in Injae Retreat Center would be in good condition. But it only took several hours to find out the reality. Didn't the water pipes of the female restroom freeze up? I heard that water froze and it didn't even come out. So, the staff members had a discussion and we promised ourselves to do better at least from this point on. I don't know why it turns out to be so difficult for our staff members to gain favor in your sight. Now we should make flush toilets and new showering facilities in the female restroom. If God allows so, the facilities will become better this summer. As it is delightful to have a big place for worship, all the facilities in the Retreat Center will gradually become better. I hope you rest your exhausted minds and souls, and listen to the Scriptures to your hearts' content.

This morning, I will tell you about the time when our Lord shall come. The Lord said in Matthew

24:32-39: *“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”*

The Lord told us about the things that will happen when He comes. We should listen to His Word of teaching and admonition. So I am here to preach a sermon by stressing His teachings.

First, when does the Lord come? Let us look at the



Scripture passage for this part. The Lord said to His disciples, *“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!”* This passage means that when Israel regains its power, that is to say, when Israel recovers its territory we should know that the time is near for the Lord to come. After crucifying Jesus Christ on the Cross, the Israelites had scattered all around the world. But as today’s Scripture passage says, Israel regained its nation in 1948. Israel has recovered its nation after nearly two thousand years. There is no case in human history, except for Israel, of recovering its nation after nearly two thousand years of loss.

When does the Lord come back? First, Jesus Christ said, *“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near.”* Also, Jesus has taught us that *“This generation will*

*by no means pass away till all these things take place.”* We should pay attention to the fact that Israel recovered its land. The fact that Israel regained its nation in 1948 means that the Word of God, *“When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves”* has been realized. After Israel recovered its nation, it has become a firm nation by revival. Our Lord told us that He would come before the recovered nation vanishes from the earth. So we take notice of Israel. And we see that Israel has become an extremely powerful nation.

Secondly, when does the Lord come? Jesus said, *“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”* He continued, *“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be”* (Matthew 24:38-39). Jesus Christ is teaching us that the coming of the Lord will be as the days of Noah were.



What does “As the days of Noah were” mean? Noah, the servant of God, was the symbol of the time and day of the destruction. A long time ago when God judged the world by covering the entire earth with water, He had told Noah everything about the flood. God had mercy on Noah and his family that they have been saved by getting into the Ark. The Lord said that coming of the Lord would just be as the days when everyone but Noah’s family had been destroyed. The coming of the Lord is like the days of Noah.

Let us look at the Bible and see how it was in the days of Noah. It says, *“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away.”* In the days of Noah, people only cared about their desires of the flesh, that is, the desires of eating and drinking. That is to say, like God’s judgment has been made when the people were following only their fleshly desires, He will

come at a similar time in the future. My fellow believers, is there anyone who does not drink or eat? Everyone eats and drinks. Then why did the Lord speak like this in this Scripture passage? It means that our Lord will come at the time when people are not concerned about God but concerned about their fleshly desires and exhibit a behavior to satisfy them. My fellow believers, when we look at this world, we know that nowadays is just like the days in Noah when people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage. Just like the sin of Noah’s generation reached its full measure, so does the sin of this generation. Just like God has judged the world by water in ancient times; it will be the same at the time of His second coming.

Our Lord said that He would come when people are only caring about eating and drinking, and only seeking their desires of the flesh. If the people have faith in God’s Word and follow Him with reverence, give all their hearts in serving the gospel, and then eat and drink, eating can also be wonderful and



beneficial. But it is said that our Lord will come for a second time when the people do not care about God and only focus on their earthly lives, do not have concern in spiritual matters but only have concern in their own fleshly desires, and eventually lose God and live just by themselves.

We should carefully listen to the teachings of our Lord. Looking at the signs of this age, we see that the time is ripe for His coming. Thus, we should take the lessons from His Word and believe that the age we are living in is that time. We should heed the warnings from His Word and take it into our hearts. We should inscribe this teaching in our hearts, knowing that the condition of this age is indicating the imminent coming of our Lord. We should accept the teachings of the Word of the Lord. These are the true Christians and the people who believe in God. Truly we should be like these people. We should not talk about the time of the Lord's coming by simply looking at some signs of this world. We should listen carefully to what He said in the Bible: If the Word of

God said this we should learn as it was said and if it has stipulated admonishment then we should accept and believe it as it is. When we look at this age we know that it is becoming just as the Word of God stated. Then we should know and believe in our hearts that the time of His coming is rapidly approaching. Therefore, receiving the teaching of His Word is very important to us.

It is written in Chapter 1 of Revelation that those who read and those who hear the Word of this prophecy and keep those things are blessed. Listening to this Word, you are blessed, and I am blessed, and the people who believe in the Word as it is and live by faith are also blessed. In the days of Noah, people didn't realize God's judgment until the flood came and took them all away while they were indulging themselves in eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage. This flood is the symbol of God's judgment.

God has chosen the flood as the first judgment in the days of the Old Testament, and the world has



been judged with the flood. Then the saying “They did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” means that the judgment in His second coming will be the same. It means that the people are concerned in eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage so that they do not actually realize they will really go to hell at the time of His second coming and His judgment. Thus, we should believe in this Scripture passage. We should learn from the Word, and take a close look at whether or not this world is becoming like today’s Scripture passage. We should closely examine whether or not the world is turning out as the Scriptures said.

When we looked at the world of today by His Word and His teachings, this world has really closely mirroring the days of His judgment. Also we can recognize, see by faith, and truly believe that it is time for His coming. We believe that it has become near the end times as the Lord said. I have told you that the time is near since about five years ago. And I

am one of the men who are waiting for His coming, while looking at the situation of the world and contemplating the teachings of His words. When I look at this age, I see that this age has become like the teaching of today’s Scripture passage.

What do the people pursue in this age? I don’t know how much the people today pursue the desires of their flesh. Today there are few people seeking for God. A daily newspaper has done a survey asking “Do you believe in God?” and only 45% among the Korean people have responded that they do. This is quite comparable to the responses from the Americans that over 90% of them believe in the existence of God. Most Korean people have their own religions, but this means that the majority of them do not even believe in the existence of God as a reality. We know from this that a large number of Korean people choose a religion and believe in it as to solve their earthly problems but not to believe in God and have true faith in Him.

Do the people today believe in God? Do they seek



God? No, they don't. People today only seek the desires of the flesh, that is, the desires of eating and drinking. People today are only interested in the things of the flesh but not in believing in God. The people all around the world are madly pursuing eating and drinking. As the world goes to the end there is no future, so people add weight to eating and drinking to enjoy today's lives. The last days are like this. It was also like this in the days of Noah before the judgment by the flood. When God judged the world by water, people were only interested in eating and drinking. At that time people were terrible and their wickedness was great.

People know this merely as a historical fact. People don't know that this is a warning and teaching from God. However, the Lord teaches us about the time when He comes through the writings of Matthew. How are the people today when we look at this Scripture passage and look at the world through this passage? Both then and now the people really are not interested in God but only in eating and drinking.

In their hearts, there are only thoughts of how can we eat, drink, and live well. The Lord is teaching us through today's Scripture passage that the days are near for His coming.

Thirdly, when does the Lord come? The Lord says in verse 40, "*Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left.*" He said that when there are two men in the field, one will be taken and the other left behind. This field indicates both the people's hearts and the world. There are two kinds of people leading religious lives in the world. And it means that between the two kinds one will go and one will be left behind. Aren't we leading a religious life in Christianity? Don't the Christians plow their fields of heart, eliminate the rocks from their hearts, and plant the teachings of the Word of God?

However, among the same Christians who are plowing their hearts, some will be taken while others will be left behind. Living in this world, we are all devoted in some religions in our own ways despite the fact we have different religions. Some are



devoted in Christianity, some are in Buddhism, and some are in Islam. However they lead religious lives in their own ways, the born-again will be taken while those who are not born-again will be left at the ground. These things will happen in the days of His coming.

Thus, we should listen to the Word of the Lord and to His teachings. We ourselves should cultivate the fields of our hearts and receive perfect redemption of having no sins in our hearts. It will be decided whether you are taken or to be left behind by whether or not you have been born again by the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Before the time of His coming, we should examine ourselves and see whether “I am born again or not.” Put differently, we should think about “Am I going to be taken or left in the days of His coming?” It doesn’t mean that you will experience Rapture just because you lead your life of faith somehow blindly. It doesn’t mean that you will experience Rapture in the days of His coming because you have hoed up and shoveled your

field of heart recklessly. We should be taught by the Lord’s Word of Truth. We should plow up our field of heart by His Word of Truth. And in our hearts we should accept the gospel of the water and the Spirit, His Word that allows people to be born again. The seeds of His Word should fall in to our hearts, sprout in each of our hearts, and bear fruits. We should become men who have the seed of His Word, the Word of salvation that makes us to be born again of water and the Spirit, in our hearts.

Even though it is obvious that His coming is near, there are people who haven’t yet accepted the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and these people should hurry up and plant this faith within their hearts. If he doesn’t have the Word of God in his heart, he should buy it if it even costs him everything, and he should accept the Word of God hurriedly if it is given for free. If he doesn’t have the Word of salvation in his heart and hasn’t been born again, he will be left behind in the last days. Therefore, you should check with the gospel of the water and the Spirit to ensure



that you have been born again before the days of His coming. You should not only wait for the days of His coming but each of you should examine your faith. Then, those without the seeds of faith in their hearts should accept His Word of salvation, and those people with the seeds of faith should wait for the Lord always saying, “Come, Lord Jesus.”

Not long ago there were odd groups in Korea. There were two groups, Dami Mission and Tiberias Mission, which asserted that the world will come to an end and Rapture will take place on October 28, 1992. The name of our mission is The New Life Mission. Already the name is different from those mission groups mentioned. We are the “mission organization that gives new life.” Dami Mission and Tiberias Mission created a commotion by saying that the world will end on October 28, 1992. By their false teaching, a great number of people believed that the Lord would come on October 28, 1992 and they brought on public criticisms. At that time I had fellowship with some of the staff members in those

groups and I pulled several of them out.

“Pastors and Evangelists! Does the Lord come on October 28, 1992? Let us say it is true for the moment. Then are you sure that you were born again of water and the Spirit and that you will be lifted up to the Kingdom of Heaven whenever the Lord comes?”

“I am not sure.”

I asked again, “Then what should you do?”

“Then I should repent. Until His coming, I should clean the cloth of my spirit with soap of repentance and dress in fine linen, white and clean, and welcome the Lord, saying, ‘Oh my bridegroom, here is your bride.’”

I asked them again, “Until when should you prepare such a perfect white dress?” “I should prepare it until the Lord comes.”

“How can you prepare it?”

“I can prepare it with prayers of repentance.”

“Then how often should you give the prayers of repentance?”



“I should offer the prayers of repentance every day and night.”

There are those people. But even if the Lord had really come on October 28, 1992, those people couldn't have been lifted up to the presence of the Lord. They will not be taken. Will the holy Lord take the bride stained by dirty excrements? Who would take the bride with a bad smell? Who would take the bride stained by a whole bunch of filthiness? It doesn't make any sense.

“Let us say that He will come shortly as the Bible says. Yes, you believe in the true Word of God. Then are you prepared? Are you prepared to meet Jesus Christ? Are you truly born again?” Then, they say, “Yes, I am born again by the blood of Jesus.” Whenever the Bible says the blood of Jesus, it says so by premising that He took all the sins of the world through His baptism. But there are people who say that they believe in the blood of Jesus without knowing His baptism. Can there be any result when the cause is absent? Those are people who have not

been born again yet. Those people are disgracing the face of Jesus and smearing the faces of Christians. I don't know whether they are somewhere cultivating their spirituality by offering the prayers of repentance. However these meetings haven't disappeared and still exist until now. Even now, there are lots of people believing like this.

*“Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.”* If one doesn't accept the seeds of life in the field of his heart, all of his endeavor will be of no use. What is the use of a good field? What is the use of a good field if there is no seed to plant? “My field is rich but it grows only thistles and tares.” Then we cannot say that is a good field. My fellow believers, you are the people who have plowed all of your fields. But the important thing is whether or not the seeds are planted in the fields. When the Lord comes, only the born-again are taken while the people who are not born again of water and the Spirit are left. The Lord will certainly come someday yearning to take us from this world.



Eventually you and I should have the seeds of life in our heart fields because He will come here to take only the born-again people.

Do you have faith that you have been born again of water and the Spirit? Do you have the seeds of Word as the born-again in your heart field? If you have the seeds of the Word as the born-again, it is okay for you to have some insufficiencies. However, if you have no seed of Word in your heart field it is in vain even though your field is plowed well and your heart is good. These have no meaning. In the days of His coming, there will be two men plowing the field; one shall be taken and the other shall be left. Thus we should listen carefully to the Word about being born again. And it is a great blessing that you believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

However, we, the born again, immensely look down upon this genuine gospel often. Some of us are prone to regard this merely as the foundation of faith. Some people once asked me, “How did you write so many books with the same story and the same topic.”

How are my sermons the same? Even the seed of life is the same, but there are various kinds of heart-fields. Depending on the different types of the fields, such as, sick fields, fields with many rocks, proper fields, filthy fields, malnourished fields, etc., we should cultivate them with different methods of sowing and plowing.

My fellow believers, the gospel of the water and the Spirit that has brought us salvation is the gospel of life. This is the only true gospel. It is the most precious gospel on earth. In our hearts we have the gospel of the water and the Spirit. As we have this gospel in our hearts we spread out the gospel. But do the people in the world accept the gospel well or not? They do not. It is because they don't easily believe in God. People do not accept this gospel because in this last age people are only concerned about eating and drinking but not concerned about believing in God. I don't know whether or not the souls in the gospel class will accept the gospel well in this Discipleship Training Camp. It will not be that easy. It is because



that nowadays people are all focused on eating and drinking. Let us look at ourselves. How many people went to the center store yesterday after the night worship service? How much are the people focused on eating and drinking. Also, there are people among you who bring delicious foods and eat them with his or her family members. You don't have to give it to me. I have a lot to eat.

You and I have this precious gospel of the water and the Spirit. I thank God for this. Whenever our Lord comes, we the born again, the people who have the Word of life, the gospel of the water and the Spirit, will be taken by Him. But the lives of the people who do not have the Word of life will turn out to be blanks. When you were young, you surely have tried a sugar-cake lottery? The storeowner would make the winning prizes of planes, trains, and boats, which are made from melted sugar and stick many lottery tickets in a can. In our youth, we just can't pass by the lottery.

“Mister, how many tickets can I get for ten

cents?”

“You can get three.”

“Only three? Come on, let me have four.”

“Alright, you can have four.” The truth is that you will all get blanks for all the tickets. It is of the owner's mind to write down whatever he or she wants. So, if the storeowner writes down all blanks and sticks them in the can, there is no more than that. When you pick some lotteries, this is a blank, that is a blank, and once in a while you win a small jet plane or a rabbit but not a big plane. You can't pull out a big sugar plane because the owner did not write it down. It will never happen nevertheless you rob your mom's money and pull out all the lotteries frantically. When I got angry I gathered the money by any means and pulled out all the lottery tickets. Thinking that I will be profitable if I get two big prizes by doing that, I poured a lot of money and bought all the lottery tickets in the can. So I bought all the tickets and opened them just to find out there was no big plane anywhere. There was nothing at all.



We call this a fraud.

Anyhow you and I who have received the remission of sin are happy because now is the time He will come. *“Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.”* My fellow believers, we can distinguish the real faith from the fake one by examining them with the Word of God. There are people who shamefully shout that “The denomination I am in is the most famous one in the whole world and it follows Calvin doctrines.” However, this is no use even if these people are brothers and sisters of Calvin. They will be left in the end like the woman who was grinding at the mill.

There are two women grinding at the mill. They put a spoon of bean or rice in the grinding stone. And if you grind the grains with the stone mill any beans and rice are crushed. With a noise of “Drrr.. drr.. drr.. drr..” the contents in the stone mill are crushed and flow outside. Two women are ardently grinding the millstone and all of a sudden only one is left grinding the stone mill. While two women are grinding at the

mill, one is taken, and the other is left. My fellow believers, only the ones with true faith, who have been born again of water and the Spirit, will be taken at the time of His coming. Do you believe in this? Amen.

There are lots of people in the world who make a boast of themselves saying, “Our denomination is such and such, and I am the President of our denomination.” I can’t stop laughing whenever I see such a person. The people who are not born again lay great emphasis on their outward appearances. And they lay stress on the history and tradition of their denominations. However, the born-again are not like that. The people who are not born again brag about the appearances as substance such as, how old their denominations are, or what tradition they have built, etc. But how are their faiths in substance? How does it look if we open and look at their hearts by shedding the light of God’s Word? Their hearts are totally rotten by sins.

We should know that it is so precious to have this



gospel of the water and the Spirit. This is the Word of God. Even though we pound our hearts with the hammers and grind them in the millstone we are still the born-again people. No matter how much we plow our heart fields and turn them over and over, we remain as the born-gain people in whiteness. We are the born-again people who are tightly structured with innocence from inside to outside. This is for real. However Christians who are not born again are not like this. They are unsightly and funny. They desperately led their religious lives but will not be taken by the Lord. How does this happen? Even though he led a religious life from his mother's womb, and went to the Sunday schools from his youth, middle school years, high school years, college years, young adult years, adult years, and has a colorful record of serving as a deacon, an elder, a pastor, and then the president of his denomination, he is only like General Naaman. Even though Naaman was a General, he was a leper to be hated. And no matter how colorful one's career is, if he doesn't

have the Word of the water and the Spirit, the Lord leaves him behind instead of taking him. Thus, we know how precious the gospel within us is.

Every time we gather we talk about the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We talked about it last night and we do so this morning too. Do you have your hearts saying, "It is so boring. My ears are suffering. Don't you have any other Word of God than this?" Truly is there anything else better than this? No, there isn't. We should know the most valuable among the things you have. It is written, "*Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you*" (Acts 3:6). What is the most precious thing that you have? It is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. This is the most precious thing and our important substance. This gospel of the water and the Spirit saves the spiritually crippled, the people without good lives of faith, and the dying sinners. Then, how precious is it? Truly the gospel of the water and the Spirit is so very precious.

Our Lord says, "Wouldn't you be prepared if you



know the time and hour of the end?” In other words, we should always be watchful because the Lord comes at the time like the days of Noah. He says, “*Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming*” (Matthew 24:42). The Lord taught us to always be watchful. Especially, you and I who are living in the days of Noah should be watchful by faith and spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and live with faith believing that now is the time of His coming. We should know that He will come if we wait a little, listen to His teaching and receive it in our hearts, and carry out the works that he has given us with loyalty.

In Matthew chapter 25, we see the parable of the talents. Let us look from verse 14 to 30 of Matthew chapter 25.

*“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and*

*immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ Then he who had received the one talent came and said,*



*‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”*

Our Lord is giving us a lesson from this parable. There is something that those who have received the remission of sin should extremely be careful of. Here in the parable of the talents, the Lord said that He

gave the talents to all of those who had received the remission of sin. The Lord has given you and me the same talents. The Lord has given each of us some talent of knowledge, talent of playing the piano, talent of spreading out the gospel, talent of having faith, talent of making money, talent of praising the Lord, and serving the gospel. However someone who doesn’t use his talents to serve the Lord, or leaves the Church and lives only for his desires of flesh while eating and drinking, is the one who received one talent.

When the lord came to settle accounts with them, the servants came and said. He who had received five talents made another five by trading and came to the lord saying, “Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.” Then, his Lord said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.” And he who had received two talents came and said, “Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two



more talents besides them.” Then, his lord said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.”

Then he who had received the one talent ran in swiftly and said, “Lord, I knew you to be a hard man and an evil master, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. I dug up everything and bring them all without fail. Look, you gave me one, and there you have what is yours.” But his lord answered and said to him, “Cast the wicked and lazy servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” He cast him to the outer darkness.

My fellow believers, there is something that we the born-again should be careful about. It is that you should not live only for yourself after you have been born again. God has given the born-again people the talents to serve the Lord in His Church. Whatever the talents are, He has given the talents to all of us. Some

people follow the servants of God and meticulously satisfy their needs, which is a talent. Also there are brothers and sisters who make a lot of money and serve the Lord by supporting the flower of the gospel to blossom. God has given various talents to each of those who were born-again.

But there are people who use the talents not to serve the Lord, but only to serve themselves. These people say, “Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground.” Among the born-again there are people who leave the Church saying, “Oh, I have this technique. I have this talent. This is so precious to use only for the Lord. I want to use this only for myself.” Those people eventually leave the Church saying, “I had this hidden talent of making money. I never knew this before in the old days. But now I know that I am so talented in this field and I will live a colorful life in this world.” Those people leave the Church and live only for



themselves.

However, what will happen to the person who uses the talents given by God for himself only and makes money by using them in order to satisfy only his belly? In the days of the Lord's coming, he who had received one talent will dig up his talent from the ground and say, "Here, you have your one talent. I didn't even cut out 0.1%. Here you have the one talent in full. Here you go, here it is. Are you satisfied? As I received salvation, I am going to the Kingdom of Heaven, my Lord."

Then the Lord says, "Wait! Now what are you talking about?" Then his heart is toughened by his own righteousness, and he rather says that he has done nothing wrong and the Lord is the one who is unrighteous, saying, "Haven't you come to settle the accounts with me? Didn't you come back to take back what you gave me? You gave me nothing more than one talent, haven't you? You mean that you want two out of one? Are you a thief? I heard that there are lots of vicious lords these days, and who

knows that you are one of them? Where can you find such a vicious lord who demands two out of one? Even I don't do that." As such, being filled with his own righteousness, he says that he did nothing wrong to the Lord and that the Lord is rather unrighteous. Then the Lord cast him into the outer darkness saying, "If you would have deposited my money at the bankers, you would have had the addition of interests. You didn't even do that and had the whole talent dug in the ground."

Having the talent dug and hidden under the ground means that he has used his talents only for his flesh while drinking and eating. My fellow believers, is it so, or is it not so? It is so. And we call this kind of a person the son of a thief. Such a person is so intolerable. If I see the servants of God and the saints who left the Church after having received the remission of sin and only use their talents for eating and drinking, I curse them at that very instant. I call such a person a son of a bitch. With the heart of the Lord I feel disgusted with such a person.



Those people will have an ugly end in the last days. The Bible has a lot of these messages. There are lots of messages on this topic. There are people who only use the talents for themselves. Those people leave the Church saying, “As I am born again I don’t need the Church anymore. I am clearly born again. I have the firm belief of being born-again. So don’t tell me to do this and to do that. Have you ever given me a bowl of rice, why are you telling me to do this and that? Why are you looking down on my personalities? Why are you poking your nose into my business? I am not the kind of person to serve you. I am a noble man. I also have been born again. You are not the only one who has been born again; so don’t tell me to do this and that. I will take care of myself.”

Does he serve the Lord if he snaps like this and leaves the Church? My fellow believers, you and I can serve the gospel only while we are staying in God’s Church. If one leaves the Church he can only live for his flesh. Those people who are living like that are unworthy ones. Even though he is a born-

again man, he is a very unworthy man. As we are humans, we ourselves are unworthy without the Lord. If we don’t do the works of the Lord we are useless beings. When we use the given talents to do such things as to serve the Lord and make a profit by trading with them to serve the gospel, then we are fruitful and valuable, and we can maintain these values. If we are not like this, we become very useless people. Those people have no use. Are those people worthy? What worth does the man who only uses his money for himself and who uses all his money for eating and drinking at a nice place have?

I never rode a tour bus, but I saw the bus joggle. “Well, that bus is strange. Why is it joggling?” When I looked inside, I saw women dancing with the music. “What are they doing? Are they all crazy?” I don’t know how rigorously the people were dancing in the aisle of less than 60 cm or two feet. How narrow is the aisle in the bus? In that small aisle people dance, sing, and drink until they arrive at the destination. When the bus stops at the rest area



people go to the restroom and come back to play like this. There are lots of people like this.

Of course, you and I all have excitements. When I asked some of our staff members to dance the other day, they were so good at dancing. Some staff member showed a robot dance. This really looks like a dance. Have you ever seen the dance of the dancing girls along with the saxophone music? I only saw those dances in the movies, but I figured our brother workers could do it too. I made exclamations saying, “You have a flexible body even though you are fat. How is your body so flexible?” Everybody has such a kind of excitement. It is good to have one. How great is it to dance in joy, get rid of stress, and go on a diet. It is okay to do so, but the problem is in that some people don’t serve the gospel and only pursue their carnal pleasure.

Everyone who doesn’t serve the Lord and live for the gospel is a thief, a son of a bitch, and a child of scorn. It is okay for all of you to be excited and have fun, and to eat delicious foods. But you have to keep

it in your mind that if you had fun and ate a lot, you should serve the Lord too. Isn’t it a problem that you don’t serve the Lord when you have to do so? Isn’t it a problem that you leave the Church without serving the Lord? My fellow believers, we shouldn’t be such people. The Lord teaches us not to become such people. My fellow believers, we should accept this teaching. You should accept this teaching in each of your heart.

However, nevertheless this Word of God, some people leave the Church saying, “It is your words. Do you think that I will go to hell even though I received salvation? Don’t worry. I have all the faith to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. I can live my own life and take care of myself even though you don’t worry for me. Though I leave the Church I will serve the gospel after making money. Just see when I have some time. Just see when I make some money. I can’t hold my lips from saying the gospel when I get the opportunity. My personality is like that by nature. So I will serve the gospel well and spread it out well.



Don't worry. My religious life is better by myself. I think you are making it worse. So don't worry. See you. I am leaving." How could such a person live out his faith?

My fellow believers, we shouldn't become the wicked. Who are really the wicked in God's Church? We often say, "You are so wicked and carnal" to each other, however, the real evil men are the ones who leave the Church. It is evil itself to think to lead a life of faith by oneself. The people who act on such thought are more evil. There is a place for us to meet with each other across the Jordan River, but unfortunately there are people who we can't meet with at that place. At that time at you will see all the friends who have stayed in the Church, the bright place, while there will be someone whom you can't find. No matter how many times you call his name, there will be no answer. And when you looked in the darkness on the off chance, he is crying in there. My fellow believers, this can happen. This is the Word of God.

The Lord has saved us and left us in the world to serve the gospel. Therefore, if we don't serve the gospel, the Lord looks at us as the worst of evil. The Lord looks at those as bad people who are trying to return their salvations. There are lots of times when you feel yourself so insufficient and tiresome, saying, "It is much better for me to vanish from the Church. How well will the other brothers and sisters serve the Lord if I vanish? It is better for me to disappear." Even though there are times that I too think like this, the reason that I can't leave the Church is because of the Word of God, which calls me wicked and will put me into darkness if I do so. The reason why I can't live at a cabin in a mountain and live quietly without serving the gospel is because of His Word. Because of His Word, I can't bear to do that. So even if I am insufficient I serve the Lord staying in the Church.

I serve the works that God has entrusted me with by all the talents He has given me. The Lord is telling us by the parable of the talents of how we should live at the time of His impending coming. Though you



and I are insufficient, we should stay within the Church. When we live like that, the Lord will give us all the powers and talents to serve Him even though we are insufficient. The Lord gives us the talents to serve Him. If you want to serve the Lord by material, He will give you the talents to do so. We can serve the Lord when He gives us the talents like that. We cannot give the things that we haven't got. It is not the Lord's will to bring the things that we don't have. Therefore at the time of His impending coming, like the days of Noah, we should accept the teaching of His coming by faith, and serve the God's works with faith. We should do His works with the talents that He has given us whether someone appreciates it or not, whether it is fruitful or not. We should carry out the given work whether it is big or small with diligence, faith, and loyalty.

And in our hearts we might have worries of this life on earth thinking, "This is all I have. How can I live if I offer all of the talents that I have to the Lord. Then what will I have left?" My fellow believers,

however, there is nothing of which to worry. If you have the heart to serve the Lord, He will provide you with more talents. The word that the Lord will provide you with the talents means that He will give you the ability to serve. It is easy to serve the Lord with what you have got, but when you have nothing left you will become anxious. At that time He will fill your needs if you have faith and pray to God. And there are talents in you that the Lord has already given you. There are talents that the Lord has already given you, but you just can't use them because you haven't yet discovered and developed them within faith. In case you don't even have the already given talents, the Lord will give you new talents. There are times when the Lord asks you to try this kind of work and that kind of work. Among those works there will be things that you never have tried so far. And there will be things that don't fit to your aptitude. But when you try these works from the Church, you will experience that the Lord is giving you the talents to do them.



My fellow believers, we are living in the days of His impending coming. That is the reason why the Lord told us to be watchful. We should really be watchful. We should stay within the Church in all circumstances; we should sincerely carry out the jobs with the talents given to us, and believe in the words of God. Like Peter said, *“Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you” (Acts 3:6)*, we should believe that the Lord has given you and me the most precious gift of all, that is, the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and we should trade with this gospel with faith. You and I should believe that we have received the most precious gospel of the water and the Spirit from the Lord and that the Lord has given us the talents to serve Him. With that faith, until His coming, we should spread out this genuine gospel to the people who don’t know this gospel in order for them to prepare for His second coming.

This mission, this commandment of God was given to you and me. Thus you and I should live by faith, quietly accepting the teaching of God in our

hearts. Though all the people are interested only in eating and drinking, and together we eat and drink, we should accept the teachings of the Lord. And we should believe. And we should live within that faith. We have to do so. The world is more and more yearning the sinful features of the days of Noah. The world is becoming more and more like the days of Noah. Who would say that this age is not like the days of Noah? Even though I don’t explain how this age is like the days of Noah with specific examples, you will know the reality well through the newspapers, magazines, and televisions. That’s why I do not talk more on this.

Now is the time of His impending coming. I hope you accept this teaching. My fellow believers, do you have faith in this teaching? Yes. I hope you truly have faith in this admonition. And I hope you accept this Word of God’s admonition, and live with this faith not leaving the Church until the days of His coming.

Only those who are born-again believe that this



age is the time of His impending coming. The people in the world are making a fuss in marrying and giving in marriages, and building houses. It is because that they don't believe that the days of His coming are at hand. They make vain efforts because they don't believe that the world will end. But we the righteous shouldn't make such vain efforts. I want to do whatever works if they are certainly needed for the Lord. If there is any work for the Lord and the gospel, I will do it unyieldingly.

However I don't want us to make money or to build houses only for our carnal desires. It is not for the wealth and prosperity on earth that we the born-again make money, trade, and purchase daily necessities. All our activities are for the Lord. I hope you make money diligently. Whatever you do, eating or drinking, I just hope you live for the Lord and live within the Church even you are insufficient. I hope you use your talents that the Lord has given you and live with faith though you are insufficient. Have you got it? I sincerely hope you to live with faith. I

believe in our Lord. I thank God. Amen. ☒



## Let Us Have Faith About the Last Days

< Matthew 24:32-51 >

“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not

know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come



**on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

The spring rain fell for the first time in a long while. All of nature is green and flourishing from the spring rain. When it is time, nature unchangingly does what it must do. When the sun shines and the temperature rises, the skies send rain and the earth brings forth new life. From barren branches, flower buds form, and every tree flowers with all its heart as it praises the Creator God. I watch such things, thinking, “There is a time when all things are made new,” and I think of the Millennial Kingdom to be established on this earth and I am looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth.

You must be busy and tired from many things these days. I realize how time passes by so quickly.

After I approximately plan the events for the week on Monday and start working, it is already time for the Wednesday evening service. If I work two or three days busily, the Lord’s day soon returns. One week surely passes by quickly. After doing this and that and holding service a couple of times, one week passes by in a moment, and it is a new Monday. After going through four of those weeks, one month swiftly goes by.

Every month, our Churches at every region hold revival meetings in turn, and when I get back from the meeting, I realize that a month has passed by. Soon, when it becomes June, it will pass by in a moment after much bustling from the 2002 FIFA World Cup games held in our country, and when July comes we will wonder, “Why is it so hot, the heat is killing me,” and while looking for coolness, August will meet us, and after suffering from a greater heat, soon it will be time for our retreat. After gathering in the cool Injae Retreat Center and spending the week resting our spirits and bodies while receiving grace,



August once again goes by quickly. When the heat diminishes and it seems like fall has just come, it becomes winter when we need to take out our thick parkas from the closet, and soon a new year will come.

Time does go by fast, and it is fine that time goes by so fast, but I wish that I could quickly finish all the work I must do. I am still young at heart, but my bodily age has already overstepped a half of a century by a few years; surely, the days are fleeting. Also, global affairs are in such an urgent state that I think the prophecies in Revelation are being fulfilled.

If you look in Revelation, it says that in the last days, the mark of the 666 will be embedded on the forehead or the right hand of a person. This mark is the name of Antichrist or the number of his name (Rev. 13:17). Recently, a certain inventor invented an electrical chip that could be placed into the body of a pet, and the animal can be easily tracked if it is lost. The electrical chip is pierced into the pet with a device similar to a needle, and this can be

accomplished within seconds. The chip is useful because it holds all of the animal's essential information, so that after bringing back the lost animal and examining the chip, it is easy to locate the owner. Not only that, but it is also possible to know the animal's year of birth, its breed, health information, place of birth, and the location of the current owner. Though currently this electrical chip has been invented for the purpose of implementing it on livestock or pets, it can be implemented on people anytime. Also, because if you disappear or die from an accident you can be easily found, people who want this chip are increasing. Moreover, because this chip also functions as identification and as a credit card, the day when it will be used widely is not far.

Tension and conflict also exists between Israel and Palestine. Though Israel is under the strong protection of the U.S., because the Arab countries have a mutual destiny they can unite with each other anytime to stand against Israel. Therefore, this area holds the constant threat of war like an explosive



warehouse. Because the ending of the world has correlations to the changes in Israel, we must watch the affairs of that nation while we concentrate on spreading the gospel.

If we look at today's Scripture passage of Matthew 24 from verse 32 to 35, it says, *"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near-at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away."*

The Israelite nation is a nation that was dispersed for about 2000 years. However, the Scripture says, "Now learn this parable from the fig tree" and with that "When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near." This is the Lord speaking of what will happen in Israel in the last days. This means that one day when

it was thought that the fig tree was dead, suddenly another day the leaves came forth from the tree and it was brought to life again. It was believed that the Israelite nation was lost and almost completely void, the Israelite people have recovered their country. Just as the leaves of the fig tree came out and the tree bear fruit again, the Israelite nation rose once more, reclaimed the land of old, and moreover the Israelis are now pressing the neighboring nations.

The Lord says that, "This generation will by no means pass away till all such things take place" and by this generation, He means the period of time at which the Israelite nation exists on this earth. The metaphoric expression that the fig tree becomes green once again means that the Israelite nation would recover its country after it being lost. After Israel recovers its country, the Israelis start to foliate as they display their power, incurring the wrath of many countries. And as they become isolated, a war breaks out resulting in their eventual surrender, and they would be conquered in the end. Therefore, Israel



will reach a point when the nation is threatened to be lost again, but before the Israelite nation is dispersed the Lord will come. We cannot say that time is now, but we can say that we are at the threshold of that time.

If we look at Revelation, it says that in the future, a dragon with seven heads will arise from the sea. This signifies the appearance of kings in the world who will commit violence. Truthfully, in the current times, aggressive rulers are appearing all over the world. The President of the United States, a current superpower has no reservations about going to war as if he were a man born to wage wars. He is truly a frightening person because not long after he agreed to an anti-nuclear pact, he is trying to break it. He broke the agreement that said that each country would not develop nuclear weapons anymore and declared that his country alone will make more nuclear weapons. Such a person advocates the law that says, “The weak fall prey to the strong.” The reason why he is no longer afraid of the nuclear

weapons owned by other countries is because a defensive strategy using a satellite to intercept their nuclear ballistic missiles has been developed. Therefore, for the U.S. there is nothing to fear, and they can claim that they have indomitable capabilities even in the case of a nuclear war. It seems that the President has started the work of realigning the global order under his country’s influence.

In Japan, on the other hand, the Prime Minister has declared that he will make his country into a military superpower. The Prime Minister is an innovative person. Even without a brilliant record or substantial advocates, he has maintained his position as Prime Minister for quite a while. He has shown an ambition to boost Japan’s failing economy as he continues to build its military power. As of now, his cabinet members as well as most Japanese people believe that “War is the key to reconstructing Japan’s economy.” Therefore, Japan has collaborated with the U.S. as they instigate antagonism toward North Korea. They brag that they can eliminate a country in



thirty minutes if they are provoked intentionally as justification to do so. They really do have the power to determine the existence of a nation in thirty minutes. We know that these times are the last days when weapons have been extensively developed, people around the world are becoming less opposed to war and instead are showing militant tendencies, and many hostile tyrants are rising towards war.

It seems as if people in the world desire peace and dislike aggression, but in reality, they are supporting these militant tyrants. People say they do not want war, but they actually support war. The minds of modern people are becoming more and more degenerate and aggressive. Criminals these days think nothing of killing a person, and for money and entertainment, they can care less if their character is destroyed.

As I watch the youth of today play computer games, though I myself do not really play computer games. Mercilessly killing the enemy with knives and guns is not a big deal. If the enemy is not killed

after being cut once, they kill the enemy by slashing the person mercilessly. Computer games of war simulation that give more scores to the player who can kill more cruelly and promote a strategy to have bloody battles to secure an advantageous position are popular among the youngsters. However, I am not saying that you should not play games, but through the games we are able to psychoanalyze the minds of people absorbed in such games and to examine the worldly trends they lead. Whether they want it or not, people in frequent contact with such cruel and violent things will become violent people. The minds of people today have become so degenerate that there is an increasing movement towards devaluing human life.

There once was a time when insurance deceptions occurred frequently. Even now, there are frequent cases of people who either inflict injuries on themselves after a premeditated subscription to various insurance plans or subscribe under the name of a family member or a relative to receive insurance



money after killing the family member. These happenings show the tendencies of the world to value materialism over human life.

In the hearts of people today, the value of human dignity that gives a sense of importance and respect for human life is almost gone. People of old knew the dignity of life and did not even kill an insect without previous consideration. When I was young, on numerous occasions I saw my mother dispose of hot water into the drain only after it was cooled. So I asked, “Why are you doing that?” and my mother answered, “If the hot water is thrown right away into the drain, earthworms and other insects that live where the water goes down will die.” So, I don’t treat slightly even the life of a small bug. However, these days’ people do not value the dignity of life. There is only self-centeredness. Incidents happen frequently in which people kill something inconsequentially without hesitation if it brings any personal loss to them.

Also, not only in our country but all around the

world, women are not marrying. In France, if a woman marries and has children, the government will cover the child’s educational fees up till graduate school and provide money needed to raise the child. Therefore, parents who have two children in such nations live well and eat well for the rest of their lives. Many advanced countries are encouraging childbirth due to declining birth rates in previous years. Presently, there are worries because even our country’s population and birth rate has declined substantially. What brings about such a phenomenon? Women who live in the developed countries do not wish to have children because they want to maintain their figure or have a lot of husband-and-wife time. There are many who do not wish to have children because they think that if they feel the need to have children they can always adopt and raise a child. There are even those who do not wish to have children at all to live for their own lusts. The world is becoming more and more hedonistic as such.



This is happening not only in our own country as well as all over the world. Even in our own country, Korea, four out of every ten married couples end up in divorce. This is to say that almost half of every ten married couples divorce. Also, after the divorce they go to a marriage-consulting firm because they want to start a new marriage. In America and the advanced countries in Europe, there are many people who divorce up to ten times, and they meet a new person to marry. They do not think that this is a great fault. Though our country has not reached that point yet because divorce is still looked down upon, from the way things are going now, it seems as if a person who marries ten times will soon appear even in our country. I am not talking about the difference in the consciences of people in various countries today, but I am speaking of how people are living more and more by their instincts as their sense of guilt or good consciences are disappearing.

When judgment came in the days of Noah's flood, people were marrying and giving in marriage, living

in extravagance and in drunkenness till the moment before the flood came, and we also live in such days. We live in the last days when people are busy following after pleasures that satisfy their lusts of the flesh. Recently, a big crowd was gathered to buy an apartment house in Kangnam District in Seoul. They do not want a two or three room apartment house that is only 80 or 120 square yards but a manor apartment that is 280 or 400 square yards. If someone wants an ultra-gorgeous apartment that is over 600 square yards, the person would buy two apartments that are 300 square yards on two floors, making a stairwell between the two apartments to satisfy his desire. Because they cannot be satisfied elsewhere, there are many who live for the fun of expanding their houses or redecorating the interior of their house. People of the world live concentrating only on the satisfaction of their flesh. It is said that in the last days, the sins of the world will be great, and I am sure that these days in which people live for the pleasures of the flesh is a sign of the last days.



2 Timothy 3:1-5 says, *“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”*

This really is an age when people love money as themselves, follow after pleasure, and think nothing of violent sin. Put differently, it is when these things are common that Christ will come. The happenings in Israel, the political events around the world, the emotional and mental state of people, and the trends of the desires of the people—all the things of this era are signs that will come about in the day when the Lord comes.

I believe that though Israel is attacking Palestine now, they cannot but make a treaty someday. It is

because, in neighboring nations, groups that oppose Israel are increasing. If this is the case, Israel cannot but make an agreement with them and form a peace treaty. Due to the peace treaty, the Israelis will find peace, and at least for a while they will live well and eat well. However, suddenly one day, one side will break the peace treaty, and they will come in masses to attack Israel, leaving it in pieces. In those times, the people of Israel will cry out asking for the Messiah who will save them from the catastrophe. And when the Messiah fails to come no matter how long they wait, they will realize then that Jesus Christ is the long awaited Messiah, and they eventually will believe that He is the Savior. The end of the world comes to a close as the Israelis come to believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

It is said that Israel recently attacked Palestine territory imprisoning, threatening, and killing the people. Through that incident, nations all over the world have officially announced their opposition to the policies practiced by Israel. Israel, with a



superpower like America at its side attacks with nothing to fear, and because of that many countries that had opposed and disliked America are surfacing and showing their hostility towards the U.S.

Actually, this is not much of a surprise. America believes in its power and attacks any country that does not submit to its power with any rationale of a reason they can find. When terrorism happened on American soil, they attacked Afghanistan and Iraq without any accurate evidence. The Afghanistan people who had no chance of winning in the war died from the war, and they died simultaneously from an earthquake and from starvation. Because they are having a hard time escaping utter poverty, Afghanistan is suffering from lack of food. The food that we eat is something unimaginable for people in that country. They are barely sustaining their lives with a flour mixture that they bake in the oven or with cheese they make from goat milk. People who have those things to eat are people who fare well in the country. Most people skip one or two meals a day

or they eat some edible plants and slowly die away from starvation.

Though many volunteer agencies around the world are donating medical supplies and food, there is still a major deficit of resources. It is ironic that while about half of the land is a chaotic war zone with sounds of gunfire and cannons, the other half is receiving aid sent from the attacking countries, so that these countries on one hand offer aid and help in the name of humanitarianism while unhesitatingly making war for their national gain and power. Such countries kill the people of their enemy nations with guns while they are giving medicine and food to the wounds and the refugees. Isn't this giving the disease and giving the cure simultaneously?

For America to pour out their attack on Afghanistan is a vivid kind of warning. It is a warning that any country that opposes the U.S. will suffer this kind of cruel punishment. This is why Kim Jung II, the leader of North Korea, who was once loud with overconfidence against the U.S., is now

trying to talk with our country, South Korea. He desires to resume the construction of the power plant of the light-water reactor and to rebuild the railroad from our country to North Korea. However, the only person able to boldly bluster against the U.S. in the world is Kim Jung-II. On one hand he is an impressive person, but in another sense he is also the most dangerous person.

A couple of situations will happen in the last days, the first sign of which will be seen in Israel. Also, the last days will be foreshadowed by people who eat, drink, and marry, concentrating only on the matters of the flesh with their heart becoming extremely obstinate and possessed with evil. This is to say that in the last days people will have a heart crazed with evil, living a crazy lifestyle. When such things happen constantly and unimaginably evil affairs spring forth frequently, we should realize, “Ah, the day of the Lord’s coming is near!” The last days of which the Lord speaks of are the days in which we now live. The era we live in today is the final age

recorded in the Bible. We live in the last days spoken of in the Word. I do not tell you this to make you fearful or to threaten you. Realistically speaking, I am telling you this in advance because we live in the last days.

The hearts of people today are terrible. A long time ago, we had such a good relationship with our neighbors that we shared even the one bean we had, but it is hard to expect this today. People’s hearts today are so cold and dry, so barren and stubborn, that the various events I hear about in the news are shocking. The Lord said, “*And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold*” (*Matthew 24:12*) in the last days, and this verse is becoming a reality.

Just like it is nature’s way for winter to come and then with spring, budding leaves that are bringing new life for all creation, this world will be destroyed once and through our Lord a day will come when it is made anew. We must live viewing this age accurately while fulfilling our Lord’s calling as we are looking



forward to the day the Lord will come to do away with the world once to renew it again. There will be no age when the gospel will be more widely and rapidly spread than the age we live in today. There are so many things we need to do, but even as there is much for us to do in this age, God's work is also being done swiftly. There is no better age than the one we live in, in which we can do more work to spread the gospel.

The work you and I must do, the work we are continuing, is none other than the work of spreading the gospel of the water and the spirit. All over the world, there are so many who are going down the road of damnation because of their false beliefs owing to their ignorance of the gospel of the water and the spirit. Therefore, the work of spreading the gospel of the water and the spirit to people all over the world is extremely important, and there is much work for us to do for the task. Those who spread the gospel must know the times well as they work. In this time when there is so much to do, we the people of

God must know what we do and how we must live, and we should work diligently in His time because if we lose the timing, everything will be in vain. The age we now live is an age that is the best-suited time to spread the gospel, and because it is the last days, we must do the work of spreading the gospel with all our hearts and strength.

When we look at the affairs of the world today, we must plant the seeds of the gospel now when the gospel is being spread so well. Soon, the earth will fall into tribulations, and when the time comes, natural disasters will be colossal. The Bible says that a third of the forests will suddenly burn to the ground and the sun will lose its light. If colossal forest fires happen all around the world, the earth will be filled to the brim with smoke, and sunlight will not reach to the surface of the earth. Then what will happen? Many viruses will not die but will thrive instead, strange epidemics and mysterious diseases will spread, people will die from the tribulations, and then the whole world will fall into chaos.



When the news reported that livestock living on the land were infected by dioxin, people began to abstain from meat and instead preferred to eat seafood. However, it is said that fish and shellfish are infected by even more varieties of pollution than animals on land. The water is more polluted than the land, and it is reported that fish and shellfish contain several thousand times more dioxin and heavy metal substances than meat coming from animals on land. Do you know of the recent incident on the coast of the West Sea that fish died in massive amounts and were swept onto the land? It was an accident induced by environmental pollution, and the fish were poisoned by the pollution in the sea. However, people blinded by greed took these fish and sold them in the marketplace. People who did not know better bought the fish and were poisoned by the toxin.

Like this, the natural environment is becoming polluted, and people are dying. The work we must do in such a world is not to chase after the world, but it

is to spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit everywhere. When the Lord's Word is being fulfilled in the world today, and when it is a time better than any other time for spreading the gospel, we must upload more electronic books and print out more free paper books in more languages so that we can give these books to people all over the world. Now is a great time to plant the seeds of the gospel.

When we look at how the Lord works according to His timing, the work He did from the past until now seems like nothing compared to how fast the gospel is being now spreading. Therefore, you and I as evangelists must live out our faith recognizing the times. In a time so suitable to the spreading of the gospel, we cannot be the only ones who know and believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, but instead, we must make haste to spread it all over the world. We must spread the gospel as soon as possible before the world suffers from trouble and tribulations. When the world turns out exactly the way the Word predicts, we can no longer spread the



gospel, but those who heard the gospel or came across it through our book will now believe this gospel of Truth in their hearts and will receive the remission of their sins.

Now is such a time. Therefore, because the church of God has discernment about this age and knows the times, with faithfulness, we pass onto people the bread of life. Right now, you have no time to waste your energies elsewhere. We are extremely pressed for time. We live in such a time. When this year passes by, wars will happen frequently. All over the world, massive wars will happen.

In such a time, we are doing the work of spreading the gospel. What a relief and blessing it is that the Lord has enabled us to do this work. We should not be self-satisfied with the current reality, saying with lax thoughts, “I can just live like this until the end,” but instead, as the world falls into more chaos and disturbance, we must work diligently so that when the time comes when it becomes difficult to work, we can achieve the final harvest. After that, just as the

farmer plants seeds in the spring and waits for them to germinate, we should also wait. The age we live in today is an age in which we must plant the seeds because the last days are not days when we plant seeds, but it is the time for the harvest.

God tells us to learn this parable from the fig tree. He tells us to recognize the time that seems like Noah’s time and to become faithful servants of God as we spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the bread of life. If we really do this, when the Lord comes, we will be praised and loved. However, if the person who received the remission of their sins thinks the Lord will come slowly and concentrates on eating, drinking, marrying, and pursuing pleasure, the Lord will appoint him his portion with the hypocrites as He comes suddenly on a day of which he is not aware (Matthew 24:50-51). Even if he had been saved, God will chastise him severely. He will be judged like the religious person who does not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Actually, these people are even more



reprehensible.

You and I must recognize this age correctly, and though it is difficult, we must live with the hope that if we work a bit more we can wear the crown of eternal life. Does it anger you as you think: “All we have to do is to work a bit more is something that’s been said again and again.” Now, you will be able to see with your eyes that new life comes from every seed we planted. So, let us make an extra effort to serve the Lord in doing His work.

Because we prepared in advance and did mission work through the Internet, haven’t many souls around the world received the remission of their sins? I believe that the online books we made will be more helpful than paper books. Though much of the gospel work is being done with paper books, someday the postal business might be paralyzed, and in preparation of the day when online books will do more work, we are planning on translating more books and uploading a more diverse selection of online books to our homepage.

Dear fellow believers, the finish line is in front of our eyes. Soon, just as creation throbs and unfolds with new life in the spring, the Lord will come once again to this land and renew the world. In those times, the righteous will rule with the Lord as kings, and receive many blessings for a thousand years, and they will also rule and govern any sinners who will still be left. As the Lord has spoken, I have faith that He will fulfill His Word as it is. Therefore, to those of you who have received the remission of sin and who live as evangelists of the Lord’s gospel, I pray that you will not live each day with your eyes set on current reality, but that you live with faith, doing the work of God with hope.

Are you exhausted as you serve the gospel? Actually, there is no age more tiring than this age. The society we live in is truly diseased. These days, people who take drugs are rapidly increasing from a specific group to the common folks. From ordinary businessmen to housewives, many people are addicted to drugs. Though in previous times their



motive in doing drugs was of their own volition, but now there are more cases when it happened through another's will. People are reported to become drug addicted while they are drinking some beverage given by somebody else for free. This means that a lot of people become drug addicted unconsciously. People who become addicted this way cannot stay clean once they became addicted, so to buy drugs they cannot help but give money to the person who induced the addiction.

Because it takes so much money to buy drugs, he or she uses another person by making the person addicted. After doing this, they become a drug dealer, asking for money in exchange for drugs, and after asking for a bit more money. They use it to buy drugs for themselves and for the other person. They do this because though they know that drugs are bad, whether the addiction happened voluntarily or involuntarily, if they are addicted once, it is impossible to stay clean. If they cannot quit doing drugs, the addiction will grow and destroy their

health and even their lives. Even so, to continue doing drugs, they continue to bring in another person whenever their money supply runs out. In the beginning they usually give drugs for free to another person and after that person is addicted and unable to stay clean, they ask for money. This is why, like a pyramid structure, drug addiction has rapidly spread even among common people. It is said that this is sweeping across our country.

Many people are becoming addicted to drugs and to pleasure, eventually ruining their character. Doing drugs makes you feel as if you are flying and makes you fall into a hallucination that you can do whatever you desire. Drug addiction leads to the destruction of a person's character as they become violent and in extreme cases schizophrenia and dementia, and it seems as if the world is changing in the same direction. To think that we can just live in such a world by just guarding our own heart does not seem like the right way anymore. It is most profitable for us to live doing the righteous work of the gospel and

to live trying to be as less involved as possible in the world because whether we wanted or did not want the environment around us to be what it is, we as human beings cannot help but be contaminated by our surroundings. Therefore, spreading the gospel is not only our calling, but it is the only way we can guard our lives safely. We, who are the born-again, righteous people, have to strive to spread the gospel till the very end. Because we cannot know what is to come tomorrow, let us not think about anything else other than to live each and every day by faith.

Dear fellow believers, I believe that this coming year is a very, very important time. If we work this coming year, we will finish most of the work. The translating work of a book that took two or more months before now takes only a week or two. The work of the gospel is advancing quickly. Through this, there will come a day when there will be no one in the world who does not know of the gospel. The mission work we are doing through the Internet and through Christian literature is truly a great method of

spreading the gospel. We are doing this work because the Lord who desires it to be done quickly has allowed us to do so. Therefore, let us all give thanks before the Lord, and within the domain and ability allowed by the Lord, let us do the work of the gospel diligently.

Anyways, I am thankful that we serve the gospel even as we are a people who live in such an evil age. Also there is a great desire for the gospel to be spread rapidly, and because this work is so urgent, there is no time for us to be tied down by our own weaknesses, insufficiencies, situation, and circumstances and we have no time to take care of ourselves. We do not have enough time to do all the work entrusted to us. Even if we use every bit of our time in spreading the gospel, it is still very, very insufficient.

Do not forget that we are the people who have an inadequate flesh and that we have to use our time efficiently and live wholly for the gospel. Whatever condition we are in or the world is in, let us follow



the will of the Lord and plant the seed of the gospel in this declining world.

Dear fellow believers, after reading today's Scripture passage, I did not speak about each verse one by one, but I did give you the gist of what the Lord wanted to say. Do you also agree with today's lesson? Yes, now is the time in which we must all diligently head towards the goal. With faith, we must do more work, and as soon as possible, we must spread the gospel all over the world. We cannot have narrow hearts by thinking only about our Church and ourselves. We must spread the gospel all over the world. I am so thankful that God has helped us to fulfill the work that He has given us, and I am thankful that He has allowed us to live for His righteousness. ☒



## Like the Wise

< Matthew 24:32-51 >

“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then

two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in



**two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

I would like the Lord to come soon. If the Lord came suddenly today, I would be very pleased, but the young people here would probably say, “Oh, no, that can’t be.” Whether you are like that or not, I would like the Lord to come soon and for a new world to begin. Do you also have that desire?

People with this desire are those who are under a lot of stress. If a person is under a lot of stress, he may wish that this damned world would quickly end. Nowadays, I have to take medicine to relieve my stress because I have been under a lot of it. I didn’t even know that such a medicine existed, but after taking it, I felt a little better. Therefore, I found out what stress is exactly. Now, it’s not that I get sick because I do not eat enough food or do not eat the right kind of food; it’s a case that I have so much

stress that my nerves are on edge due to even small matters. It seems like no matter what, I have a lot of stress building up because the duties with which I have been entrusted are not accomplished quickly. This is called a mental disorder in hospitals.

I went to a hospital once, but the doctor told me to go to the mental health department. So, of course, I went to the mental health department as the doctor instructed. I met the doctor there and told him I was a pastor after he asked me what my job was. After the doctor took a look at me, he said, “Strictly speaking, you are a person with a mental disorder. Therefore, I’ll give you medicine that people with mental disorders take.” I took it, and it was good. I get dopey when I take it. I can’t describe how peaceful it is. It’s just good and joyful. I thought, “Wow! I didn’t know this kind of medicine existed.” After waking up, I really didn’t feel good again, so I took the medicine again and after taking all of the medicine that I had bought, I went to receive the same prescription the next time, but the doctor didn’t give it to me.



I thought this type of mental disorder would happen to specific people, but I didn't think I would have it. There was nothing wrong with me, but my body is stiff and I am a nervous wreck even at the smallest problem. More than getting stress from a particular thing, it seems that I am the most stressed by my duties that are not accomplished quickly. Even though it seems like it will be finished soon, it's so hard because it won't end. I contracted a disease of really wanting to say, "It is finished." I was really yearning to say so, but it's impossible to say so before my duties are really accomplished. Now, it's even worse. It is only a desire to finish my duties quickly.

I would like for the Lord to come soon, for this world to end soon, and for the Lord to give a new heaven and a new earth. I have a desire for the Lord to quickly do as He has promised. But on one side, I wonder, "What will our brothers and sisters say to me? What will people in the whole world say to me? Won't they say, 'Do you think it's all right for you to

think that pessimistically about the world as if you are the only person who has a hard time?'" I think they may rebuke me then. All of these things are my personal thoughts.

We have to wait a little more until the Lord comes. Therefore, I'm giving you these words from a feeling that I must complete all of my work quickly before He comes. I have selected today's Scriptural passage in order to share God's grace with all of you, hoping that we can complete our work in unison with each other before meeting the Lord. When I can't fully complete the work that has been given to me, an extremely large amount of stress builds up in my heart. Even more than other cases, if I can't complete my duties, I suffer a lot of that sort of mental pressure. I can never sleep if I lay aside a task. I have to finish the work I have to do even if it kills me. Whether the job was done well or not, I can sleep and go on to some other task only after having finished the previous one.

Therefore, if I am exhausted while doing a task

because it is too hard, I cannot but take a good day's rest and get up again and throw myself into that task in order to hurriedly complete it. But I worry even more when I see that there are still many things to do. And it's not just me that is like this; all the servants of God that work with me are the same. Because they can't live by putting the work they have to do aside because their characters are like mine, these people continue to take medicine together and look for work to do if they get even just a little strength. However, seen later, the result of the work done when sick compared with that done when well is totally different. When my body is not well, I look at how well I have done and think, "This is good enough," and then, I am prone to hurry over the task somehow. But later, when my body is healthy, I see it and think, "Oh, no. I've made a mess out of this. What kind of task can just be left done like this?" It cannot be suitable to me.

We want to have a little rest after finishing each of our tasks, but aren't we doing really difficult work?

Actually, even though a missionary goes to one country to spread the gospel and spends his whole life just doing it, it is something he cannot do well. Because we are spreading the gospel to the whole world, it seems that our bodies pass over the limits of being able to carry it out. A couple of days ago, I got a call from Pastor Jung, who is in charge of printing our books. He said, "Pastor, our book's binding is good, but one of the picture films came out backwards. If we change that one thing, it will be okay. Should I take it to you?" I said, "Hey, why do you need to bring it to me? Stay there. You take care of it all and bring it to me when it's all finished. Please don't come to me." Because I retorted irritably, Pastor Jung responded with "yes, sir" and hung up.

I wasn't like that before. I used to address myself to my coworkers in a kind manner, saying, "OK, come on over. Coming over is better than not. Come and we'll get something good to eat and talk for a while. It'll be good." But nowadays my head hurts so



bad that I say, “You do your own stuff. Isn’t the part of printing your responsibility? You do your own job. That’s your job. My part is editing the documents. You do your own job. It is clear that you have your job and I have mine. Let’s keep it clear.” Lately, I’m brutal, so I respond like this, “Whose job is that? What department does it belong to? The staff that has been given that task should do it. What are you saying? What do you expect me to do after telling me such and such? I can’t do anything. I don’t have the strength to respond to you like a nice guy anymore. I’m not a nice guy. Now, I’m overwhelmed, too. I’m overwhelmed because I don’t have the capacity to even do my own work. If I can only finish all of my own work, I’ll dance for joy.” This is how I feel lately.

I feel acutely that publishing a collection of sermons in one book is truly not an easy thing. I work while thinking, “When will this work be done? This is annoying. I’m sick of it. It’d be nice if this damned thing were finished soon. When I’m tired, I

think, “This is good enough. It’s done.” Then, even though I have put down the finishing touches, I quickly take out again what I have finished when I get even just a little better and think, “No, this is a total mess. What kind of sermon have I spread out like this?” Then, I do it again. Since I have no skill, my work doesn’t turn out well even if I work so much that it kills me, so lately I feel irritated and get nervous. I have to quickly finish my work before the Lord comes. I can only rest if I finish it. If it is the work that I have to do anyway, I have to finish it soon. But it doesn’t turn out the way I have determined.

The Lord has said that if the evil servant who says the return of the Lord is delayed drinks liquor, beats his fellow servants, and eats and drinks with his drunkard friends, the Lord of that servant will come at a time he did not think of and at an hour he could not know, severely beat him, and appoint him his place with the hypocrites where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 24:48-51). I



really don't want that to happen to me. Also at this time when the coming of the Lord approaches, I want to work more faithfully.

However, whether it is physically, mentally, bodily, or spiritually, all of my energy is exhausted and it doesn't work out the way I think. But I want to do my work better until the Lord comes. I want to spread the gospel to the whole world no matter what country it is until the Lord returns. The door to North Korea, too, is being opened and I want to spread the gospel there, as well. Lately, we are making a Russian book. The printing of the pages has all been done so the only thing needed for the book to be published is to make the cover art and do the binding. It is anticipated that the versions of various languages such as Romanian and Hungarian will come out sometime this month. So the gospel is being spread in Europe, as well.

We are now doing missionary work through the literature ministries in order to continuously lay the foundation of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. I

hope that publishing will be completed quickly to a certain extent, so that we can hold a revival meeting again. I want to declare the gospel to my heart's desire, and I have an earnest desire to fight if there are people who stand against the true gospel. It's been quite a long time since we have not held a revival meeting for over a year. If there are those who haven't received salvation, I would like to shout, "You people. Throw off your worthless faith and receive the remission of your sins!" I would like to yell at them. I have the desire to be a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season, and I want to spread the gospel to the whole world until the Lord comes. Do you also have the same desire?

There have been many changes all over the world lately. Conflict between Israel and Palestine is continuously amplified. In today's Scripture passage, we can find an important lesson on the last day that says, "*Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts*



*forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!”* The Lord said, *“Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place”* (Matthew 24:32-34).

What does this mean? Wasn't the country of Israel destroyed about 2000 years ago? However, in 1948 the country of Israel was founded through the Zionist Movement. This happened about 1,900 years after Israel had been destroyed. But the problem is that it is a fact that the Palestinians who had been living there one day all of a sudden had to be chased off of the land where they were living. After nearly 2000 years of leaving that land and living scattered all over the world, one day they suddenly gathered there, formed a government, and proclaimed it as an independent nation. They drove out the Palestinians and conducted themselves as if they were the real owners. Therefore, it's continually a case of life or death and they cannot but keep fighting against each

other. Until now, the wars that have sprung up in the Middle East have all been that war.

About 2000 years ago when the Lord was on this earth, He said, *“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!”* You all understand what this means, right? You must know that the end of the world is near when Israel is restored and prospers. The Lord will come again before the end of the world when Israel is restored and before it is ruined again. We must know that the Lord is at the door when the nation of Israel puts forth its leaves and they turn green. The Lord said He would come again before Israel is destroyed. That day is not far.

Actually, the existence of Israel is an explosive warehouse in the Middle East. For nearly 2000 years, the Palestinians lived normally on that land, but all of a sudden the Jews came, said it was their land, and told them to give it up. If that were you, would you



just sit still and let it happen? Our country is proud of its 5000-year history. If some outsiders came to our country shooting our people and telling us to leave, telling us to give over the land because they had lived here 5000 years ago and it was their land, would you fight against them or not? Wouldn't this make you furious? This kind of battle is continuing in the Middle East now. But if war arises there, the chances of it spreading to a world war are great. The Jews have close connections with the United States, so if a war develops in Israel, the United States will thrust itself into it, and it will eventually become a world war. That is because it is a war in which neither side can compromise. The Lord will come when such things are developed.

We must be aware that the time of the Lord's coming is right at the door. This generation is that kind of age. You all are probably well aware that this generation is like that. This generation is calm as if nothing is wrong like the night before the storm. If it were only possible, it would be nice if that kind of

war or natural disaster didn't happen. It would be nice if we lived well finishing our work quickly until we went before the Lord.

Actually, my human desire is that I would like for us to live and eat well until we finish all of our labors and go before the Lord without natural disasters or wars. But I know well that it won't turn out that way just because it's what I want. That is because the Lord has decided on a certain point. The Lord has told us what will develop in the future in order to let us know the time and prepare for it. We must prepare in advance perceiving that things will develop as the Lord has said. We can think, "Oh, these things are going to develop." But ultimately what can we do when such things are actually brought about? We can't do anything.

No one knows when the Lord will come, but we can know approximately from the signs that will appear in the last days. Since the Lord said to learn the lesson of the fig tree, we have to distinctly see if that kind of event is developing in Israel. If



something develops in that country, world war will arise and the end will approach according to the Word of God. We believe the Word of God above all else.

*“When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors!”* The Word of the Lord never passes away and will be all fulfilled. He said, *“Heavens and the earth will pass away, My words will by no means pass away.”* Therefore, this will happen according to what God has said, and the Word about Lord’s coming is Truth. *“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”* When the Lord comes, the people will be like the generation of Noah; they will reach the peak of seeking sin and living lives of the flesh.

At that time, there will be the contrast of some people being raptured before God because they have received the remission of their sins while others remain on this earth and suffer all of the tribulations. It is written that two people will be grinding with a hand mill and one will go and the other remain; two people will be working in the field and one will suffer abandonment while the other will be taken away. The Lord has said that this will happen in the future.

Therefore, if there is someone in your family who has not yet received the remission of his sins, you must help him do so. You also have to separate yourself from the person who does not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit until the end, even though he may be one of your family members. Because that kind of person is the one who will betray us to death at the end, we must say an eternal farewell to him from our hearts. The salvation of our family members is truly very important. If there is someone in our families who hasn’t received the



remission of sin, he will be left behind when the Lord comes, even if we are sleeping together or working together now.

Have you seen the movie called *The Rapture*? There was a person in that movie named Patty. She had a husband and several female friends. She went to sleep one night, and when she woke up, her husband was gone. She wondered where he went and searched inside the house, not to mention the streets. As she went out to the street, other people were seen coming out of this and that house and looking for their families. And on the TV news, it was reported that a strange event had developed and people were vaporized all of a sudden.

After that, soldiers came to grab people, telling them to receive the mark of 666, but Patty fled. When she found no other place to go, she entered a manhole, but some other people were already hiding there. There was a barcode expert among those who were in hiding, and he gave her a fake barcode. So, she went to the market and bought some things with

her fake barcode but ran away again after being detected. She was trying to get away in a car, but she was chased to a road blocked by barbed wire. She couldn't go by car anymore, so she got out and climbed the barbed wire. A helicopter was hovering overhead and someone said through a microphone, "There is no where for you to go." She was totally surrounded and thought for sure that she was done for, but she got away again with the help of her friend.

Patty and a number of her friends all vowed that they wouldn't get the mark. But one of her friends had already gotten the mark and had become the pursuers' guide. She hid her true colors by pretending to be on their side and said she would take them to a safe place, but she led them to the pursuers. The pursuers compelled them to receive the mark. They said they would never get the mark and ultimately died at a guillotine. Before going to the guillotine, they praised the Lord, singing, "♪There's a bright and heavenly pathway♪♪ That ever leads me on," and prayed to the Lord, "Please receive my soul."



The movie ended with her being martyred in that fashion.

The lesson of this movie is this: “People who are not raptured and left behind on the earth at the end are those who have not received the remission of their sins. But if they think about what their families had told them, and never received the mark until they embrace their martyrdom, they can be delivered.” But, this story is really stupid. This movie was made according to the perspective of the Evangelicals, and we can see that they misunderstand the point of the rapture. This movie unfolds a story that the rapture comes before the tribulation, but God has said that the rapture and the Lord’s Second Coming in the air would occur at the point when the seventh trumpet sounds, that is, when three and a half years have passed of the Seven-Year Tribulation.

Until then, even those who believe the gospel of the water and the Spirit will remain living in the tribulation and will be persecuted by the Antichrist and compelled to receive the mark of 666. But only

the righteous can defeat Satan by faith and embrace martyrdom because they are truly born again by believing only in God and the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who believe in this gospel now will never surrender to Satan. They will all be raptured after being resurrected along with the righteous who will survive until the end.

However, it is impossible for those who to that point don’t know the gospel to be martyred. On the contrary, they become the tools of the Antichrist after surrendering to him. We have to deliver the gospel well to our family members also because those who will persecute and betray us to death at the last day will be our family members who have not been born again. Therefore, at this time when the Lord’s coming approaches, we have to become people who please God by staying awake to work and becoming loyal and wise servants. We have to become those who all do God’s work firmly together until we are victorious and stand before the Lord. Let’s quickly complete the work that God has entrusted us and go



before the Lord.

And the thing that I am really bidding is that we all do more of the Lord's work more faithfully. When the time of the Lord's coming has all been accomplished, let's not live with the heart of "gather roses while you may; play while you're young because you can't when you're old." We really need to know exactly what we have to do. We have to concentrate our attention upon how we spread the gospel to the whole world. Then we can stand before the Lord proudly after faithfully accomplishing the tasks to which we have been entrusted. The closer the end draws near, the more we must work faithfully before the Lord and go to Him. That is what today's Scripture passage is talking about.

We really don't know when the Lord will come. The Lord said that He would come as a thief. The Lord will come not far from the time that people are pursuing only the pleasures of the flesh by eating, drinking, marrying, and being given in marriage. I think that now is that time. Therefore, you and I

living in this generation must do God's work even more faithfully. I think that we have to live by spreading the gospel more precisely and faithfully. That is what I believe. As you and I continue to live on this earth, stress builds up and our bodies are weakening, but I feel that we must do a lot of work before our bodies catch serious diseases.

I know that you all have work that has been given to you, too. I know well that working for the gospel is something that can't be done alone but is accomplished when we are united with each other concentrating our strength on this task. I hope each of you stand before God as virtuous and loyal people after faithfully doing the work given to you. Do you understand?

You and I have hit the limit of our ability. Therefore, there is nothing else we can do. However, I haven't forgotten that the purpose of my life is to do all of the work that has been entrusted to me. I believe that God will give us a lot of new work to do when we finish the work that we are doing now. We



have prepared lots of books that we will distribute to the whole world now. I want to take the brothers, the sisters, and the ministers to the revival meetings frequently, and I hope to give out our books and preach the gospel. I believe that if we do the work of the gospel by faith, the work of the Spirit that was unfolded in the Early Church age will be brought about by us.

Let's faithfully do the work that has been given us at this time. Let's both you and I faithfully do the Lord's work. I will pay attention to everything until I have done all of the work with which I have been entrusted. If I lazily do the work that the Lord has given me I will really become a thorn and of low existence in His eyes. If I don't quickly do the work that has been given me but instead do it lazily, the Lord will not feel comfortable with me. Aren't we the same? If we entrust someone with a task and that person was just a sluggard and only pretended to work, would we feel good or bad toward that person? Won't these words immediately escape our lips?

“You did the work in such a manner. You have to put your heart into it; but you did it like this?” When God looks on us, too, it will be the same.

If we are given work, it is worthy to do it sincerely. It will be okay anyway if we haven't been entrusted with some work, but we must faithfully do the work once we have been entrusted with it. I'm not telling you this because I think you haven't faithfully done the work you have been given; I'm giving it as a precaution to you and myself. I know that you, too, are really working with all of your hearts. Therefore, I know that it is hard for all of us. I also, have to do the work that has been given to me well. Whatever happens, I have to do all of the work that has been given to me. I can request for something before the Lord only after I have finished all of the work that has been given to me; if I ask for something even though I haven't done all of it, God will feel uncomfortable with me. If that happened to us, we would be really frustrated; then, imagine how frustrating it must be to God.



Dear fellow believers, let's work more concretely while the end gets closer. Our goal is to spread the gospel to the whole world. What is the work that you have been given? What is the work that each of you has to take care of? I hope that you do your part faithfully. I, too, must faithfully do the work that has been given to me. There is no peace of mind for me until it is done. It is too bad that I cannot serve the gospel to my hearts' content due to my health problem. Lately, I can barely finish preaching a sermon with my whole strength. I am living everyday by obtaining new strength from the Lord. Let's you and I both do all of our work faithfully. You each have work given to you, don't you? Let's faithfully do that work.

Some pastors admonish their church members to sell all their property and give the money to their churches while emphasizing that the coming of the Lord has drawn near. They also have these people quit their jobs and tell the youngsters to stop going to school. But we are different. The closer the coming

of the Lord approaches, the more we do the Lord's work. Even if the Lord came tomorrow, we would work up to today to finish all of our work. I hope that you faithfully accomplish the duties with which you have been entrusted because that is truly the right attitude. Isn't that the only way for us to honorably stand before the Lord at the end? I will be really pleased if I only finish all of the work that has been given to me. I can't explain how pleased I was and how much peace of mind I had when I completed proofreading the pending manuscripts the other day. Even though I would like to be with you and have fun with you, I cannot but work now looking forward to that short time that I can rest.

Let's each of us do well the work that we have been given, not worry about other things until we are finished with it, endure well, and live well by faith. It's hard for you and me to work for the gospel, but I am sure that there aren't many days left for us to do God's work. I'm not sure exactly how the world's going to turn out in the future in detail, but I am sure



that we don't have much time to do God's work. Therefore, we must do all of our work in a short time. Otherwise, it will be too late and God's work can't be accomplished. Isn't the servant of God a prophet? The servant of God knows what will happen in the future. Since what will happen in the future is recorded in the Word of God, the person who believes it can prophesy about it by faith. It isn't that we will run about in confusion at the end; on the contrary, we will have to have peace of mind. Won't we have to cope with everything of the world and finish all of our work since we know the Lord will come soon? The person who prepares in advance is a person with peace of mind.

In the future when we have finished all of our work, that is, the world evangelism, I will hold a revival meeting for the people of our country. Now spreading the gospel to the whole world is more urgent, so I am setting a priority to it, but when it is finished, I want to open revival meetings in Korea and spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We

have actually spread this gospel a lot to our people for a long while, but they didn't accept this gospel well because they were legalistic Christians. Even so, I have thoughts to do so again. If we spread the gospel to the whole world and then spread the gospel in Korea by opening some revival meetings, everyone who will believe will all come to believe. I hope that the Lord will keep you and me until that day. And I hope that the closer the end comes, the more we awaken, become truly wise and loyal servants to manage all of the work we have been given, and stand before God proudly.

Halleluiah! ☒



## Love the Lord More Than The Things of the World

< Matthew 24:32-51 >

“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not

know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come



**on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

How have you all been? It’s raining now. When it rains like this, our hearts can sometimes get depressed for no particular reason. But, we who have been born again will continue to live for the gospel and then afterwards go to the Lord. Your fate and mine has already been decided. The Lord has saved us out of His complete love for us; we have no other way but to live our lives by trusting in the Lord and loving Him. Of course its natural since we are all too human, it is therefore still possible for us to be disheartened at times, and we share in both times of hardship and times of joy. We the righteous live for the Lord, but even for us, there are times of happiness, sadness, joy and suffering.

During these times, it is the Lord who comforts our hearts and consoles us. The Lord alone is our faithful friend who strengthens our hearts and bestows us with His grace. But should we love anything else other than the Lord, there will be neither any peace nor any strength in our hearts, and we will struggle alone in suffering, not knowing where to go. In contrast, if we love the Lord and follow Him more than anything else in this world, then He brings peace into our hearts, strengthens us, enables us to love Him, makes us serve Him, and leads us to follow Him until the day He returns.

In today’s Scripture passage, Jesus spoke of the end of this world using the nation of Israel as an example, and He spoke about how the servants of God should go about leading their lives. He said, *“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation*



*will by no means pass away till all these things take place.*” The words mentioned here, “This generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place,” what the Lord was actually saying here was that He would return before the disappearance of the nation of Israel. When iniquities abound in this world, Israel will also be drawn into war swept up by this ever-changing world. Even though the Israelites are God’s own chosen people, they too will be dragged into war as it is written in the Word of the Lord, and as they go through and experience the tribulations, those who of them who would believe in the perfect salvation Jesus gave us, will be saved but in the end will eventually lose their country.

The entire world is now filled with sin. For example there are so many rave party clubs in Los Angeles a large City in the United States, where it is reported that many people gather in these clubs, just too use dangerous drugs. There are also a large number of Korean people living there, who also frequent such clubs and indulge in these terrible

drugs. Many Korean residents living in that area are now advising parents in Korea not to send their children to Los Angeles to further their education. Recently a new drug has been introduced; it is reported to be several times more powerful and yet cheaper than methamphetamine or ‘P’ as it is generally known. So we are now seeing this new drug gradually spreading across Europe, Asia, and the United States, it is now becoming an epidemic that governments have declared war on drugs.

A number Korean residing living abroad are said to be also taking this new drug, which means that it is only a matter of time before these people smuggle this drug into Korea as well. When people are in the business of smuggling drugs, they hide them inside cigarette packages or under the soles of their shoes or in places unimaginable, and the police have a real tough time to screen them out, particularly more so because they smuggle in these new drugs that are still not known in Korea.

This drug currently costs about US\$20 each. This



new drug is very popular as it is six times more powerful than methamphetamine and capable of inducing extreme hallucinations, but at the same time, it paralyzes the brain and the jaw. So in the end it can eventually paralyze the entire nerve system, trigger a seizure, and even lead to death. Anyone who takes this drug ‘just once time’ is immediately addicted. Despite its seriously damaging effects, when the drug eventually wears off, people will still keep taking this drug time after time, wanting to experience its hallucinating effects again and again. The drug is easily available to anyone who wants it. All that is needed is a telephone number a phone and some money, and can call a drug dealer at anytime of the day, and it would be delivered into his hands in no time. This drug is widespread in the United States, and it is now making its way into Korea also.

In Seoul our Capital, more and more clubs are now opening where people do drugs and dance under its hallucinating effects. These clubs are now flourishing all over; I wonder what would happen to

this generation if this trend would continue unabated. I think that drugs hook people because they have no real satisfaction in their lives. This trend is not unique to just Korea, but it is a global trend. It looks quite likely that by the end times, drugs would intoxicate the whole world.

To tell you the truth, does anyone have any satisfaction at all, except for those who believe in Jesus Christ and His true gospel? Is there anything that’s worth doing or any joy at all? When I put myself in the shoes of those who have not been born again, I don’t think I could live without drugs, as I would have neither any joy nor any satisfaction. How about you? What do you think will happen to you if you put yourself in their shoes? Don’t you think that you would also do what they are doing? After all, don’t people do drugs because their lives are completely devoid of any real satisfaction, that is why they take drugs in order to forget about everything and feel better, if only momentarily? In Korea also, many entertainers have been charged and



prosecuted with drug abuse.

Jesus told us to learn from the parable of the fig tree. He said that when its branches turn tender and its leaves come out, we should realize that the second coming of the Lord is imminent, and that He would return before the passing of this generation. In the Bible a generation is estimated to be about 40 years. I believe this passage of scripture refers to the end of this world and its universe will come about when Israel is oppressed by another nation and goes into the final full-scale war, and in the end is destroyed. But it seems to me that irrespective of whether it is Israel or any another country, when everyone takes drugs and goes mad, war would break out due to the collective madness. If this should be the case, then as I examine various events that are unfolding now, I think that the day of the Lord's return is not that far away.

I believe that this is more than likely to happen, once drugs are cheaply made and become freely available throughout the whole wide world. When we

consider how people have no hope in this world, if they can take drugs at a cheap price, experience its hallucinating effects, and thereby become addicted to them, wouldn't everyone then come to use drugs in the end? Once addicted to drugs, people would have no control over their compulsive use but continue to abuse them day in and day out as if they were eating meals, and some of them would inevitably perish out of this excessive abuse of drugs. If this should happen then there would be no way for drug-addicted people to realize their sins, and they may even die without hearing this glorious gospel.

No one knows the exact day and time of our Lord's return, but He did say that He will come when people are busy getting married, eating and drinking, just like the day when Noah entered the Ark. What will really happen when our Lord returns at this time? When tribulations descends on this world, all those who have received the remission of sin will suddenly be transformed and lifted up into the sky with Him, whether they are already dead / sleeping in



their tombs or are still alive.

To bring this into sharper focus, Jesus said that there would be two men in the field, one will be taken and the other one left. It will be just as He told us in the Word, although there are countless number of people living in this world, only some of them will be called by the Lord and lifted up into the sky, for they would have been saved, but the rest will be left behind to endure every disaster to come. In other words, when the Bible says that one of the two men in the field would be taken up and the other one is left behind, it means that while some people on this planet have received the remission of sin, others have not received it.

Those who have received the remission of sin will go to a new world when the Lord returns. And they will also reign in this new world being, the Millennial Kingdom together with the Lord. In contrast those who do not believe in the Lord and have not been born again will be forsaken on this planet to endure the tribulation. After a thousand

years has passed, the Lord will resurrect the dead sinners and throw them into the everlasting fire of hell together with all the sinners that would be still living. We do not know when this day is, but the Lord will surely return soon. So we must be ready at all times. The Lord told us that just as one would be ready if he knew about the coming thief, those who believe in God must be awake, become thoroughly faithful and wise servants, who are made ruler over the Master's household to give them food in due season.

What should we do whilst living by faith until the day of our Lord's return? What should we do to love the Lord, love this gospel, and live in this world with Him until the day He returns? When we consider these questions, we see that we should love the Lord rather than the things of this world. If we really solely love the Lord, then regardless of when He may return to this planet, we are able follow Him until that day, love Him, and carry out the task He has entrusted to us. I am absolutely sure beyond any



doubts whatsoever that the born-again believers who believe in this salvation plan given to us by the Lord, should now all become such exceedingly faithful servants who continually share the Word of God, this very bread of life, with others they meet in obedience to the Lord's commandment.

My fellow believers, in order for us to love the Lord and live until the day He returns, we should not be drawn away and love what this world has to offer. Yet because we are all frail and too human, we could at times find ourselves drawn to the world. One thing is however clear, that we cannot love the things of the world more than the Lord, nor can we set our minds more on them rather on the Lord. If we should fall into the trap of loving the world in equal proportions as we love the Lord, then we will eventually come to forget about following the Lord, and would in turn have the thinking that His return is delayed, and we will then indulge ourselves in self-complacency.

When the Lord returns at such time like this, these

people will be appointed their portions with the hypocrites, therefore we must never lead this kind of life. Although we could at times stumble as we are only too human, we must never love the things of the world, but instead we must remember how much the Lord loves us, and we must believe in this love from the depths of our hearts. Because the Lord is a jealous and envious God, we please him greatly only if we love Him alone no matter what. If we instead should love what is in this world, or love both the Lord and the world, then He will be disappointed, frustrated, and jealous. So I hope and pray that no matter what, you and I would never find ourselves loving the things of the world more than the Lord.

So it is my hope and prayers that you and I would all walk with the Lord and live by faith until the day He returns. In this time at the Lord's imminent return, we must truthfully follow the Lord, carry out His work, and share His bread. This work of sharing the bread of life is not something that just ministers are required to do. For you to spread the gospel is



also sharing the bread. If you love the Lord more than anything in this world, then you can live as a servant of Jesus Christ to share His bread with the people of God. Because the strength to continue to live like this is given to us by the Lord, and we are now able to live such a life with the Lord. If we should love the things of the world more than the Lord, then we are unable to live for Him.

No matter how much we may try to live for the Lord, if there is something that we love more than the Lord, it would then become impossible for us to live for Him, for He would not be pleased with us. We at times make mistakes even when we love the Lord and follow Him more than what is in this world, but the Lord tolerates such occasional mistakes. However, if we should love the things of the world more than the Lord, then He will cause displeasure to rise within our hearts, He will then not walk with us anymore, and will be jealous, saying in frustration, “I don’t care anymore; do whatever you want to do, and live in whatever way you want to live.” My fellow

believes the return of the Lord is now imminent. One thing is very clear and that is, we must love the Lord more than anything else in this world. Do you grasp this? If you don’t then you will not be able to love the Lord when He returns, neither able to follow Him nor carry out His work.

Because we are all living in this world, none of us can at times help ourselves but love what the world has to offer. But even if this were the case, if we should love the things of the world more than the Lord, then this will be to our doom. It is quite possible for us to like what is in the world, but this should only be to the extent that it does not offend the Lord or hurt His heart. If you should follow the world too much, you will only be asking for the wrath of the Lord and your own destruction. What will happen then? The Lord said that at the time of His return, if one beats his fellow servant, and eats and drinks with the drunkards, then the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour when he is not aware of, and will



cut him into two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. For us to really lead our lives of faith properly until the day of the Lord's return, we must love Him more than anything else in the world or what it can offer.

The Lord is a jealous God. Mankind's own conjectures and speculations are completely useless before the Lord. He knows all about our hearts. If anyone loves the things of the world more than the Lord, then He will cut off such people right away and no longer walk with them. Is there anyone who can prevail over the Lord? Can anyone deceive Him? No not at all; no one can deceive Him.

However if we should love the Lord more than what is in this world, He will then make our hearts happy and full of joy. He will then give us the joy to our hearts, wisdom, peace and rest. But what will happen if we end up loving the world more than Him? The Lord will become jealous, and He will not even talk to you for days, as He dwells in our hearts, if He should stop talking to us because He is

displeased with us, how could we then, who are living only because of Him, ever have joy in our lives? When in our hearts there the Lord displays His anger, how could we then continue to live happily? It is simply impossible!

Everyone who has received the remission of sin has the Holy Spirit living within his or her heart. So when we set aside the Holy Spirit, we are unable to live out our lives of faith. Simply put, we can live out our faith only if we do everything according to the pleasures of the Holy Spirit. Although we have received the remission of sin, if we should love the world more, then the life of faith itself becomes impossible to lead. The Bible says, "*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him*" (1 John 2:15). Are you now wondering, "Well, what am I supposed to do then? It is impossible not to love what is in this world; I cannot help myself but to love these things. So what I am to do?" This passage of scripture means that you should not love the things of



the world more than the Lord, just do what pleases Him.

Is there then anyone in the world today who does not love anything of the world at all? No not at all, as we go on living in this world, it more than possible for our hearts to be drawn to the things of the world. Nevertheless, at least in the center of our hearts, the Lord must always be our foremost priority, and we should never love anything of this world more than the Lord. Does this then mean that if we just resolve in ourselves not to love the world more than the Lord, we can somehow achieve this? No, this is not the case at all.

Although it is still possible for us to sometimes love the world more, what is crucial is that in times like these, we must always admit our mistakes to God and turn around speedily. Regardless of any excuse we may have, we must cherish the Lord more than everything else in this world, love Him more, and follow Him more, for the Holy Spirit dwells in your heart and mine. Everything we do from

henceforth is done only under the Lord's permission. The Apostle Paul also said, "*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*" (*Philippians 4:13*). Unless the Lord permits, we cannot do anything at all. I am not just insisting on my own hypothetical notion here, but the Holy Spirit actually does dwell in us, and therefore it is best for us all to live accordingly.

My fellow believers, do you desire to live as true servants who share the bread of life with souls that are in the house of the master until the day of the Lord's returns, and then go to see Him? If this be the case, then you must think of the Lord first, and you must please Him first before anything else. And if there is anything you want to do, you must first ask for His permission.

The end of the world is near. As I keep talking about the end, you may get a bit annoyed. Perhaps you are thinking, "The end will come when it comes; let's just keep quiet rather than talking about it all the time. Stop talking about such things! I get nervous



and uneasy when I constantly hear it. I am already weary enough as it is, so why do you keep saying these things?” But believe me it is not as if I enjoy talking about the end of the world. Yet despite this, I am compelled to continue to speak about the end times because this last day is indeed closer than we may think.

The nearer this day approaches us, the more sin abounds in this world, and the more things that make us unable to follow the Lord. As such, until the day the Lord returns, we must love Him and live in this world within the bounds permitted by Him—that is, we must live the kind of life that is pleasing to the Lord, and that is cherished by Him before we go to see Him. I keep saying these things so that you would be able to meet the Lord in joy.

I am not one of those world-renowned eschatologists. Few people are as humane as I am. If you really get to know me, you would see that I am a very soft man. You too, are gentle like a lamb. When you consider yourself, are you gentle or not? In fact,

there is no one whose heart is as gentle, pure, clear, and clean as those of us the righteous. Because our hearts have no sin, we are able to smile genuinely and gently unlike everyone else, all thanks to the Lord. The real righteous people have the Holy Spirit in their hearts, and therefore no one else can be gentler or purer than them, unless they are facing a situation where they have to stand up resolutely.

Whenever I speak of the end of the world, I cannot but talk about the gloomy prospect the world is facing, but I wish I could talk about brighter and more cheerful things than such depressing things. Sadly I have no choice but to speak of these things despite my wish to be different. It is also extremely wearisome to see the world actually nearing its end. Somewhere in my heart, I have this thought, “If the Lord were just to come now, I wish He would return soon and end this world in 30 minutes!” But the Lord is not a human being like me, and so He will not do this. The Lord is full of mercy; He endures in patience time after time, waiting even until the last



moment for people to be saved by believing in Him.

This world is getting darker and darker. A few days ago, I was watching a TV news program titled “World Now,” and I came to see just how evil the world is. As I saw my fellow Koreans in LA dying from drug abuse, I felt great pain in my heart. Some of them even smuggle drugs into Korea to make money. They don’t just take drugs for themselves, but they make addicts out of others. They go on a group binge, splurging themselves with drugs and partying all night long in debauchery until they collapse, and the next day, when they wake up in misery with their bodies shaking uncontrollably, they once again turn to drugs and are drawn into hallucination. When one is high on drugs, their mind is altered and his vision is skewed. Nothing looks normal, but everything looks foggy and dazzling.

Once one takes drugs a few times, he gets addicted, and once he is hooked, it irritates him and drives him mad not to be high on drugs. That is why so many people find it impossible to quit doing drugs

but continue to abuse them. They are burning their whole bodies just for the momentary pleasure of drugs. I feel best when my mind is the clearest and I can think of everything rationally and clearly. I used to drink everyday when I was in my early twenties. Some people say that they feel good when they drink, but I actually felt bad whenever I drank back then. That is because it only slowed down my head and my body. So I see absolutely no point in this stupid practice.

It is my sincerest hope and prayer that until the day the Lord returns, we would all love Him more than anything else in this world, so that the Lord would rejoice inside our hearts, unable to help but to love us. That is the best course to take. The best thing for us to do is to love the Lord the most and be loved by Him. We look the most lovely in God’s sight when we think of His work first as His servants, love the Lord before and more than anything else in this world, walk with Him, talk with Him and abide with Him in our lives. I believe that until the day of the



Lord's return, you and I must continue to share the bread of life with others, preach the gospel to them and nurture them, so that when the Lord is finally here, He would reward us all. The nearer we draw to the end, the more we must love the Lord.

There are only two types of people on this planet: Those who have been born again, and those who have not. If you don't love the Lord more than the things of the world, and instead you end up loving the world more than the Lord, then you will leave Him in the end. Leaving the Lord means to leave His Church. If you leave the Church, it means that you don't love the Lord. What would happen if you and I no longer loved the Lord with all our hearts? You would then be destroyed. You would not only leave the Church, but the Lord Himself would also disappear from your heart. This would be akin to losing your parents and becoming an orphan. Your life of faith is not something that is forced upon you against your will. Nor it is something that you can lead just by making your own resolution, but it is

something that becomes natural if you love the Lord more than anything else in this world. In other words, we can live out our faith only when the love of the Father is found in our hearts. We are nothing if the Father's love is not in our hearts. Without the love of God the Father, our lives of faith would only entail religious rituals and forms.

The world is a very dark place. Do you then still love the world, even though it is so depressing? Is it not right for you to set your mind on the Lord who is guaranteeing your future, rather than setting it on a completely hopeless place? Won't you then live as a servant of the Lord until the day He returns, love Him and serve Him more than anything else in this world, live within the bounds permitted by Him, and then meet with Him on His return? Should we not all receive the Lord like this? Let us indeed receive Him in this way. Do you grasp this fully?

Jesus said that two women will be grinding at the mill, and one will be taken away and the other one left. Even though everyone lives in the same world,



works the same, and drinks and eats the same, some people will be taken away when the Lord returns, while others will be left behind on this earth. To be left behind on this earth means to be cast into hell. Do you then still want to remain on this polluted earth? This earth will soon be destroyed, and so if you are left behind on this earth, it means that you will along with the earth be discarded as garbage.

Although there are countless people living in this world, only some of them have been truly born again, while the rest of them have not. Ask yourself whether you really are a born-again person or not. Are you someone who has the Holy Spirit in your heart? Are you someone who believes in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? Even though you are insufficient and weak, do you believe that the Lord has blotted out all your sins? Despite the fact that you are flesh and blood, do you really desire to walk in accordance with the Word of the Lord? If your answer is “yes” to all these questions, then you are the one whom God will take away on the last day.

Those who have not received the remission of sin will be destroyed on that day. They are the pitiful of this world. Some are starving and others are suffering from terrible debilitating diseases. But the most pitiful in this world are not the homeless starving in the streets. Hundreds and thousands of times more wretched than these people are those who have not received the remission of sin. Christians who neither know nor believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and therefore still retain their sins intact in their hearts despite them professing to believe in Jesus, and those who have neither been remitted nor washed from their sins through Jesus Christ—these people number thousands and tens of thousands of times more wretched than the homeless. Such people cannot call God their Father, and even though they profess that Jesus has become their Savior, they cannot call Him their Savior either. This is all because they have not accepted the Truth.

My fellow believers, right now huge consignments of our books are being shipped and



distributed all over the world. Last month alone, tens of thousands of books were shipped to various places around the world. Thanks to these books many people are now reading about the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Our books are designed and very easy to understand that people can finish reading them rather quickly. As their contents are not that difficult, if people just set their minds to it, they can finish reading them in a day or two. If one person reads one of our books and recommends it to another person, and this person reads it, then even if we estimate that just two people read the same book in a week, it would mean that at least hundreds of thousands of people are coming across the true gospel in one month.

What a tremendous accomplishment is it that at least ten thousand people are able to encounter the gospel in a day? If all our books published in various languages apart from English are spread like this, then the gospel will be preached all over the world in no time, even though some people would believe

while others do not believe in this gospel. It is really not impossible nor a distant prospect for us to accomplish the spreading of this gospel to the ends of the world very soon. On the other hand, this world is also being corrupted very rapidly. For instance, this gospel cannot reach people on drugs. After all how could anyone high on drugs and hallucinating see the gospel of the water and the Spirit clearly? If you go to such people and say to them, “Do you have sin in your life?” they will just reply, “What is sin? Get away from me!” As even their character would be destroyed eventually, if we try to give our books to them, they may rip them apart and turn violent towards us.

This world is changing so fast, but the gospel is also being spread very rapidly. Some people after receiving and reading just one of our books should hand over this book to another person to read, and those who have received and read our books in the second place are now making contact with us. Others have requested more books and just yesterday, a



psychiatrist working at a prison in the United States got in touch with us and requested 50 more books, saying that they were very useful to the inmates there. Fifty books would be shared and read by thousands of people in the prison. This would then mean that we would be preaching the gospel to thousands of people with just 50 books. It is as if we were sitting in that prison and preaching the gospel to those inmates. Like this the gospel will soon spread all over. Spreading the gospel is difficult at first, but once it gains some momentum, it will spread like a bushfire.

Given the fact that the world is becoming darker and darker, and the day of the Lord's return is getting closer, how should we live and conduct our lives? I know that your body is tired and weary. But I also know that the Holy Spirit is inside of you, and I also know how you must live to be happy. For you to live as a faithful servant until the day the Lord returns, your heart must love Him more than anything else in this world. Only then can your heart find peace and

rest. Otherwise you will be destroyed. Do you grasp this? Jesus has saved us through His water and blood. Since you believe in this, is there any sin left in your heart? No, there is none. Just as this is real so is the return of the Lord real, including the end of this world. I am not saying these things to ask you to bring me your money. Just as I have never passed around offering plates before, I am not telling you these things so that you would sell your house and bring the proceeds to me just because the end is near.

Far from it, my only admonishment is this: Let us love the Lord more than this world until the end of this world and His return, serve Him like this out of our pure love for Him, live within the bounds permitted by Him, and then meet the Lord. In other words, let us spread the gospel while we are alive. Believe that the day of the Lord is at hand and that you have to prepare your faith to go through the end times. My fellow believers, if you should face the last day without believing, then it will be too late. Believe now.



Is the world turning just fine nowadays? For some strange reason, people do not take natural disasters seriously, even as they have devastating results on them. When the end times come, God will pour out one plague after another, from famines to earthquakes, wars and volcanic explosions. If you do not really believe in God, He will unleash earthquakes and bring your house down. Rather than only realizing then that the end is indeed upon you, believe now. Only then can you be ready. I am not saying that you should offer all your money to me as the end is near, but what I am saying is that you should prepare your heart.

Even though the world is trying to confuse and misleads us, we must be wide-awake and be ever alert. While it is true that we still are unable to help ourselves but to follow the world, we should never lose our love for the Lord that is in our hearts. The Lord said, *“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”* From this passage of scripture,

we should realize that, “The Lord will not be pleased if we should love the things of the world more than Him. So I should not do this. It will not be beneficial to me at all.” Even though the Lord is not visible to our naked eyes, He is still the Master of our hearts. As His servants then, what could we possibly gain by doing something that offends the Master? So let us please the Lord instead, and live prosperously being loved and blessed by Him until the end.

Moreover, this planet earth will not last that long. If you keep refusing to believe, a great earthquake may arise within this year. Your house may collapse from the earthquake and you may have to live in a tent. I am not saying that I will bring this about, but the Lord may do this if His heart is disappointed, so that you would wake up. “Lord, Your people do not believe that the end of the world is at hand. Make them believe, Dear Lord. Shake them up once more and then hold them steadfast again.” I can pray like this. But if this is not God’s will, He will not respond to a pray like this.



Those who do not believe that this world will end are too fond of the world and love it too much, and they will eventually leave the Lord. You must realize clearly here that if you leave God's Church, you will fall into destruction right away. I say this only because I want you to prosper; I have no other motive here. For you and I to prosper, we must lead our lives of faith properly. That is your happiness and mine, both in body and spirit. Do you think that you would prosper even when you leave the Lord and depart from the Church? If you are really a born-again person, then you can never prosper when you leave your own family.

Anyone who really has the Holy Spirit in his heart can never flourish when he leaves the Lord. That is the fate for the born-again. Although I say these things in words, because I am also a human being just like you, I don't like that the world is darkening and turning depressing, and I am also weary of it as well. Spring is upon us, but just look at the weather. I wish it were a nice spring, where just sitting on the

warm grass would make you doze off, but because of the sand storm blowing far away from China; the sky is cold as if it were angry. I don't like this either.

My fellow believers, we need to examine our hearts to see if they might not be totally controlled by the current of this world, and turn our hearts toward the Lord. Both you and I are equally human beings. When this world is fine enough, we feel good, but when this world is troubled, we are troubled the same. You and I are alike. Let us live our lives believing that the day of the Lord is near. And let us be ready for the end. When the end times are so near, how could we afford to expand into too many useless businesses and go into debt, only to find ourselves having nothing to eat later on? I admonish you to be wise. The wise are those who manage what they have at the present well; live a wholesome life until the day the Lord returns; lead their lives of faith diligently; love the Lord inside their hearts evermore; preach the gospel; receive joy into their hearts; and share the bread of life with others. Let us all become



such people. Only then do we really live out our faith properly.

My admonishment is this: Let us live our lives receiving God's blessings for both our hearts and bodies. Let each and every one of us prosper, leaving none behind. Let us flourish in both body and spirit before we go to the Lord. There is only one way for us to prosper in both body and soul, and it is to love the Lord with our hearts, more than anything else in this world. If we love the Lord more than the things of this world, then we will flourish in both body and spirit.

Even though we are just weak beings, we can manage our lives well if we love the Lord with our hearts, more than anything else in this world. So that no one may fall behind, let us all live well. Let us live within the bounds permitted by the Lord and go to Him when He calls us. If you want to be happy and prosperous, then love the Lord more than the things of this world. There is no other way. Halleluiah! ☒



## Be Watchful and Prepare For the Judgment

< Matthew 24:37-43 >

**“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.”**

When will be the Lord’s second coming? Today’s Scripture passage says, *“As the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”* Only the Father in Heaven knows the day of the Lord’s return for it is hidden to the Son Himself and to the angels. Therefore, the Lord has spoken to us through signs. When the fig leaves become abundant, that is, when the Israelite nation will be restored and once Israel is revitalized, God tells us to understand this as a sign that the second advent of Jesus Christ is near. Also, the Lord tells us that the coming of Christ will be the same as in the days of Noah’s flood. It is these two things of which the Lord speaks.

The destruction of the world will come upon all people. However, the Lord has hidden His second coming to unbelievers. It is only to His people that He has shown that His coming is near. All Scriptures speak of the sinner’s salvation, of rapture, of Heaven, judgment, and of eternal life.

The Lord has told us that His coming will be as in the days of Noah. Long ago, in Noah’s time, people



were not aware of the judgment of God and were consequently judged and perished by water. The Lord says that similarly, people will not comprehend and will suffer destruction when He comes again. By not realizing the day of the Lord's second coming and also by not accepting the grace of God that makes them receive the remission of their sins, they will suffer judgment.

Let us seek to understand what condition the Old Testament people of Noah's time were in and to whom God's judgment and destruction fell. Genesis 6:5-7 says, *"The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."*

The Bible says that the sins of the people were

great in the days of Noah. Hence, this means that when the sins of the world are great, the end will come. What is the world in which you and I live in like? Are the iniquities great? Or is it a just and moral society? The world we live in now is truly full of sin. Even within the lines and order of its laws, the world is still full of great sin. It is time for God's judgment to fall upon this world. Therefore, you and I must hurry to prepare a way to avoid the judgment.

God destroyed the world in Noah's time by water. Excluding Noah's eight family members, everyone was judged. He even judged all living creatures that had breath. The people back then lived lives that were tied to sin. Everyone's plans and thoughts were always evil. The Lord has already told us this fact, but even historians say that like Sodom and Gomorrah in the days of Abraham (Genesis 19:5), there were many homosexuals in Noah's time. The Bible records that in Sodom and Gomorrah men committed adultery with men and women with women, and thus the Lord judged with fire and



brimstone. Consequently, the word sodomite originates from Sodom.

Sin was too rampant and widespread in Noah's time. It is normal for a man to live with a woman. It is normal for a woman to cherish her husband and for the husband to love his wife. The sins overflowed so greatly in Noah's time that the people of the generation only pursued pleasure and even worse, extreme hedonism. Put differently, they overstepped the bounds of morality to enjoy the bodily pleasures which God had allowed us and sought a far more extreme pleasure.

This is the same phenomenon of these days. A certain cardinal of the Catholic Church said, "We must not hate homosexuals. We do not have the right to hate them," thereby advocating them, and in another case a certain United States presidential candidate during his campaign made a public pledge as he said to the nation, "If I become President, I will acknowledge homosexuals." Even in my country, South Korea, it is said that there are many

homosexuals. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the judgment that fell upon all people during the era of Noah's flood, will also be true in the future at the second coming of Christ. Currently, gays and lesbians are rapidly increasing in the world today. Of course, they must also receive the remission of their sins, yet these are the kind of people that God dislikes the most. God dislikes them because they disrupt His divine providence and the laws that He has established.

The wickedness of the world is great. But the Lord says, "As in the days of Noah, so will my second coming be." Yes, this is right. If the iniquities of the world are great, our Lord will come soon. The world today is such a generation. We therefore must be awake. Those who were not awake ate, drank, were married, and were given in marriage till the very day Noah entered the Ark and till the flood swept away their lives. Even if the Judgment Day should be tomorrow, people will laugh as long as the weather today is serene and there is food to eat. The Bible



says that these people are “*like the beasts that perish*” (*Psalm 49:20*). A pig being butchered tomorrow shall be very happy today if it is given slop. Beasts are like that. People who are not aware of the times are just like those beasts and will fail to understand to the day that they perish. They cannot comprehend the Advent of the Lord and His judgment. However, those of us who have been born again must be aware of the times, and we must live preparing for the future. We must critically think about the world today and live in preparation for the future.

It is stated that approximately one billion people of the world are in a state of starvation. In the South Pole of the Antarctic, an iceberg the size of Cheju Island has broken off and is drifting upward along with the ocean current. Because of this, the salinity of the seawater at the poles has declined, putting the marine ecosystem in great jeopardy. Also, as the icebergs at both poles rapidly melt, the level of surface water has increased, and it is said that a large-

scale atmospheric abnormality will come. This is why there are warnings against global warming and why there are efforts against environmental pollution that cause the melting of icebergs that can eventually flood all the seashore of every continent. The climate around the world today is quite awful. Droughts are severe throughout the world. Also, all over the world, climactic irregularities are severe. Typhoons do not occur only in a particular season, but they occur during times of the year when typhoons do not normally occur. The theory that typhoons only originate from sea has been negated as they have occurred on land as well. Also, earthquakes are happening too often these days. God said that as natural disasters become more frequent, through it, the world should more rapidly be dismantled. Though the end of the world is not far from happening, we must spread the gospel with more zeal because we still have some time.

If there is no food to eat, can people or animals live? What happens if there is no water? No one can



live and all will die. All over the world, starvation has begun. Also, in the future, a global war will begin. Someday, inevitably, there will be an atomic war. We no longer live in an era where we shoot guns and cannons from trenches. We live in an age when a computerized atomic missile finds its target with unfailing accuracy. The nations possessing these atomic weapons are aiming at their enemies to maximize their gains. They have shown the will to fire at the slightest encouragement.

In previous conflicts, when the tension grew between two countries and war was resolved, because the country going to war would go through a veto process, declare war, and then go to battle, it was easy to predict the adversary's attack. Even if the war occurred without a formal declaration, it took a considerable amount of time before the armies of both countries clashed because the army was advanced by horse or by car. However, these days the day the war starts, air strikes and missile attacks begin as well. In 1995, the earthquake that struck

Kobe, Japan taking the lives of over 6,000 people lasted a mere 15 seconds, yet if a war began now, it is possible to end the war in a similar time frame. So, we must no longer think of war in terms of the outdated form of war that goes for days on end. Victory is decided within 10 or 20 minutes. We must not forget that we live in an age when a colossal catastrophe is imminent, and we must seriously consider how and with what kind of faith we must live in such a time.

*“For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:38-39).* When people are unaware of the imminence of the end, our Lord will come. Dear fellow believers, though those who have not been born again are unaware, we who have been born again must know that this is the tribulation period and must stay awake.



Dear fellow believers, is it not strange that the El Nino and La Nina phenomena are being increasingly amplified? Isn't it correct to predict an immense climactic shift as the temperature of the sea is rapidly increasing? Epidemics such as SARS and the mad cow disease are continuously appearing. While before if you took medicine for two or three days a cold was cured, now it lasts for a month or two, and there are many who die in severe cases of flu. Take a look at the affairs of the world today. The world is moving in the direction of unification with superpowers at the center. These observations are the signs that demonstrate the world is headed towards its end.

Can you feel and taste this reality? As the end nears, we must understand the times and live out our faith. The Lord says that He will come when the leaves of the fig tree flourish. He has said that He will come when the anti-Christ stands upon the ark of the Tabernacle in the Israelite nation. Therefore, both you and I must live with a clear awareness of the

times. The Scriptures say that those who are not born again cannot understand, and as many died in the days of Noah, so also they will perish in a matter of seconds. Everyone in the world today lives in fear.

*“Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left” (Matthew 24:40).* This will be in the end times. When we will no longer be able to spread the gospel and the seven years of the tribulation period starts, about midway through that period, the Lord will take away those who have been born again. He has said that when two people are working in the field one will be taken and the other left.

Dear fellow believers, the rapture will be a real event. It points to the period of three and a half years of the seven years of tribulation. It is then that when two people are working in the field one will be taken away while the other person will be left behind. Both those who have been born again and those who have not exist and live in the world. To work in the field implies working in the world. We live similar lives of



doing business, going to work, and living out our faith. Yet, it is recorded that one person will be taken away while the other is left behind so that people will see with their eyes the rapture of which they had only heard of before, and those without sin will be taken away while those with sin will be left behind to go through all the abysmal tribulations. Those who are not born again will be left behind.

Our Lord will come when the corruption of the world is great as in the days of Noah's flood, and if we are alive in the world during that time, we will be taken away. Those without sin will be taken before God. It is not because this is our desire but because it is God's will. However, those who have not been born again will be left behind. People will realize then "Oh. It was real," but it will be too late. Only when you accept the gospel of the remission of sin, that is, the gospel of the water and the Spirit, you will be saved from perishing at the end times. If you reject the gospel of Truth, you will perish at the end. Now is the only chance to spread the gospel or to

receive the remission of sin because once the end times come about, there will no longer be any second chances. If you accept the gospel now, you will be saved. However, if you reject the gospel, everything will come to an end for you.

Lately, people's hearts have become more obstinate. It is because of Satan's manipulations. Yet, when the Lord comes, the righteous will be taken away. Therefore, those who have been born again look towards that day with faith. However, those that live their spiritual lives without being born again will be left behind by the Lord on that day. Those who do not believe in Jesus Christ, those who believe in Jesus Christ but reject the gospel of baptism, and those who believe yet still have sin within their hearts will all be left behind.

*"Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left" (Matthew 24:40-41).* The first part of this passage speaks of two men while the latter part speaks of two



women, and women signify the church. While both believe in Jesus and both serve God, one woman is taken away while the other is left behind. That the two women were grinding at the mill means that both were doing the same work. What work was this? They were both doing the same work of serving God. Those who have not been born again still serve God. Those who have been born again also serve God. Of course, God doesn't accept the worship of those who have not been born again, while He accepts the worship of those who have been born again.

However, many Christians, even though they are not born again, hide within the world's approved church denominations breathing sighs of relief for the sole reason that they are a part of such a denomination. There are people who think, "I will be okay since I am part of the traditionally orthodox church. Though I have sin in my heart, I will be able to go to Heaven since I am with people of strong faith." Such people who reject the gospel of truth will suffer abandonment. Without a doubt, those who are

taken by the Lord are those who have received the remission of their sins. Only those who have received the remission of sins and whose hearts have become as white as snow shall be called by the Lord to attend the feast in Heaven. Sinners cannot enter into Heaven. On that day those who prophesied in the name of the Lord, who displayed great power in the Lord's name, and those who claimed to have driven out demons will be condemned and thrown out by the Lord. Those who believe in Jesus Christ yet still have sin within their hearts are abandoned by the Lord.

*"Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming"* (Matthew 24:42). The Lord tells us to be watchful. Those of us who are living in the end times must be watchful and live in preparation. This is as important as spreading the gospel. In the end times, it is very important that we know correctly the age we live in so that we shall be prepared for the coming persecution and tribulation. Those who are watchful realize that there is not much time left and are well prepared at heart and in their



faith. They also sort out their lives on this earth. If the person knows when the thief will come and if he is watchful, he will have a defensive plan beforehand and will wait prepared. Those who truly believe and are aware that the Lord will come do not hoard treasures on earth or set their hearts on this earth. We must live in preparation for the end times.

We must be watchful. In our lives of faith, we must not become people who are asleep but people who are awake. However, in these end times there are in reality more people who are asleep than those who are awake. Among those who have been born again there are two kinds of beliefs. Till the very last day, the person who is awake spreads the gospel and lives preparing for that day. Among those who are born again, the people who slumber drift along with the tide of the world. The people who are awake do not set their hearts in this world as if they had a couple thousand years left to live.

To have life, those of us who have been born again by the gospel of the water and the Spirit must

stay awake in the last days. We must not prepare a house on earth, but instead we must be prepared for a house in Heaven. Such a one is the wise person. We must all become wise people. Among the believers, those who are awake do not consider this and that of reality as important. They consider the coming of the Lord and think “What life of faith must I live till that day and how much longer do I have to live? How many decades are left before the end of the world? Or how many years are left?” And with such calculations, they realize that there is not much time left to work and hence live by faith. This is the kind of person who is awake. On the other hand, the person who follows the current of the world as if he had a thousand or millions of years to live is still asleep even though he was born again by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

*“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.”* We must be in preparation as we stay awake. We must prepare beforehand. We must be awake, and we must prepare. Do you



understand? From those of you here who are single men and women, the people who are of age will get married before the Lord comes, but there will be people who will not do so. If the Lord comes late, you will get married, and if the Lord comes early then you will not be able to do so. Be thinking of this, but do not think more or less of it. This is spiritually wise.

You and I must not set our hearts on earth, but instead we must set our hearts on the Lord and continue to prepare. What must we prepare? We must prepare our faith, and we must dedicate our hearts to the Lord beforehand as we consider what we will be doing and how we will receive the Lord when He comes. This is to say that we must prepare to meet the Lord as we live a spiritual life of faith. We must prepare this because we have been born again. Because we have been born again, we must wait for the Lord. Because the Lord is our Lord, we must wait for Him. Because He is coming so that we may live with Him in Heaven, we must live prepared.

If the Church is not getting ready, this is truly foolish. If a certain church of God is interested in building a large chapel, this is unwise. Do you understand? It is foolish for a person who is born again to pay attention to succeeding in the world and to earning money. The person who wisely prepares as he awaits the Lord will work at his job for the gospel, live his social life for the gospel, and also live the rest of his life for the gospel. He who lives such a life for the gospel is the person who is watchful, and it is this person who does what pleases the Lord as he awaits and prepares for the coming of the Lord.

My fellow saints, do not be disappointed that you do not have any property on this earth. Do not be sad that someone has this and that. It might be a pity that because of a lack of money we cannot serve the Lord even more, but a shortage of money does not mean we cannot serve the Lord at all. Even without money, we can spread the gospel, pray, and serve the Lord. Therefore, do not be worried because you are poor, lacking, or incapable. Rather, we must become wise



servants who prepare as we think of how we can follow the gospel and how we can spread the good news to more people. Let us become people who prepare to meet the Lord so that when He comes we will hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.”

Dear fellow saints, we are not a congregation that is here to build larger chapels. We are a congregation whose only desire is to zealously spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit to the entire world. In this age, we must receive the remission of our sins, prepare our faith, and live watchfully. We must prepare to go to Heaven. Do you understand? Also as the end nears, we must not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some (Hebrews 10:25). We must congregate more often. As the end is near, we must convene more frequently. In order for us to preserve our lives, we must congregate often. For us to rightly prepare our faith, we must congregate often.

Dear fellow saints, though we will suffer persecution and trials, our Lord will come soon. The time we have left to do the work of the Lord is not long. In a short time, the Lord will surely come, and so let us live preparing for that day. The Lord will come soon. ☒



## Let Us Be Wise Enough to Discern the Age

< Matthew 24:37-51 >

**“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for**

**the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

Spiritual revival really refers to the revival of the heart. It does not mean material prosperity or numeric growth. In fact, in order for us to live a successful spiritual life, we should have our full faith



in God who will in turn strengthen our hearts. This can only be achieved when we believe in the gospel through which our Lord has blotted out all our sins and the sins of the entire human race. In other words before anything else, your problem of sin must be solved first, and only then is it possible for your heart to be strong and work for others as well.

During this morning's worship service, I spoke about the passage of scripture, "*But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be*" (Matthew 24:37). At this hour, I would like to share the Word with you about spiritual revival. Does spiritual revival come us the born-again in anyway it pleases? It is quite clear that Spiritual revival comes to only those who are actually wide-awake. People are now living in this last age, and our Lord said in the Bible that the coming of the Son of Man would be like the days of Noah. Those who know the time can discern the age, and those who can discern the age can enjoy spiritual revival and carry out spiritual work. Unless one knows what God wants in this age,

there cannot be any spiritual revival. So the righteous must first realize clearly in what kind of age they are now living. Furthermore, if one also realizes the will of God for their age, and what he should do now accordingly, then spiritual revival will unfold in his heart.

## **We Must Know the Time**

Our Lord said the following to describe the circumstances of the time when His return to this world would come about: "*But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be*" (Matthew 24:37-39). Jesus said here that when the end times come, people will be too busy eating and drinking,



and getting married, that they will not even realize the impending doom.

So for us the born-again to have spiritual revival in our hearts, we must know and recognize the time. Put differently, we should realize what the present age is, whether it is a time of revival, a time when new sprouts come out, a time to bear fruit and harvest, or the end times of destruction. God said that just like in the days of Noah, when the end of this world nears, its people would also be preoccupied only with carnal affairs. When the flood came in the days of Noah, people at that time did not realize their imminent destruction until they were all swept away by the flood and drowned. Likewise, in this present age many people will face the same fate unless they realize the time. That is why it is so indispensable for us the born-again saints to know the times that we are living in right now, and it is when we realize this that there can be spiritual revival for us.

The Book of Ecclesiastes says that everything under the heavens has its season:

*“To everything there is a season,  
A time for every purpose under heaven:  
A time to be born,  
And a time to die;  
A time to plant,  
And a time to pluck what is planted;  
A time to kill,  
And a time to heal;  
A time to break down,  
And a time to build  
A time to weep,  
And a time to laugh;  
A time to mourn,  
And a time to dance;  
A time to cast away stones,  
And a time to gather stones;  
A time to embrace,  
And a time to refrain from embracing;  
A time to gain,  
And a time to lose;  
A time to keep,*



*And a time to throw away;*  
*A time to tear,*  
*And a time to sew;*  
*A time to keep silence,*  
*And a time to speak;*  
*A time to love,*  
*And a time to hate;*  
*A time of war,*  
*And a time of peace” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).*

Like these beautiful words, there is a season to everything under heaven. God said that there once was a time to create this universe and a time to make His creation thrive, and there will also be a time to end His first creation. We should then realize what kind of age this present age is. And we must discern the time.

What kind of time is this present age? It is imperative that we discern clearly whether it is the time of destruction or not, whether the end of the world is imminent or still far away. Considering the symptoms of the world, in what kind of age are we

now living? Jesus said that the people in the days of Noah were eating and drinking, and getting married, until they were suddenly destroyed. Are we not now also living in such an age?

In some ways, it may seem as though the Lord said nothing extraordinary here. Since people are always eating and drinking, and weddings are held all the time, we may wonder how this can be called the last age. But what the Lord said here does not mean that it is somehow wrong for people to eat and drink and get married, but it means that they have no more appetite or interest in spiritual affairs, only preoccupied with their own carnal lives. The Lord made it clear here that He will judge them if they continue to live like this, and He has also shown many signs in the world for having this attitude. If people continue to ignore these warnings in spite of all this, then one day without warning they will be destroyed suddenly. That is why the Lord said this.

There is actually nothing unusual about eating and drinking or getting married; these are unavoidable for



people living on this earth. I am trying to explain what would happen in the end times by using these ordinary affairs of life. I do this to underscore the point that people all over the world have no interest at all in spiritual affairs, but they are only seeking the prosperity of their flesh and its pleasures. We are witnesses to this kind of trend today, which is being displayed, before our very eyes.

## **What Is Everyone All Over the World Interested in Nowadays?**

I have been told that ‘reality shows’ have taken over the airwaves in the United States. For instance, there was a show called “Temptation Island” that was quite popular for some time. It put several couples, either presently engaged or planning to get married, on an empty island to live for a couple of weeks. These couples were all sure of their unchanging love for their respective partners, but the twist was that

once on the island, they were introduced to other singles that would try to tempt them away from their partners. Their every move was then shot and televised.

The program appealed to the viewers’ lustful desires, which were intrigued by whether the lovers would really stay true to each other or betray their partners. Apparently, these types of reality shows are smashing hits in the United States. The couples on that particular show moved about according to the various schedules and programs crafted by the producer, all designed to tempt them into betrayal. Indeed I was told that some of them changed their hearts right away, and in many cases, they ended up betraying their partners.

Intrigued by this whole premise, a large audience enjoyed watching the show, wondering who would stay true and who would be the betrayer. They were exposed to this overrated romance thing, how lovers swearing their faithfulness can change suddenly and betray their partners when given the first opportunity,



and how human beings are so pitiful and unfaithful.

Nowadays, what attracts people's interest worldwide the most is love between the opposite sexes. So now we can see exactly what Jesus said, many people are preoccupied with finding their spouses and getting married. People nowadays are so interested in romance that not a few TV programs are focusing on such interest. There are various dating shows on TV, all based on arranging blind dates and televising what happens during the date. Many viewers watch these shows with intense interest, wondering whether the blind date would work out or not. Such shows are televised all over the world. Similar programs can be found in Japan, the United States, Europe, and Asia as well. The same trend is becoming evident all over the world.

This shows us without a doubt just how many people are so singularly obsessed with romance and finding the perfect spouse to marry. Since romance is all they are interested in, this is all that they think about. And they set the purpose of their lives on this

direction. Jesus said the trend of the present age is just like in the days of Noah. The days of Noah were such that hedonism reached its height, where people were all obsessed with carnal pleasures. So when God viewed this, He could not just leave them alone any longer. The people at that time sought only carnal pleasures, rather than a normal relationship between the opposite sexes, where a man and a woman get married and produce children and them to reproduce in turn multiply in the world naturally.

A similar trend is also very evident nowadays. Rather than enjoying a normal relationship between a man and a woman, men openly seek pleasure with another man, and women with another woman. It is little wonder why it is becoming impossible for there to be any spiritual revival. This means that normal life has now disappeared, where one should thank the Lord for blotting out their sins and saving them despite their insufficiencies, and in turn spread this grace. All the TV shows in Korea are also now becoming similarly crass. When I turn on the TV, all



that I see is one program after another showing bumbling fools giggling all the time in a blind date and reporters chasing after the stars' scandals. It is so bad that to make a TV show, all that you now need is just a few men and women, throw them into some contrived plot, and then shoot whatever happens with the TV camera.

The Lord says, "*Man should not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God*" (Matthew 4:4). Put differently, one should really fill both spiritual and physical needs. The problem however, is that people nowadays are skewed and unbalanced toward one direction alone. It may be somewhat tolerable if they follow the flesh while following the Spirit as well, but instead, they have completely set aside spiritual matters and only seeking after only carnal things. What happens when everyone in the world follows only his or her carnal desires? God cannot help anymore but bring judgment on the human race.

Someone who knows the time they are living in is

a spiritual person. To be quite frank, you and I also have both carnal and spiritual desires. There is no one who has no flesh, nor is there anyone who has no carnal desires. Everyone experiences these desires. However, you and I believe in the spiritual salvation through which the Lord has delivered us from sin. What happens when one believes in this? When one believes in this and knows the time they are living in, they are most certainly bound to think about others.

We do not believe in Jesus to turn into a living Buddha, nor are we trying to make sarira in our bodies. Buddhists believe that sarira is formed only when one restrains their carnal desires. They think that if one exerts self-discipline and restraint, crystals are formed in their body from this self-discipline, and these relics or rituals are called sarira. So when famous monks die, they are normally cremated. This is done to see if sarira would be found from their ashes, and the merits of their asceticism are assessed depending on the amount of sarira is found. If a monk produces a lot of sarira, he is then praised to



have exerted extraordinary self-discipline. If this were really the case, then we may as well say that someone with a lot of kidney stones is also a man of self-control. But neither kidney stones nor sarira can be a true measure of one's spirituality.

## **Spiritual Revival Is Now Unfolding in People's Hearts**

Let me say it again, the one who knows the time they live in is a spiritual person. Tell me, is this the age and time when everyone is only following his or her's own flesh? This is the age when everyone is obsessed with romance. But can we completely disassociate ourselves from such an age? No, we cannot completely cut ourselves off from this world, for all of us are living in it. Yet at the same time, there is no question about it that the world is now full of filth. If we really are spiritual people, yearning for spiritual revival and wanting to lead a spiritual life,

then what should we come to realize? We should clearly recognize that this present age is the time of destruction, and that the judgment of God is now imminent, just as it was before the days of Noah's flood. We should also realize at this time that our eyes should be wide open and be fully alert, and we must share the spiritual bread with both the people of God and those who still have not come to Christ.

Spiritual revival unfolds only in these people's hearts that are awake. Only these people's hearts see and experience spiritual revival, although they are living in the same age as everyone else. As such, we should all desire to preach the gospel to the countless people who still have not heard it, and we should not miss this opportunity that we now have but taking advantage of it wisely. Just as the Bible says, "*Where sin abounded, grace abounded much more*" (Romans 5:20), in this age when iniquities abound, the wise and spiritual are those who do not miss this window of opportunity but use it appropriately to share the bread of the Spirit with others and save them from



sin. In addition, we should let the saved people know the time they are living in and lead them to spiritual prosperity. This is what spiritual revival is all about.

The Bible says that where sin abounds, grace also abounds. The entire world is now filled with sin. Prostitution is widespread in many countries, and this killer AIDS, especially in sub-Saharan African countries, is a big plague in this region. In some of these countries, over half the population is suffering from AIDS. With liberalization, many former Communist countries have also rapidly degenerated into moral decay filled with sin. Nowadays, a huge number of people do not even want to get married. Many women would rather bear children without getting married; for such women, all that they have to do is just go to a sperm bank and pay for artificial insemination. A number of women already bear children like this, as they do not desire to get married, and thereby find their joy in raising their own children.

Many theological students in Korea travel to the

United States to pursue graduate studies. I once heard one of them saying, “I went to the United States to get my doctoral degree in theology, but I came back blindfolded.” This man gave up his studies halfway because he just could not bear to stay in the United States any more. He could not put up with all the public displays of affection that were blatantly of a crass sexual orientation and rampant everywhere, from the hallway to the remote corners of the campus, out in the streets and in the cars, all done in broad daylight with no shame. He had thought that such explicit scenes were only found in movies, but he saw them widespread everywhere he went. Aghast at what he saw, he felt that he had to either blindfold himself or leave the country. He was sure that if he had stayed there to get his doctoral degree, he himself would have been completely defiled. So he chose to return to Korea without finishing his studies.

However, grace abounds where sin abounds. If iniquities abound like this, then it means that the gospel power can also work great wonders. We must



seize this opportunity to spread the gospel. That is what spiritual revival is all about. First and foremost, spiritual revival requires us to believe with our hearts that the Lord has blotted out all our sins. So let us all believe in this and live in gratitude. If we strengthen our hearts with the gospel, and preach this gospel to everyone before the end of this world comes, then spiritual revival will surely unfold.

## **The Gospel of the Water and the Spirit That Saves Everyone from All Sins**

Are we not preaching the gospel all over the world through a gospel store that we opened? Indeed we are publishing our books to preach the gospel to the countless people in this whole world, and to this end we have opened our Internet site to distribute them. Through this means, we are now spreading the gospel, and this gospel of the water and the Spirit is

what saves these people. In other words, no matter how sin may abound, the gospel of the water and the Spirit makes it more than possible for everyone to receive the remission of sin and be saved.

Other than the gospel of the water and the Spirit, there is no way for anyone to be saved from this world that is filled with so many sins. Without this gospel, no one can receive the remission of sin. Without this gospel, we cannot help but be swept away along with this sinful world. Traditional values, ethics, and morals are disappearing from the world, while iniquities abound like never before. The world is currently only pursuing material prosperity and carnal pleasures, and this goes on unabated, and no one can escape from this unstoppable tide. Everyone is being swept away in this tide trying to satisfy his or her's own lusts, whether directly or indirectly.

However, we have the gospel of Truth that can save people from all these sins. When our Lord came to this earth He was baptized and took upon all our sins. And by being condemned on the Cross to atone



for our sins; by this righteous Act He saved us from the condemnation of all our sins. Our Lord has made you and me sinless, and He has saved everyone all over the world. Now, whoever believes in this gospel will surely be saved. No matter in what kind of sin people may be trapped in, this gospel of the water and Spirit is more than able to save them from their sins.

You and I must recognize all these things. We must acknowledge our sins, recognize the prevailing current evil in this age, admit that this present age is in the time of destruction, and also admit that everyone is following the flesh as iniquities abound in the world. We must admit most people living today are like this. You and I are not any different. And we must acknowledge this precious gospel of the water and the Spirit. Finally, we must recognize that in these end times we are now living is just like the days of Noah, we must therefore preach this gospel more fervently.

You and I must understand and recognize this age.

We must admit that now is the very time or age this world is going to be destroyed. When the world was destroyed for the first time, it was in the same state as it is now. I know that some people would argue against this and say, “People said such things before, but the Lord has not come yet. The famous Dami Mission said this, as did Adventists and Nostradamus; they all predicted the end of the world, but were they not all wrong?”

My fellow believers, a spiritual person is someone who knows the right time. Those who are spiritually revived, and those who yearn for this spiritual revival in their hearts, know what kind of age this time is and work faithfully. If we knew what hour the Lord would come, then we would be able to prepare ourselves. Jesus said, “If the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.” A spiritual person is such a person. A spiritual person knows beforehand when the thief would come, and he is ready for it. One who is awake is a



spiritual person. He is preparing everything to be ready. None other than this is a spiritual person, and it is these very people who stir up spiritual revival.

Some houses are so vulnerable that it seems as if a thief can just break in at anytime. Some people are so relaxed and neglect their homes, and are really an easy target for thieves. When you take a look around your neighborhood, can you tell if it is a safe neighborhood or not? When you are looking for a house to buy, you can easily find out whether the house you are considering is a livable place or not. Without even going into the house, you can usually tell a vulnerable house when you see one and realize that you need to take some protective measures before moving in, and that without these measures, you would just be opening up yourself for thieves to break in.

However, some people do not take the necessary steps even when they realize this, and then have great regrets after their homes have been broken into and suffer a great loss. A spiritual person who is awake

prepares himself. If you knew what time the thief would come, would you not watch out and be vigil? Of course you would. Spiritually speaking it is the same; those who are ready like this are wise. They are the watchful people. And they are the ones who have spiritual eyes and revival in their hearts.

The Lord said that He would come like a thief in the night. Does any thief give you a call before breaking into your home? No, of course not. You never know when the thief might come, whether he would come during the day, at dawn, at dusk, at midnight, or while you are enjoying your meal with your family. No one knows when the thief might come. However, the watchful are fully aware that the thief would come, and they take the necessary precautionary measures, no matter what time the thief may actually come. For instance, they install high quality burglar proofing and security systems to alert any break-ins, even have armed response connected to their homes. They take these extreme safety measures in the effort to protect their homes



and properties, to apprehend the thief or thieves no matter when they may come, no matter what time of the day, and they are confident that the thief would be caught.

## **Those Who Yearn for Spiritual Revival**

Like this example, if we knew when our Lord would come, then we would also spread the gospel diligently and work hard to ensure that everyone who is to be saved would indeed receive the remission of sin. And then we would wait for the Lord. If we devote all our energy to carry out our entrusted task of spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth, it is then that the Lord will return to us. Spiritual people are only too happy to receive the Lord. So for you to enjoy spiritual revival, you must believe in this gospel with your whole heart, and you should also spread it around. You should preach the gospel and

realize in what age you are now living, and should not miss the importance of this time. You and I must become this kind of people. Spiritual revival must arise in our hearts like the sun rising in the morning. Knowing the time we are now living in, we must believe in the Word of God, spread this Word by faith, and prepare for the day of the Lord's return by faith. We must prepare everything beforehand by faith, and implement them beforehand.

Do you want spiritual revival to unfold in your heart? Do you really want to live a spiritual life, do you really desire to become a worker of righteousness, and do you really believe with your heart in the gospel through which the Lord has blotted out all your sins and mine? Then you must believe in this gospel, hold on to it, preach it and 'trade' in this gospel. You must run the business of preaching the gospel well and harvest abundant fruit as profit for the Master. Such types of people are spiritual people, and they are the ones who have stirred up spiritual revival. Those who unite their



hearts with these people and serve the gospel with them will be greatly blessed.

However, if you do not know the time you are living in, then you can only be a useless servant, no matter how you may have been saved, how great your faith may be, and how you may try not to commit any sin. For instance, there may be a time even for running a business, but this is dependant on whether now is a good time to run a certain type of business or not, this would ultimately determine your success. A recent cold spell in Seoul resulted in the bursting of many homes' water supply pipes, and I heard that for a while takeout food was selling like hotcakes.

Since the water supply pipes were broken and the main town supply was turned off, people could not prepare any food for themselves, and so they bought takeout food instead. So a number of restaurants offering takeout food hit the jackpot. My fellow believers, you must know when it is the right time. If you are running a takeout restaurant, and your

business is now thriving with soaring profits, then you should prepare a lot more dishes than before to satisfy the growing demand, this just makes good business sense. Only then can you seize the opportunity and make huge profits while you still can.

We are now spreading the gospel by sending our books all over the world. I recently received a call from Rev. Kim, who is in charge of our literature ministry in the United States, informing me that shipping costs to this country have skyrocketed. The price of postage has also gone up so much that even a postal worker told Pastor Kim that he was caught by surprise as well. Inflation in the United States is now starting to edge up markedly, and this world leading economy is now looking to be in serious trouble. Those who know the times they are living in are wise, and it is these people who are blessed. If you and I really yearn for spiritual revival to unfold in our hearts, then we must realize in what kind of age we are now living in, recognize it, believe it, and preach



the gospel.

As for myself, I know very well what this present age is. You probably also know well what kind of age this age is. So there is even more reason why we, who are now living in this age, must never turn toward the things of the flesh. But I am not saying here that you should try to be utterly pious like the Pharisees and 100 percent perfect. I do not believe that we have to live like this, with these ‘facemasks’ like these false religious runners. Even though you and I are just like everyone else living in the same present age, what sets us apart from the fleshly and worldly people is that we have been truly saved. The fact that we have the gospel of the water and the Spirit and we are preaching this gospel is what distinguishes us from the carnal people who have not been born again. Because of this distinction, we are able to kindle spiritual revival, and we are indeed actually stirring up spiritual revival right now in this time.

## **Let’s Believe in the Gospel, Hold It Fast in Our Hearts, and Run the Business of the Gospel Faithfully**

We are now preaching the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We are distributing e-books through our website, and paper books to those who request them by email. Right now Wonju Church is responsible for distributing our books all over the world. At minimum, several hundred copies are sent out on any given day, and sometimes, thousands or even tens of thousands of copies are sent all at once to our partners who have agreed to distribute them on our behalf. Recently, we sent money to a partner in India to publish 8,000 copies of our books in Tamil. When an Indian visits our website and requests our Tamil versions, we will relay his shipping information to our Indian partner, and this partner will then ship our books to that address. He also offered to advertise the first two titles of our English books in his magazine.

India has many Hindus who worship cows and



wash themselves in the Ganges River. India's population is touching 10 billion, it is a huge spiritual market filled with countless lost souls. While we should provide all the support that is possible to preach the gospel to India, I believe that investing \$100,000 would be enough for us to spread the gospel to a considerable extent. I am confident that if \$100,000 is invested in India, we should be able to preach the gospel to most people living in urban areas, though not throughout the whole country.

India has several major languages. We have decided to translate our books into all the major languages currently in use in India today and publish them so that it can be shared around. I am sure that once we make this investment, the gospel will be spread in India to a considerable extent. The gospel is being spread not just in India, but also in other countries. So far, our books have been translated into dozens of languages and in dozens of countries, but it has been a lot easier and effective to spread the gospel through the Internet.

You and I must believe in the gospel, hold it dear in our hearts, and set our minds to run the business of the gospel. We must not miss this window of opportunity, believing that now is the last age. If we miss this present opportunity, we will not be able to spread the gospel, nor is there any way for us to prosper. Once the American economy begins to decline, it is bound to drag down the whole global economy. Adverse economic effects will be felt everywhere in a very short time.

Fortunately, a way is now opening for South Korea to establish a direct link with Europe. I am sure that once North Korea opens up and South Korea establishes a direct rail route to Europe, it will have a positive impact on our economy that has been struggling in the past, and it will also foster an ideal opportunity to spread the gospel. Our government is now working on this economic initiative. Russian President Putin will be visiting Korea in a few days time. One of his objectives for this visit is to sell Russia's natural gas to South Korea. There is so



much natural gas buried underground in Russia that the people there cannot possibly use it all. So President Putin's idea is to sell liquefied natural gas to South Korea either by connecting a railway or building a pipeline through North Korea. South Korea also has a huge amount of products. It can in turn sell them to Russia through the railway, and vice versa.

Russia is really an eastern European country. If South Korea succeeds with its diplomatic initiatives toward its northern neighbors, it will emerge as a formidable powerhouse in Asia. And it will also become an important hub of trade and commerce. If God decides to open up Europe and North Korea, then it will be completed in the near future, and in fact, it is actually now being implemented step by step. This means Europe and Asia are opening up its markets wide open. The national needs of the countries involved are the driving motives of such projects. Expanding economic cooperation and exchange is what all the participating countries

desire, from South Korea to Russia and North Korea. North Korea will benefit from the income it would receive for providing the passage, while the South Korean economy will receive a big boost from establishing a new Silk Road that will enable it to reach China, Russia, and Europe via North Korea.

Since I am talking about politics and economics and discussing what will happen to the world, some people may get the impression that I have studied a lot on these issues. But actually, I have not studied them that much. I am just telling you these things because I believe in the Word of God, and I know what God will do. Whatever God says He will do, I believe in it, do you also? Do you realize what kind of age this present age is? We are living in an age when ideology no longer matters, but anything is possible with money. At the very core of this present age are only money and pleasures. This means that the present age is the last age. The Bible says that the gospel would be preached vigorously for one last time before the end, and now is precisely such a time.



Moreover, as this window of opportunity is not that long, it will be closed in a few years time.

The entire world at its end will be ravaged by economic warfare. This will be accompanied by devastating natural disasters. New unknown diseases will break out from environment destruction and become widespread. It was announced not too long ago that the entire world is now exposed to the risk of mad cow disease. Korea is also at risk. If it is reported that some one hundred and plus countries in the world are swept away by mad cow diseases, no country in the world can be excluded from this debilitating risk of mad cow disease.

As the result many people all over the world may die at any time. As one-third will die from disease and another third from war, a massive number of people will die in the years to come. Think about this: It is not just 100,000 or 200,000 people dying, but 2 billion dying at once from the entire world population of 6 billion. It is very well possible for 500 million or 1 billion people to die at once not only

from SARS or mad cow disease, but from new, terrifying disease that has been neither seen nor heard of before. Countless people all round the world will drop dead in massive numbers.

How do I know this? It is not my own knowledge, but I know this through the Word of God, as I have the Holy Spirit in me. A number of people will not be included among the dead, as God may especially spare those who preach the gospel and live for its sake. However, those who have not devoted themselves to the gospel may die along with the rest when a massive number of people die at that time. Think about 500 million people dying at once. Do you still believe that it is not the end?

I am not saying these things to scare you believe me. I am just telling you the facts as they are. When pandemics break out with unknown diseases that are far more infectious than mad cow disease and AIDS plaguing the whole world, and natural disasters strike everywhere, hundreds of millions of people will die all over the world. But if you should live in denial



and think that this present age is not near the end of the world, and instead realize it only when the end is actually upon you, then it will be too late. You must see into the near future and realize that the end times are right here at the door. Does this scenario become patently obvious even just by hearing what scientists and doctors have to say? You must believe and recognize that the end is near to you. And you must know the time you are living in.

Those who yearn for spiritual revival recognize the time. And they preach the gospel. To these people, our Lord will give everything He has. Just as the Lord said in His parable that the master would entrust his everything to his faithful servant, so will we receive everything that our Master has. We will receive the Kingdom of Heaven as well as the Millennial Kingdom, and then all His glory. But what will happen to those who do not believe in the coming end times and refuse to live for the gospel?

Let us turn to the Word here: *“But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his*

*coming,’ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 24:48-51).*

This verse is very descriptive which says, only death awaits such people who deny and disbelieve that this is the same time as that of Noah’s flood; who just eat and drink with their friends; who wreck havoc and destruction without care; and who live only for themselves, not caring whether other souls die or not, as if they have the conviction of, “Even if the planet is destroyed tomorrow, I will drink today and be merry.” God said that He will not only punish such unspiritual people severely, but even worse, He will cast them into hell. He will treat them like the Pharisees, saying to them sternly, “Your salvation has been cancelled. You will be appointed your portion with the hypocrites.” In other words, those



who do not serve the gospel will be treated in the same way as those who have not been born again.

In God's sight, the most ungrateful people are those who don't believe in His Word. Anyone who does not believe in the Word of God even after being born again is guilty of ingratitude. When the King speaks to His officers, they should all listen attentively. If they instead ignore the King and do not believe in His Word, then they are simply asking for His wrath to be poured out on them. The Bible says that these people will be weeping and gnashing their teeth that show contempt.

I am not saying that this will happen to you. You and I have already received the remission of sin. What I am saying, is that we must know and recognize the times we are living in, and we must stir up spiritual revival. Realizing that this very moment is the best time to preach the gospel to everyone who is dying from sin, we must not miss this opportunity. We must take full advantage of this window of opportunity and run the business of the gospel. Now

is the time for us to preach the gospel to all those around us, to our families, and to everyone scattered around the world, through whatever means that is available to us—through the Internet, through our printed books and e-books, through emails, and through our lips. It is time for us to kindle spiritual revival and save every soul by preaching this gospel.

That is my message in a nutshell. Those who yearn for spiritual revival are those who know and recognize what kind of age this present time is, who are faithful to God and who share the spiritual bread with God's people and those who still have not become God's people. You and I must stir up spiritual revival. And we must live by our spiritual faith. Even though right now we are living in this world without much power, God is still working through us. He is working through our sisters, through our brothers, through our students at the Mission School, through each department in the Church, and through every individual saint. In short, God is making each and every one of us labor to



spread and serve the gospel.

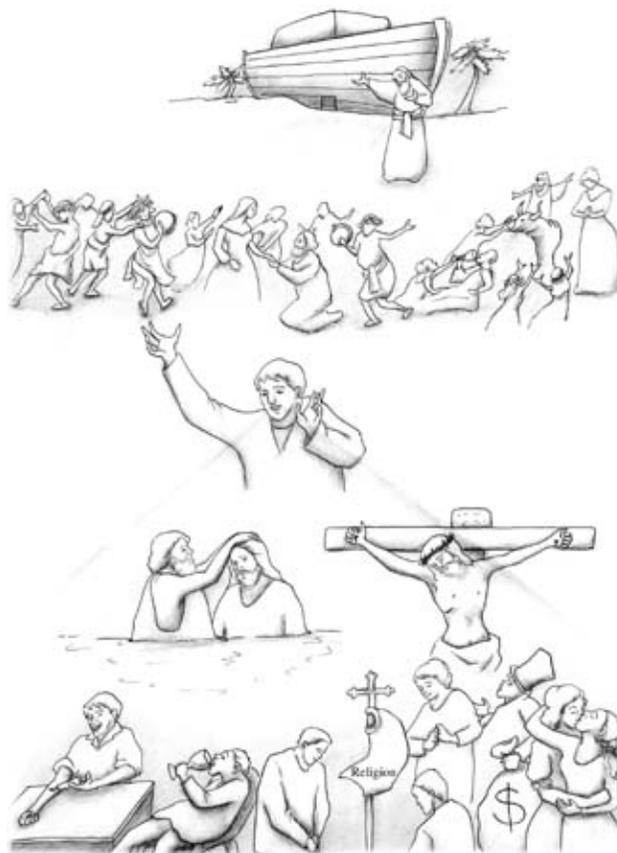
We are now kindling spiritual revival across the whole world, pooling our strengths from God's Churches throughout Korea and including the servants of God and His saints that are scattered all over the world. Remember God only works through us; we are His lips, His hands, His feet, and His body. Do not swerve from the pathway believe solidly, let us then with this firm faith and belief, spark the light of spiritual revival in these end times and keep it burning to the very end. Let us together set off spiritual revival all over the world. ☒



# CHAPTER

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# 25



## Foolish Christians and Wise Christians

< Matthew 25:1-12 >

**“Then the Kingdom of Heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ‘And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who**

**sell, and buy for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. ‘Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’”**

Hello everyone. How are you today? Today’s Scripture passage records that there were five wise virgins and five foolish virgins who went out to meet the bridegroom. Foolish virgins asked the wise virgins to share the oil with them because their lamps were going out. The wise virgins replied, *“No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.”* The bridegroom came while the foolish virgins went out to buy the oil, and the wise virgins that prepared the oil in their vessels were allowed to go with him into the wedding; and the door was then firmly shut.



The foolish virgins then returned back and said, *“Lord, Lord, open the door for us!”* But the Lord answered, *“Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.”* This is the main content of this passage.

In Christianity today there are two kinds of faith: A foolish faith and a wise faith. There are the foolish religious people in Christianity, and they are people who believe in Christianity as a religion. Whether Jesus has wiped away all the sins of the world or not is not of much interest to them. Rather, they just diligently do whatever their passion leads them to do. It is hard to deal with these people who are just sit there and patronize us. Here in this story the foolish virgins are diligently doing their best, but the Lord who is really the bridegroom, had already arrived. But even then, those foolish virgins were still making a fuss to purchase the oil.

Amongst many Christians today, there are those who bounce around like a spiritual butterflies going to this prayer center and that one, this Bible conference and that one, and each and every revival

meeting because they desire to be filled with religious passion. When they attend a revival meeting, they pound on the floor, clap their hands; create all kinds of commotion, sticking out their heads so that anyone in the meeting can pray with them, by laying on of hands. These people even go to the extreme measures by going deep into dark caves, kneeling on hard rocks, and praying out aloud from the top of their voices before God.

Ten virgins in today’s Scripture passage illustrate people within Christianity who believe in Jesus just on the surface. Who were these virgins waiting for? They were all waiting for Jesus, their bridegroom. They had to prepare something while they were waiting for their bridegroom. They had to prepare oil along with the lamps. If you pour oil into a lamp, without spilling and light a flame, the wick along with the oil would burn causing a light. As the wick sucks up the oil, the flame on the wick will burn the oil. Like this we ensure the flame will not go out, and the lamp illuminates brightly. But if you should light



the wick in a lamp that does not have oil, the flame just lights up once and then goes out again immediately. People within Christianity who believe in Jesus and follow Him as a tradition and or a religion are just like this. It is because they do not have the Holy Spirit residing in their hearts, as a result they need to change the wick often times.

This is especially true for those religious fanatics who believe in Christianity ‘as a religion’ burn up plenty of wicks everyday. When the wick is all burned up and charred, they turn up the wick and burn them once, twice, three times, four times, five times, and so on, continuously. For example, if the wick is 20cm long and we burn 1cm of it each day, we would burn up the wick in just 20 days. Thus we will need to get a new wick and replace it after the 20cm long wick has burned up. And then you will be able to burn it up for another 20 days with the new wick and so on. They will have to change the wick at regular intervals because by doing this they will be burning it up at least seven times a week, this would

include early morning prayer meetings, overnight prayer meetings, mid week worship services, Friday night worship services, Sunday morning worship services, and Sunday evening worship services. They will have to labor and change the wick so many times.

People who believe in Christianity as ‘a religionist’ go to church regularly; they also go to prayer centers whenever they are bored and to prayer meetings about once a month or once every three months. If they do not go to these meetings, they insist that they must go to revival meetings or to some other religious meeting. They become rather irritated and cannot bear the frustration any longer when they are unable do these things, this is because their wicks have burned up and the flame which cannot give light has gone out. They have to burn it up again and again because their passion has gone cold, the emotion has disappeared, and the stimulating feelings have also died. They have to continually find new wicks for their lamps to burn up



again.

That is the reason why they go to these emotionally filled meetings, get filled with new wicks for their emotions, return back to their respective churches, and burn them up again during worship services and prayer meetings, saying “Lord, I believe in You.” These types of Christians are like those who live only for the joy of the moment ‘by burning these wicks’. These are they who only seek the fulfillment of their emotions rather than that of God’s Word, and because of this tragic situation they will soon meet a religious impostor. This impostor will likely be a thief, or a robber, or a swindler and in the process lose everything they have.

## **Those Who Are Filled with Religious Passion Will Be Forbidden to Enter the Lord’s Kingdom**

Those foolish virgins in today’s Scripture passage

are like that. In this passage of scripture we see ‘Jesus the bridegroom’ has finally arrived, but they asked the wise virgins to share the oil because their lamps were going out. Is it possible to cut up the Holy Spirit within us ‘the truly born-again’ and share Him with other people like cookies? This is not possible. That is why the foolish virgins went out to purchase oil even on the day that their bridegroom was about to return. People who believe in Jesus today are chasing up their emotions even until up to the day of the Lord’s return. This is what the Lord is telling everybody.

If we should go to church, our first priority is to receive the remission of sin and receive the blessing of being born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Then as the result of receiving this awesome salvation, would there be oil inside our hearts or not? Yes there would be. In Scripture, the word ‘oil’ represents the Holy Spirit. Oil is the Holy Spirit that dwells inside a person who has received the remission of sin. The Holy Spirit dwells naturally



inside those who have received the remission of sin, but the foolish people just go on changing the wick everyday because they do not have the oil even though they have been going to church for years.

In today's Scripture passage it shows that people who have 'just religious passion' will be forbidden to enter the Kingdom of God when the Lord returns. Those who believe in Jesus should realize their status and become a wise virgin before God. Foolish virgins do not receive the remission of sins, and they do not have a firm conviction of their salvation. The Holy Spirit cannot come into their hearts due to sin that is embedded there, and the Lord will cast them away on the final day declaring, "*I do not know you.*" That is why these people need to prepare the oil as a matter of urgency before that day arrives. They need to prepare for it as soon as possible or immediately when they hear this gospel preached. Who knows when the Lord will arrive, and what shame it will be if they are not prepared for His coming.

I must be honest and say that at times, living in

this world is really not that enjoyable whether you have received the remission of sin or not. There are times when this life can become very wearisome, difficult, boring, and irritating. But despite these feelings, in verse 10 we read that the wise people have already prepared the oil. This means that they have prepared the oil beforehand. That is why they were eventually allowed to go inside into the wedding, that being, the Kingdom of Heaven. Then if is so, let us look through the Scriptures now and see how we should prepare the oil, that being the Holy Spirit.

## **Wise Faith Is the Faith That Has the Oil**

You need to prepare the oil like the wise virgins who were waiting for the bridegroom. The Holy Spirit is God; it is He who dwells inside a person after one receives the remission of sin. Then how are



the sins inside a person's heart removed? How can a person be born-again through the water and the Spirit? I will speak to you about this today. Today, I wish to speak about the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

In Matthew 3:13-17, we can see John the Baptist baptizing Jesus: *“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and are you coming to me?’ But Jesus answered and said to him, and then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’”*

We can see here, that when Jesus came to be baptized by John the Baptist, a descendant of the High Priest Aaron, born 6 months before Jesus. John the Baptist recognized Jesus, God's only begotten

Son, and at first, refused to baptize Him. So, Jesus commanded John the Baptist, saying, *“Permit it to be so now. You John shall baptize me, and there is one reason why you shall baptize me. It is for us to fulfill all righteousness.”* Here, “righteousness” means “justice, Godly justice,” and “all” means “every, whole.” And “for thus” speaks about Jesus taking upon Himself the sins of the entire humanity by being baptized by John the Baptist. John the Baptist baptized Jesus to wipe away all the sins of humanity. Jesus received the baptism to bear all the sins of the world.

The baptism here is also called the baptism by immersion. It means the same thing. Baptism by immersion implies transferring of sin by the laying on of hands and dying in the water, and the baptism of Jesus means Jesus receiving all the sins of humanity and washing away our sins by the laying on of hands. So we see the baptism and the laying on of hands are used to mean almost the same thing. So like this Jesus received the baptism, which is the



most proper method of fulfilling all the righteousness, to save every human being, from Adam to all the people until the end of the earth, from all the sins of their hearts and from all the sins that they actually commit in their lifetime.

## Concerning John the Baptist

Then who is this John the Baptist who baptized Jesus? To recognize Jesus as the Savior and believe in Him, we need to understand the witness of John the Baptist. Through the witnesses in the Scriptures we are now going to share, we will see that John the Baptist is an important person who cannot be dealt with lightly in our discussion of this important matter of our salvation. We need to fully recognize that John the Baptist was the greatest of those born to women (Matthew 11:11). He is the representative of this entire human creation. God by His great plan to save mankind sent John the Baptist to this world 6 months

prior to Jesus. Scriptures tell us that John the Baptist was the servant of God who was spoken about and prophesied about by the High Priest Zechariah, and he was also a descendant of Aaron (Luke 1:5). Let us now verify this through the Word that John the Baptist was actually the servant of God and not something that I have just pulled out of my mind, lets us read it together.

Matthew 11:11 says, *“Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he,”* and verse 14 says, *“And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.”* Also, Malachi 4:5-6 in the Old Testament says, *“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”*

We can also see in the Book of Malachi, that there



was a prior promise from God that He made to mankind through this prophet Malachi at the end of the Old Testament, and it was that of Him sending Elijah. However the words in the bible tell us that the prophet Elijah was already caught away. It was long after he had gone up to meet the Lord, riding in the chariot of fire. In fact Elijah had already been raptured whilst still alive. God said that He would again send this very Elijah. It would be easy for some people to think, “God is sending him back to the earth again because Elijah had not died a natural death in this world.”

Matthew 11:14 clearly tells us, *“And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.”* God clearly testifies that John the Baptist is in fact the prophet Elijah. Also in the Gospel of Matthew chapter 11 verse 11 states, *“Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.”* Furthermore in verses 12 through to 13 we read,

*“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.”* This means that the Old Testament really ends with John the Baptist. Then where does the New Testament begin and end? The New Testament begins with the first coming of Jesus, and it ends with Jesus returning back to this earth again.

The Matthew 11:12 states, *“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force,”* and “take it by force” implies “destruction by a violent force” and “robbery by a violent force” in the original text. It is easy for people to think that a humble and upright person shall enter the Kingdom of God, and not someone who is of a violent nature. But we need to always keep in mind that the Scriptures differ from our thinking. Here for example the meaning of the Scripture is very clear, and there is nothing wrong with it.



If this be the case then, we cannot help but ask the following question: “What did John the Baptist do that was so important that would allow us enter the Kingdom of God through faith from that point onwards?” This is very important for you to understand fully, it means that anyone who firmly believes in what ‘John the Baptist did on this earth’ and what ‘Jesus has done’ shall receive the remission of sin by faith and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

However we should know that those who believe ‘in Jesus as a religion’ would be forbidden to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Those who are ‘drunk with religion’ will not be allowed to enter to the Kingdom of Heaven. All what they are really about is to constantly feed their emotions, and they try by doing these things to satisfy their thoughts and feelings. They believe in Jesus simply as a religion, like Confucianism or Buddhism.

Therefore they are just pretending to be humble and upright, and on top of this continue with their usual prayers of repentance, mountain retreat prayers,

tithing, and volunteer services. They refuse to accept what John the Baptist had done in accordance with scripture, by coming as he did by ‘the way of righteousness’ and including the work that Jesus had accomplished. By these stubborn and disobedient acts, they throw away God’s will for their very lives all by themselves (Matthew 21:32, Luke 7:30). They are smug and satisfied with the fullness of themselves like drinking from a glass of drink called emotion, just like people who are intoxicated with alcohol. I could talk much about this in detail. But time is short, what I am saying is that a religious person does not accept what John the Baptist had done by his coming, which is ‘the way of righteousness’.

John the Baptist participated in the salvation work of Jesus that has fulfilled all righteousness by baptizing of Jesus, and by doing this he transferred all the sins of humanity onto Jesus. The word “righteous” mentioned here, means God’s righteousness. There are two kinds of



“righteousness.” One of them is human righteousness, and it means upright living and human goodness of protecting and caring for others. The other is God’s righteousness. When all the people of this world had fallen into sin by disobeying His commands, it was through God’s goodness and kindness towards us that has saved all humanity, by making them sinless through having His own Son take on all the sins of the world. God’s righteousness is the true righteousness.

If John the Baptist had not accomplished this work of transferring all the sins of humanity onto Jesus by baptizing Him, we would never have now become sinless people. If this were the case it would mean that we would still have sins embedded within our hearts, no matter how much we strive to believe in Jesus. That is why it is so important for us to know, that Jesus received the baptism to wash away all our sins. When we still have sins from God’s point of view, He does not just overlook this situation and say, “All your sins are washed away” or “You are the

righteous.” This is because God is a just God, and it is impossible for Him to lie.

God transferred all the sins of humanity onto Jesus through this just method of baptizing Jesus through John the Baptist whom He had chosen beforehand as the representative of all humanity. All the worlds’ sins have been perfectly washed away by His baptism, and the result is that we no longer have sin in our hearts. The Lord by this righteous Act has perfectly washed away all the sins of the world. After being baptized, Jesus became the sacrificial Lamb of God who carried the sins of all humanity to the Cross-as the result of one mans disobedience, (Rom 5:19).

We should fully understand these important words in John 1:29, “*Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,*” This is the testimony that John the Baptist shared with his disciples and with everyone in the world two days after he had baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.



## Twelve Kinds of Sin

At this time I would like to pause and ask all of you whether or not you admit before God's Word that all people, including yourselves were born with sin and are creatures that are unable to help but live committing sins. Mark 7 states, *"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man"* (Mark 7:21-23).

Then if we were reading correctly, would you agree that these kinds of sins are your hearts? Oh Yes indeed. Do you have lust in your heart? Yes. Do you have a heart of thievery? Yes. Is there anyone who has looked at another person's possession and not coveted after it? Yes. Is there anyone who has never deceived anybody? Yes. Is there anyone who has had thoughts of hatred toward another person and maybe killing that person? Yes. Have you ever had thoughts

of disobeying your parents and interfering with their lives? Yes. In your heart, and this is a big one, has there been any wickedness that desires to kill your parents and children in order to be the benefactors of their insurance payout? Yes, I am sure there is. Please understand and believe in the biblical truth that we are all people who have been born with these twelve kinds of sin before God.

God says in Isaiah 1:4 that we all are *"a brood of evildoers,"* and we live our whole life spilling out the twelve kinds of sin as stated in this verse. We must therefore be truthful about ourselves before God's Word. Have you sinned while living in this life from the time you were born until the age of 10? Yes. Are those sins included in the sins of the world that were transferred over to Jesus when He was baptized? Yes. Then, have you sinned from age 10 to 30? Yes. Those are the sins of the world too. Have they been transferred over to Jesus too? Yes. The sins you have committed in this world from the age 10 to 30 have been transferred over to Jesus also. Sins you have



committed from the age 40 to 70 are also the sins of the world. All those sins have been transferred over as well.

Because Jesus has taken upon Himself all the sins of humanity at once through the most appropriate method of receiving His baptism, God now gives salvation to those who believe in Jesus as their Savior. All our sins have been transferred to Jesus through the baptism received by John the Baptist in the form of ‘the laying on of hands’, and Jesus has given us new life by receiving the judgment of death, being nailed to the Cross, shedding His blood, dying on the Cross, defeating death, and being resurrected from the dead.

Many religious Christians today believe very strongly that they receive the remission of their sins whenever they offer ‘those miserable’ prayers of repentance. We need to stop here for a while and think about this; if Jesus is forgiving us each and every time we offer those prayers of repentances, then He has not completely forgiven all the sins of

the world as yet. In fact there are still so many sins people have yet to commit. People are creatures that cannot help themselves but commit sins until the day they pass away.

Therefore by having this false belief, all the righteousness has as yet not been fulfilled for those who try to get rid of their sins through this method. They do not believe in the fact that Jesus has taken upon Himself all the sins of the world. The Apostle Paul speaks about these very people in the Book of Romans; these people were ignorant of the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own righteousness (Romans 10:3).

## **God’s Will Aims at the Remission of Our Sins**

What do these last words uttered by the Lord “*It is finished*” mean before dying on the Cross? These words are very powerful and have the meaning that



Jesus had fulfilled all righteousness by receiving the full judgment and the punishment for all the sins of the world, when He took upon Himself through the baptism He received from John the Baptist. Jesus received the most appropriate method of baptism that God the Father had planned and He went down under the waters of the Jordan River. Jesus' by submerging Himself into these waters represents His death and when He came out of the water, this represents His resurrection and thereby bringing us believers back to life. What did God the Father say when Jesus was baptized? *"Then a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"* This is the witness of God the Father, and it has the meaning, "The One who has in the most appropriately way had the sins of the world transferred over to Him, He is My Son in whom I am well pleased, and the One who obeys the Father."

We shall now ponder on the Word taking our reading from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 7, which states, *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'*

*shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven"* (Matthew 7:21). Is there any Christian in this world who follows the Father's will perfectly? There will not be anyone who would be able to follow the will of God if it means obeying the Law through works. All human beings are frail and weak just like Peter, and we cannot do all these things according to God's will through works. Everyone including Peter, having the weak flesh, would in their hearts betray Jesus countless times, and would also live a life of continuously turning back from their sin.

But what is important is that the Lord has taken upon Himself all these sins and weaknesses. Through His baptism, Jesus has taken upon Himself all our sins, as well as all of humanity, which have, and still to commit in this world. That is why not one of Jesus' twelve disciples and including Apostle Paul had ever offered these prayers of repentance because of their sins. They had sometimes turned back from their wrongdoings after having realized "This is not



the right thing to do.” But there is no evidence that they had cried out and said, “Lord, please forgive my sin,” like those religious fanatics who do this whenever they get together, because they still have sins embedded in their hearts and are very afraid of going to hell.

Jesus has received the most appropriate baptism for all humanity. It was God’s will that Jesus came to this earth as a lowly person according to the command of God the Father, He had received all the sins of humanity at once through His baptism, by ‘the laying on of hands’ which John the Baptist performed in the Jordan River, and He then died on the Cross to terminate the judgment of sin. Jesus has saved us perfectly by obeying the will of God the Father, and now we are able to go to the Kingdom of Heaven by believing in Jesus the Savior with all our hearts according to the will of God the Father. We are now able to go to the Kingdom of Heaven by faith. This is what it means in Matthew 7, that we do God’s will and enter into God’s grace by faith, and

not by works.

The gospel of John Chapter 1, verses 6-7 states, “*There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came as a witness, to bear witness of that Light, that through him all men might believe.*” John the Baptist was the one who came to witness about Jesus. John the Baptist was the High Priest who had transferred all the sins of humanity over to Jesus. John the Baptist is still continuing to witness to the entire humanity these powerful words, “*Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*” (John 1:29) Those of us who believe in this can meet Jesus Christ through the witness of John the Baptist. In other words, we realize that “All our sins have been transferred over to Jesus” this is because John the Baptist has witnessed to us about Him.

We would not have been able to believe in Jesus as our Savior perfectly, if we had not had the testimony of John the Baptist who witnessed about Jesus Christ, the true Light. As the result of John the



Baptist, we are now able to get to know Jesus perfectly because of His baptism and also the Word of witness from John the Baptist. Jesus and John the Baptist have perfectly completed the work of the salvation for us so that we may never be considered as a sinner before God, even if we do commit sins in the future.

## Preach the Gospel

The baptism that Jesus had received at the beginning of His public life was the beginning of the work of our salvation. Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery, *“Neither do I condemn you”* (John 8:11), and this means “You do not have sin because I have even taken this sin of yours upon myself.” Jesus shared the gospel of the remission of sins for three years, like this example recorded in the bible; He shed His blood, died on the Cross for the judgment of sin and was resurrected on the third day,

was lifted up to Heaven, thereby perfectly accomplishing our salvation. Those who believe in this gospel get to receive the remission of sins and become wise people of faith who have prepared the oil, that being the Holy Spirit, inside their hearts. We have come to meet Jesus through the witness of John the Baptist, and we have come to put on all righteousness by believing in all that He has done for our salvation.

Now as His righteous people, like the parable of the wise virgins awaiting the bridegroom, we shall likewise spread the blessed Word of being born again through the water and the Spirit to all people in this world for the rest of our lives with faith, and doing the will of God the Father. The Lord commands us, *“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season”* (2 Timothy 4:2). ☒



## **Place Your Heart in The Gospel of the Water And the Spirit**

< Matthew 25:1-13 >

**“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ‘And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be**

**enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. ‘Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’” Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”**

I hope you have your bibles open for today’s message, this passage of Scripture tells us a story about the Lord’s second coming, and we are all no doubt well acquitted with this story. It tells us here that when the Lord returns back to this earth, there will be ten virgins, five of whom will be foolish but the other five wise. So we see here in this parable that five foolish virgins took their lamps, but without oil, but the other five virgins made sure that their



lamps were filled with oil. They slumbered and slept while waiting for the bridegroom, who took a long time in coming. But when they eventually heard the call “Behold the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!” they all arose immediately and prepared their lamps.

The foolish virgins then spoke to the wise virgins, *“Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.”* The wise virgins responded to them saying, *“No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.”* When they had left that place and went out to find and purchase ‘this oil’, the bridegroom arrived and entered the wedding feast with those who were prepared and waiting. After they all went in, the door then was firmly closed. These foolish virgins returned back later, and cried out frantically, “Lord, Lord, open to us!” Then the Lord replied, *“Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”* Even though the

door had been firmly closed, these foolish virgins urged the Lord, *“Lord, Lord, open to us!”*

The foolish virgins mentioned here refer to those religious runners who obstinately and steadfastly hold onto their false religious beliefs, even when they are told about the true gospel. They keep working hard at this false faith. So we see they actually went out to search for and purchase oil for their lamps, when they returned and frantically knocked and shouted that the door be opened for them, even after the Lord had already arrived and received the wise virgins, and the door to Heaven had been firmly closed.

If you really desire to know what true faith is, you should know that it is putting your whole faith in the Lord who saved us completely and perfectly by taking on all of our sins through His baptism, shedding His blood on the Cross, receiving all of the judgment for these sins, and being resurrected. Even though this gospel is all true and displayed for all to see in the bible, the legalistic Christians on the other



hand keep trying to do things virtuously on their own.

What is real faith then? Real faith is to believe that the Lord has already eliminated all of our sins. What is real belief? Real belief is to believe that He has already eliminated all our sins. It is definitely not receiving forgiveness for our sins on a daily basis and trying hard not to commit sins everyday; a person who has received the remission of sins through faith of believing that the Lord has already accomplished it, that He has eliminated all our sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit, is the one who has the real faith and real belief.

In this parable there are the foolish and the wise virgins, five in each group. The foolish ones are so foolish that they keep on trying to do things all on their own. They continually do things to receive recognition of their faith before God and to receive the remission of their sins. But the wise ones were not like that. They prepared the oil first and quietly carried out the entrusted work by faith. There is a

saying in Christianity that goes, “A religious runner races rapidly, but the faithful runner wins the race.” Like this we the true faithful believers are spreading this gospel to the whole world by faith.

But sadly a large number of Christians in this world who have not been truly born again, do not believe and reject this gospel, which is so plain to see in the bible that the Lord came to this earth and eliminated all their sins, they continually to ‘prepare’ all on their own, by putting their own righteousness first and foremost, and by doing this they intend to please the Lord with their audacious wills. But Praise be to the Lord who is the Healer and the Savior who loves us so very much. What is there on this earth that we can do to please Him?

When it comes to the matter of receiving salvation, we have to believe that God has saved us the true believers perfectly. Real salvation is to believe that the Lord has given you and me new life by taking upon Himself your sins and mine and cleansing them through His baptism, receiving the



judgment, dying, and being resurrected. There is nothing else that pleases the Lord more than a lost soul receiving true salvation by faith. What is ‘foolishness’ in the Christian faith? ‘Foolishness’ says we will not believe in this gospel message of the water & Spirit, and not wanting to solve all things by having faith in the Truth but instead trying to earn our own salvation.

Why are these ‘Christians’ regarded as foolish people? We will see this in reading from verse 3, *“Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them.”* It says that the foolish had their lamps but failed to fill it with oil. Why do we have to have oil? Oil essentially allows the lamp to give light after the oil has been poured into the reservoir. Therefore this parable it is easy to understand when it says that the foolish brought their lamps with but did not have any oil. Like this these foolish Christians attend church religiously, but the Holy Spirit is not found in their hearts. They are unable to receive the remission and cleansing of their sins through the

gospel of the water and the Spirit, which they have rejected.

The Holy Spirit governs, keeps and guides us, and it teaches us to perceive the Word and blesses us. The Holy Spirit defends us from Satan and in all our weaknesses because He is living within us. It is foolish for Christians not to have the Holy Spirit in their hearts, let alone attend church and still unable to receive the cleansing of their sins because they do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The Holy Spirit cannot dwell in these people’s hearts because they could neither receive the cleansing of their sins nor solve their problems of sin by faith. The Holy Spirit can only reside in sinless hearts. Therefore as the result of this stubborn false faith they become foolish people, with no oil in their lamps.

A person with a lamp without oil is a person that goes to church but is devoid of the Holy Spirit, and a person without the Holy Spirit is not one of God’s people. How can people be one of God’s people if



they do not have the Holy Spirit? When these kinds of people go through and suffer all kinds of difficulties; they cannot be clothed in kindness from God because they do not belong to Him.

In this parable we see that the foolish virgins had taken their lamps with them, but did not take oil. This shows us that they believed in Jesus and belonged to their respective Christian communities, but they could not receive true salvation. Why is it so? It is because they are living false religious lives without having the true faith, and have not clothed themselves in the power of the gospel that the Lord has given. Although they believe in God they are trying to earn their own salvation by doing things in their own strength.

Let me give an example, let's say a large ship was hit by a huge tidal wave and you accidentally fell overboard and found yourself floundering in the vast unkind cold ocean. Would it be possible for you to hold onto the ship even if you were the strongest person alive? If you know ships there in nothing to

hold onto except to get away from being sucked under and being ripped apart by the large propellers.

There is no way of being able to get back on board unless someone would assist you. Likewise you would receive salvation by someone on the ship assisting you and pulling you on board again. I don't know if you have ever been on a ship. But no matter how small the ship is, once you have fallen overboard, I am sure it will be impossible for you to get back in. It is very difficult and you will struggle unless someone helps you. In the case of a large ship, it is virtually impossible for you to get back on board on your own. It is only possible if someone on deck were to let down a line or a life preserver to pick you up and pull you in. Legalistic Christians are spiritually blind and do not realize what they are doing is wrong, but instead they foolishly plod on in 'their own way of receiving salvation' all the while living out false religious lives

In Genesis 40, there is a story about the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in



the prison. And each of them had a dream. In their dream, each of them was reinstated, and once again they were able to go before the Pharaoh. The baker loaded on top of his head three white baskets with all kinds of baked goods on top of them, and came before the king. And the butler took the grapes as they were and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand. Later, the baker died, but the butler was restored.

If we continue trying to please the Lord through our own thoughts and strength, it will then become impossible to live out our faith properly. We cannot lead a proper life of faith if we do this. If we ignore this awesome gospel trying to lead a life of faith through our own thoughts and stubbornness, it will ruin us spirituality. When a false medical practitioner carelessly opens up a person's stomach in an attempt to cure a patient's illness instead of trying to treat the disease, his patient's very life would be put into danger. Similarly if liars who believe 'only in the blood of the Cross' claim to have no sin and spread

this untruth will be ruined along with all who would be caught up in their false teachings.

We should believe in the biblical truth that the Lord has saved us through the water and the Spirit, and we should also reflect on these questions; Did I really believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, or did I believe in Jesus while thinking that I could receive the remission of my sins through the blood of the Cross alone? Therefore we must ask ourselves these questions. Also to include these questions; "Where was my heart? What did I hold onto? What did it accept?" If your heart did not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and if the gospel of the water and the Spirit was not placed inside your heart, you have as yet not been truly saved.

If people confirm by saying they have tried hard to lead a life of faith in accordance with the Word of God, have not heard or believed in or have rejected His gospel of the water and the Spirit, then they have led a false religious life thus far. If they should



continue in this way they would be serving God in vain, all their strength would be consumed due to all the troubles and difficulties they would be experiencing, and the road ahead will become one of many troubles and trials. They would be unable to enjoy peace of mind because they do not have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. So we can now see people like this lead a false religious way of life.

They have become pitiful people who ask the Lord continuously to open the door of Heaven, even after He has closed the door. So the question will be posed, do you truly have the right kind of faith in your heart? Today as I speak we find two kinds of gospels in the world: These are the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and the gospel of believing only in the blood of the Cross-as the only complete atoning sacrifice for sin. The question we need to ask ourselves is; which of the two do we believe in. The one in which you have believed in is where you have placed your faith in.

Theories by and large are compatible with each

other. This means that our hearts can also take in any kind of knowledge that may contain conflicting information. But the Truth, the object of faith is exclusive. If you first believe in something as the Truth, other things cannot enter your heart, even though it is proved to be the ultimate Truth. There are two gospels today, one is the truth and the other one is false, and we have to decide which one we will believe in. Which one should we plant our hearts in? There should therefore be no question about this anymore; the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the ultimate definitive biblical truth.

Many Christians today throughout this world are living a false religious way of life. Jesus said there were ten virgins, five wise and five foolish. The foolish virgins went out from them to search for and to purchase oil. The meaning of this parable means that they were doing things to earn their own salvation. In the bible the word oil implies the Holy Spirit. Therefore we need to ask this question, is it possible to purchase the Holy Spirit? There is no way



that anyone could purchase the Holy Spirit. Tell me; is it possible to purchase the Holy Spirit of God with money? In the Book of Acts there was this man who had tried to purchase the Holy Spirit. After he had witnesses Paul and Philip perform miracles, he thought that he could also have this extraordinary power, so he decided that he would try and buy this power with money. Would this be possible? No definitely not!

The Holy Spirit can never be bought with money, and it is also not possible by living diligently and by uttering a lot of prayers. Would you be able to receive the Holy Spirit by offering all those many prayers of repentances, and would He listen and respond? Would He come into your heart if you were joyful? Continually living your false religious lives as you have been doing in the past? By having believed in Jesus for a long time? By speaking in tongues and serving the Lord as well as you can? By believing only in the blood of the Cross-as the only atoning sacrifice for our sins?

The answer to all these questions is a big No! We need to have the definitive biblical knowledge that the Holy Spirit will come into your hearts only by having faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, or in other words, only by believing that all of your sins were transferred to Jesus and you were therefore cleansed by having faith in His baptism and being resurrected with Him by faith. You must arrive at the full righteous Act the Lord accomplished for us.

There are many people among Christians today who are just like the foolish virgins. They are like these brides having absolutely no clue as to what their husbands demand. This parable clearly tells us that the Lord will come to take brides who are not like those foolish ones and who have oil in their lamps. Those who know the gospel of the water and the Spirit spread it until the day the Lord comes, and are faithful even in little things, these are the wise brides who have the lamps filled with the oil, and the Lord will receive them.

In the Parable of the Talents the Lord told the



servant who had been given five talents and made five more, *“You were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things”* (Matthew 25:23). This tells us that spreading the gospel is actually a small thing. It is a small thing to have delivered what God had given me to someone else exactly as I had received it. However the servant who had received one talent did not do as he was told. He just gave back what he had been given. “I have taken good care of it. I buried it in the ground. I did it because I knew all about you, here it is.” This kind of person is not faithful in God’s work and will not be able to enter the Kingdom of Heaven when the groom arrives, he is just like the foolish virgins.

Brothers and sisters, it is very important that we all believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. How did the wise virgins behave? They stored additional oil in jars and carried them along with their lamps. This tells us that they stored for themselves the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which God had given them and all mankind in their

hearts. They worked with the Church including the brothers and sisters, being united together serving the Lord.

Before I was born again, I had believed for ten long years only in the blood of the Cross as the only complete atoning sacrifice for sin, but all the while having sin embedded in my heart. Do you think that during this time that I had merely believed in Jesus in a poor way, just like those legalistic Christians? Let me tell you that I really had believed in Jesus well. Do you think that I had very limited knowledge of the Bible then?

On the contrary I had all the knowledge much like the so-called learned Bible Preachers today, but excepting for the knowledge of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. It was not of not knowing the Bible, I had all the theological knowledge but unfortunately there had been no proper faith in my heart. There obviously had been sins in my heart back then. At first I thought that I had already received the remission of my sins, but it became



apparent later that there had been sins in my heart. Actually to be frank there had been sins in my heart because I had not known about the gospel of the water and the Spirit. But like all who reject this gospel, I had held onto the Lord in my own way then, and resolved never to let go.

In hindsight I should have had let go of my firm intent. It would have been right for me to hope that the Lord would save me, and that I should have believed in just what He had done. My salvation could not be whole because I had not known about the Truth but instead had been holding onto the Lord in my own strength. I did believe in Jesus, but my salvation could not be complete. So I tell you that salvation can never be attained by believing in the blood of the Cross alone, as the only atoning sacrifice for sin. Believe me, these are not my words. They are the definitive Words of the Bible.

To be honest those who believe only in the blood of the Cross like this and claim that they have received the remission of their sins have an amazing

enthusiasm, and their emotions are so full that they boil over. But as time goes by, those things they are chasing get proven to be nothing. The Bible tells us not to put leaven in the grain offering to be given before God. And it goes on to say that we should eat the unleavened bread. Now if you add leaven and mix it into the dough, it rises and becomes larger. The outer appearance grows larger but really it is nothing. If the leavened loaf of bread is not eaten and left alone it will go off and be unfit to eat. We need to know here that God will not accept bread that has leaven in it.

However on the other hand, the unleavened bread stays the same and will not go off even after time has gone by. That is because this bread is not spoiled very easily. So like this example, I thought I had believed in Jesus properly by believing in only the blood of the Cross. I had been sure that I had received the remission of my sins like so many who believe in the same way I did. As time went by, and I had to contend with mounting trials and problems as



this belief wore me down and evaporated. The problem was that whenever I committed a sin, I became more of a sinner before God. So we see with this false belief and faith by becoming a sinner again after having committed a sin is not salvation. These two kinds of faith, believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and believing only in the blood of the Cross, are very different.

However on the surface there appears to be a slight difference between the two. But the result of this difference shows a striking contrast. Just as you cannot see one another if a sheet of paper is placed between the two of you, this seemingly small difference between the two the gospels brings about a large difference in the result.

Before I came to know this beautiful gospel of the water and the Spirit, I had sins embedded in my heart no matter how fervently I had believed in Jesus. I then became a real sinner after having believed in Jesus for a long time. I had like so many Christians spoken in tongues, seen visions, created commotions,

been loyal, and done everything that was to be done but sadly, I was still a sinner before God.

I could not but remain a sinner because I could not but commit sins everyday. During the first years as a Christian my heart was at peace whenever I had offered prayers of repentance after having sinned. But after a while I sinned again, and as before continued to offer up those prayers of repentance, so I believed that my heart was at peace as if my sins, which I had prayed about, had been removed.

However I continued in this trend for three years, and by the fifth year my sins were still embedded there even after having offered so many of these repentance prayers. I was getting very, very frustrated. No matter how hard I had tried, sins in my heart did not disappear.

During this time an evil spirit paid me a visit. I was unable to visually see the Devil, but he spoke into my ear, “Hey you! You have sinned, haven’t you? You have sinned, huh?” It was so agonizing because I had been suffering in pain for some time



due to the sins that were embedded in my heart even though I had offered countless repentance prayers. Brothers and sisters, I want you to think about this for a second. There was no one there, and I could not see anything or anybody. But I heard this voice that definitely was not my own. He said, “You have sinned, haven’t you? You have sinned, huh?” Would you go crazy or wouldn’t you? My conscience was pierced to the point of death. I had believed in the blood of Jesus on the Cross and in Jesus as my Savior, but the reality was that my sins did not disappear.

I had offered prayers of repentance, believed in the Word, believed in the blood of the Cross-, and acknowledged all the rest of the Word of God. But my sins were recorded in my heart as if they had been written on with an iron pen and engraved on the tablet of my heart with the point of a diamond (Jeremiah 17:1). I had so desired to live as a man without sin, but sadly the truth was that I had sins, so with this before me I felt embarrassed to look at

people. “How can I look at them?” If someone looked at me, I was ashamed to look at the heavens. There is a Korean poet who said he would like to live a life without shame toward heaven. I think may be he had felt that way also because he too had sins.

Before I was truly born again, my conscience had suffered a lot of agonies because of my sins even while I had believed in Jesus. So I had tried everything imaginable in order to solve my sin problem. I had even gone so far as deciding to commit suicide. Because of this experience I am therefore able and qualified to say these kinds of things to you. I am able to also teach you to discern whether your faith is right or not when you try to lead your life of faith by stirring up your emotion or experiencing those spiritual commotions.

I can also tell those who are drenched in legalistic faith, what it means to believe in God and the gospel of the water and the Spirit, to really give themselves over to God, and to lead a proper life of faith.

When I did not know the gospel of the water and



the Spirit, there were sins in my heart. However, when I read the following passage, “*Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he allowed Him*” (Matthew 3:15), I came to realize through this powerful Act and words of Jesus that He had there in the Jordan River fulfilled all righteousness, by being baptized.

Through this passage I thought, “Oh I see. All righteousness has been fulfilled. All the sins of the world have been transferred to Jesus. John the Baptist had transferred all the sins to Jesus. Jesus has taken away all the sins of humankind at once through John the Baptist. And He had received the judgment of sin on the Cross. He has truly become our living Savior and God by being resurrected from the dead.” Through these words, I came to know that the Lord has received all your sins and mine when He was baptized.

When Jesus had received baptism from John the Baptist, all of the sins of the world were transferred to Him. Through these words, I came to recognize,

“Oh I see. Jesus has already taken charge of all my sins. He has received the judgment for those sins. There is no sin in me then. God has made us His children. Jesus has truly become our Savior.” Right after that, sins that were in my heart, that is all the sin that had been recorded in my heart, were cleansed completely without a trace. From that time on, I was able to look at people without shame, face people without spite, and do what is right. And my life itself truly became worthwhile. I was so very grateful and glad from then on. We are now glad and happy in the Lord, praying without ceasing, and being thankful in all things.

A life of religion and a life of faith are two opposing ways. There are a large number of people throughout the world living out a false religious way of life. In Pakistan, one of our faithful coworkers believed in this gospel and preached it to several people in the area he was staying. We are informed that the people who were preached too became truly saved and believed in this gospel and received the



remission of their sins through him. While he was spreading this gospel, he happened to cross paths with some Christian leaders there and started sharing this wonderful gospel with them. At first they were delighted to hear it and even commented that it was a wonderful ‘doctrine’. But they soon began to become irritated and responded angrily.

Being somewhat angry over their words and patronizing attitude our brother replied, “This gospel of the water and the Spirit is not a doctrine! It is the ultimate Truth!” This brother was young and those he was conversing with were much older, being Doctors of theology and pastors. They told our young Brother, “You’re no doctor, and you are young without any Bible background. How could you be teaching us the Word?” He replied, “I’m young and have not been educated much, but this is not a Christian doctrine. It is not of any special doctrine. This is the Truth. I am in your eyes ignorant in theology, but I believe that it is right that all of our sins have been eliminated through the gospel of the

water and the Spirit, for the Word of God is the Truth.”

The difference between a life of faith of believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and a life of religion pursuing one’s own fervor is the same as that of between the wise virgins and the foolish virgins. The foolish virgins are those who go on living a false religious life, and they think that salvation and attaining perfection before God is earned through their own strength. Those who stubbornly go out to purchase the oil are people who are devoid of the Holy Spirit.

Brothers and sisters do not think that you can purchase the Holy Spirit by doing something. Do not even give it a thought that you can receive the Holy Spirit by diligently living out a life of religion and going to church.

People say you can be born again in your dreams, while praying, after hearing sermons, or in many other ways, but the fact is that you can only be born again by believing in the gospel of the water and the



Spirit. The Apostle Peter says that you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable seed, which is the Word of God that lives and abides forever (1 Peter 1:23). He also said, *“There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism”* (1 Peter 3:21). The Lord came to this earth as our Savior, died on the Cross, and was resurrected from the dead by taking charge of all the sins of humankind through His baptism by John the Baptist at the age of 30, and by this righteous Act, was able to truly become our Savior.

What kind of heart do you have? And what kind of faith do you have? By chance, were you not in a state of believing only in the blood of the Cross? And when you heard about the gospel of the water and the Spirit, did you not just add it to what you had believed before? Do you believe that Jesus has saved you only through the blood of the Cross? If you now clearly believe that Jesus is your Savior, should you not have denounced and disposed of your old imperfect gospel? And have you completely accepted

the gospel Truth when you heard about the gospel of the water and the Spirit that has saved you completely? You have to think about this important matter one more time. If you have believed in only the blood of the Cross so far, you have to come to the knowledge that it is a false belief. And in your heart, you have to again hold onto the truth that the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the only definitive complete gospel and believe in it.

It is written in the Bible, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Your false religious life is an old thing, and your life of faith after knowing the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the new and the true one. Just as the Lord says that you cannot pour new wine in old wineskins, likewise you will be unable to let the gospel of the water and the Spirit and your old belief coexist together in your heart.

Therefore believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and believing only in the Cross are not



compatible with each other. The new saved ones are those who have the correct faith before God, as it is written, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Where is your heart located? Is it located in the place of the sinners or in the place of the righteous? Is it in the place of believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? Or is it in the place of believing in only the blood of the Cross? Whether or not you have received salvation is determined in what direction your heart is positioned. Where your heart is located is very important. How about you then? How about all the people in the world? Tragically today many people’s hearts are in the place of only believing in the Cross-as the only complete atoning sacrifice for sin.

Therefore no matter how hard they try, they can neither please God nor receive blessings from Him with a faith like this. From henceforth they have to not only do a paradigm shift but also turn around

from the way they have believed and place their full trust and faith in the truth. This is the only Truth. This one is perfect the old one is imperfect. Therefore they should confess, “I will believe in the gospel of the water from now on and in the Spirit which is perfect.” Their heart should be moved from an imperfect location to a perfect one.

This is what Matthew 25 was talking about. You must believe in the salvation that the Lord had already accomplished for all of us through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We have to believe in the salvation that was completed in the past perfect tense. It declares that all of our sins had been eliminated and that anyone can be totally saved just by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. It is not right to work hard and determine to do one thing or another in order to earn salvation in the present tense. We have to believe that all of our sins had already been eliminated long ago. We must believe in the Savior Jesus Christ who has saved us by coming to this earth, receiving all our sins by receiving the



baptism from John the Baptist, then taking charge of it, carrying all the sins of the world, receiving the judgment of sin by going to the Cross, being nailed to it, dying, and being resurrected from the dead. We have to believe in the salvation that Jesus has already accomplished completely.

Those who have not received salvation as yet should pray like this: “Lord I have not yet received the remission of my sins. Please save me.” They have to acknowledge that they have yet to place the gospel of the Truth in their hearts and sincerely pray to God that He should save them. And they have to move the focus of their heart to the gospel of the water and the Spirit. You should have the knowledge and belief that Jesus had already taken away all your sins back then when He had received His baptism, shed His blood on the Cross, was resurrected from the dead, and thus through this righteous Act saved you. You must hold fast and believe in this truth.

People who believe like this and choose to unite with God’s Church are those who have prepared the

oil and their lamps. Fleshly speaking, we seem filthy and lowly at times because we are very weak in doing everything to serve the work of the Lord after becoming truly born again and believing in the truth. It is nevertheless despite this; wise to expand the Kingdom of God while humbling our hearts and keeping in step with the Holy Spirit, pursuing peace, loving one another, uniting in one purpose serving the Lord, and thereby receiving blessings. Saints like these are none other than the true people of God, being the wise virgins.

As the result of Adam and Eve falling into sin, they hid themselves among the trees in the Garden of Eden, the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, “*Where are you?*” (*Genesis 3:9*) Like this scene in the Bible, the question is posed; Where is your heart now? Is it with the sinners? Is it with the righteous? Is the gospel of the water and the Spirit in your heart? Is your heart holding steadfastly onto it? Or is it clinging onto the blood of the Cross alone for your salvation?



Every person is a precious person, but who are the foolish? It is those people who have locked up in their hearts and deny the correct answer, and sadly this makes up for most people in the world today.

It is extremely frustrating for us when we see and encounter people like this. There are a huge number of churches in the world that are serving God mixed with superstition, making a lot of noise and commotion like the ‘shamans’ seeking after there good fortune. If you should speak to them, even if it is only a few words, you will find that their countenances of hypocrisy are so dirty that it will lead you to the point of becoming sick. They pretend to be clean before the righteous, even though they have heaped upon themselves sins that are filthier than pig’s dung. They are so despicable that you would want to be shoving them away, saying angrily “Get away from me! Go and clean your crap-like sins before coming back.” Their faith is not even faith. They do not acknowledge the Word of God, but instead just make a huge fuss by speaking in tongues,

brag that they have the gift to heal, casting out demons, and dazzling people’s eyes. I tell you this what they are doing is a big fraud in front of God.

Some time ago, a former magician named James Randi came to Korea and appeared on a television program called “James Randi Paranormal Challenge.” He declared, “There are no paranormal powers that cannot be proven scientifically.” He said that he would be testing and examining people all over the world who perform wonders or miracles and would give \$1,000,000 to those who could really perform them. There are also a large number of such false prophets in our country Korea, who claim that they could heal diseases if they were to pray by ‘the laying on of their hands.’ James Randi said that if someone among them were to cure the disease of a really ill person, he would give that person USD1,000,000. So inevitably the TV programs started to send this challenge into our country, but it was soon revealed that there was not a single person who had these paranormal powers. In fact there was



not a single person in the entire world that could be found. So it was proved what these people were claiming was indeed all a fraud.

One ridiculous man was able to stick coins to his chest, but that too was a fraud. It was found that this man had an oily skin, and he also perspires a lot, this resulted in the coins getting stuck onto his chest. So it was proved that there was not a single person on this planet that really had that kind of power. So in the end James Randi kept the USD1,000,000, as no one could prove beyond a doubt that they could do this. Anyone who claims that they can perform wonders or miracles, are lying through their teeth. The truth is that demons are in fact working inside of them.

These people keep on saying, “I will heal your diseases” but in reality nothing gets cured at all. All the so-called psychic healers in our country who are renowned for having the gift of healing were invited on this TV-program, to demonstrate their techniques for all to see, but they were also proved to be frauds and liars. And in the end they even acknowledged

that they had failed in front of all who were watching.

Christians who believe only in the blood of the Cross are mere religious runners. They are the foolish. They are continually trying to earn their salvation in their own strength. The biblical truth is that the Lord has already saved them long ago, but they do not believe the Scriptures. That is why they are continually offering those miserable repentance prayers with the mindset that these sins would be removed if they do these things. True genuine faith is to believe that our sins have already been eliminated, through His full righteous Act. Actually knowledge and belief according to the Truth is faith; it is not true faith to think that you can change yourself through self-discipline. Doing this is not the Truth. Actually to be honest, it is so easy to have true faith.

Brothers and sisters, let’s say there is a beautiful flower in front of you. It is known as a ‘gladiolus.’ Faith is finding out that this flower is in fact called a ‘gladiolus’ and accepting it as it is, saying, “Oh, that



flower is called ‘gladiolus.’” Faith is to perceive the Truth and to believe in it as it is. Therefore, to have faith is not difficult at all. Faith is to know and to believe that the Lord has saved you from sin through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Is that right or not? Is it difficult? Do you believe it in your heart? Do you know that the Lord has saved you through the gospel of the water and the Spirit? And do you believe it?

If you intend to follow the Lord, you have to deny your thoughts and desires. But still there are foolish people who stubbornly hold steadfastly onto their old wrong line of faith. They do not desire to abandon their evil ways, by confirming that this gospel is the definitive truth. After they have heard this truth they say that how is it possible that they have been locked into a false gospel, and that they have been wrong for all this time. They then say, “Ha, you have been secretly and cunningly moving into this direction. You can’t do that! Oh, so now I see, I have believed incorrectly for so long now.” You have to confess

your wrongful ways of faith that way. You have to deny yourself. You must confess, “I have believed incorrectly all my life until now, and I had misunderstood the bible.” The Bible says, “*When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. My vitality was turned into the drought of summer*” (Psalm 32:3-4). David said that the Lord’s hand was heavy upon him because he did not confess. You have to give up your ways and admit that you had believed incorrectly, understood incorrectly, and now have come to a correct understanding. And you have to hold fast onto the truth by faith.

The question of where your heart is placed is extremely important. The movements of the heart cannot be seen with the naked eye, but they bring about huge results. The human heart is always moving, even though it cannot be seen with our eyes. It is an amazing fact that faith changes and salvation is determined according to where you have placed your heart? You must therefore place your heart in



the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only by doing this will you attain the approval from God. It is only when we move into this truth, does the effect of Jesus having eliminating your sins and mine come true within us. Are these words true or not? If you refuse to make your heart belong to the Lords gospel of the water and the Spirit, which He gave us, then there can be no works in your heart.

Works arise only if we move our heart onto the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The Lord accomplishes the works only if we make up our mind and move our heart to the gospel of the Truth by confessing, “Up until now, I have believed and understood incorrectly, but now I will move my heart to this gospel Truth.” The Holy Spirit then only comes into our heart. Even if there is no feeling of sensation in your heart, from that moment on, you are God’s children. This is now possible because you have no sin in your heart, for the gospel of the water and the Spirit has eliminated them.

I will spread this gospel throughout the entire

world. The churches and Christians in our country, have to also put their heart on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. There are more people who are aware of and have some knowledge of this gospel but have as yet not placed their heart in it. I think it is because the gospel of the water and the Spirit is unfamiliar to them.

By the way, the most demonic people in Christianity are those who believe in the blood of the Cross-as the only complete atoning sacrifice for sin, and then say that they have no sins. How is it possible that their sins could disappear when they believe in only the blood of the Cross-like this? God said it clearly that a person can only enter His Kingdom, by being born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The Lord Himself said that in 1 John 5, “*This is He who came by water and blood. And the Holy Spirit, the water, and the blood agree as one*” (1 John 5:6-8). God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is one God. God the Father sent His only begotten Son to this earth, transferred



the sins of humankind to His Son through John the Baptist, had Him bear all our sins, made Him shed His blood of salvation to atone for all those sins by receiving judgment, and was resurrected from the dead to become our true Savior and the God.

Jesus Christ is your God of salvation as well as my God of salvation. But I will continue to fight against all those liars in the world who say that they have no sins even though they continue to claim and believe only in the blood of the Cross. “You fools! The history of Christianity is approximately 2,000 years old. Has there ever been a single person (excluding the early church members) who had actually become sinless by believing only in the blood of the Cross? Never! There has not even been one. There has not been a single person in this world past and present, whose sins had been removed just by believing only in the blood of the Cross. Only after spreading of the gospel of the water and the Spirit have people throughout the whole world arisen for the first time, claiming to be without sin by faith

with a clear conscience.

If it appears like we can after all receive the remission of our sins by only believing in the blood of the Cross-, then there is nothing else for us to do. But this is not the case at all, and sadly, not a single person in this world would be found who does not believe in this false gospel in some form or another.

There is not a single person who does not believe that Jesus has cleansed all sin by shedding His precious blood. Everyone in the whole world knows this. How about you and me then? I believe that there are those living amongst you, who had believed only in the blood of the Cross-for a very long time, but then after hearing and believing in the true gospel, changed their hearts and placed their faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. However, these people need to confess that their old faith was wrong, saying, “That was wrong. The gospel of the water and the Spirit is the truth! And the Lord has saved me through this gospel of the water and the Spirit. He has made me free of sin by receiving baptism and



shedding His blood on the Cross. He has taken all my sins through His baptism and saved me through His blood on the Cross.” They must change their heart by making confessions like this.

You and I must believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit wholeheartedly. If you had believed in just the blood of the Cross, which is not the gospel of the water and the Spirit, you must admit that it was an incorrect faith, and then turn around and believe that only the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the definitive truth. If you have made a decision in your heart, that “salvation does not come through the blood of the Cross alone,” then you must know that this fraudulent gospel can never become the Truth. And as you believe in your heart that “the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the gospel of Truth,” you will then become God’s people through your faith, being approved wholly by Him. When you have fully become children of faith, the Holy Spirit will walk with you, you will receive the guidance of God, and you will be changed like the rising sun.

I thank God that the Lord has saved us and made us wise. I believe that we have become wise through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Do you believe that? When you lead your life of faith, you must always walk by the gospel of the water and the Spirit. There are heaps of works to be done after now coming into the truth and believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. This is because there are many people throughout this world who have not even heard about this truth, and have not put their faith in it.

If everyone in this world already had this knowledge and believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we would just be making unnecessary fuss and using up our energy, as they would have known about it and believed in it for 2,000 already, while we have just arrived at it now. If this example were true, which do you think the better believer was, them or us? Of course, those who have believed in the gospel of the Truth these many years are far better believers than we are. However, if they have



believed only in the blood of the Cross-, then there is not a single person among them who is righteous.

Brothers and Sisters, do you know of anyone abroad who has received the remission of sin in strict accordance with the Word of God, prior to the reading our books? In a certain country, there were people who had taught that sins would disappear by believing only in the blood of the Cross. But as soon as our books entered their country, they began reading and soon changed to the correct faith. They are now confessing that they have only now become the real Church. In the United States, one of our fellow workers who had received the remission of sins said that he had read the 2<sup>nd</sup> book on the Tabernacle and learned anew that only those people who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit could enter the Most Holy. You must realize that for us to enter the Most Holy Place that being, the very presence of God is now only possible because we have become holy and without sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. I am at a loss for

words to describe how thankful I am to the Lord and how good He is. We really have no doubt a huge amount of works to do.

We are working hard on our literature ministries. The first ten books in our Christian book series are books that illuminate the gospel from many sides and angles. From the 11<sup>th</sup> book onwards, we will be publishing books in order to foster spiritual growth in all those who have been born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We have accomplished heaps of works up to this point. However, the fields are ripe unto harvest and there is huge amount of works that still needs to be done.

The knowledge and the Truth has now been spread, from now on we will be spreading the gospel of the water and the Spirit in a different form, by speaking to those who have already been reading or have read our books, by asking these important questions: “Is your faith right or wrong? It is wrong if you believe in the blood of the Cross-, as the only complete atoning sacrifice for sin? You have to



believe in the definitive biblical truth of, the gospel of the water and the Spirit.”

So you see, there are lots of works to be done. This is an important season because it is the time of the harvest. It is a time when we must unite our strengths and our money to do this harvesting.

Brothers and sisters, do you believe the same way? God is calling you as His laborers. When you put your heart into this gospel of truth, and place yourself before God by faith, God will work and hold you fast, bless you, and entrust you with His works.

I give thanks to God for making us His laborers.  
Halleluiah! ☒



## Do the Lord's Work

< Matthew 25:14-30 >

“For the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done,

good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’ Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ But his master answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.



**So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

Today the Lord teaches us a few important lessons again through the parable of the talents. We have heard much teaching about this passage and we are familiar with it. So we see the master is leaving for a country far away, and he entrusts his possession in the hands of his loyal servants. The servant who was entrusted much reaped much and returned them to the master, and the one who was entrusted with a little less than that reaped accordingly and also returned them to the master. But the one who was entrusted with the least did not use what he was given to reap profit. Instead he buried it. When his

master eventually returned, he gave back to the master exactly what he had been given him. Therefore his master rebuked him and took away even that which he had. And in the end the servant was cast away from His very presence and His Kingdom, and as the result received the curse, where there is gnashing of teeth.

We know this passage all too well. The Lord says in the passage, *“A man traveling to a far country called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.”* Before the master left, he gave the servants certain works to do. The word Talent really means ‘ability.’ But in this parable it means the quantity of gold and silver. During the period of Jesus, one talent was equal to 6,000 denarii, and one denarius equaled one man’s daily wage. Therefore one talent was a huge amount of money.

So we see here through this parable, God giving



various talents and responsibilities to His servants. To some He has given much work, and to others He has given very little work to do. We must fully understand this that God has given us works to do. God has saved us through the gospel of the water and the Spirit and given each one of us work to do according to our talents, which He gave us. First and foremost, He has given each one of us the talent and the ability to do His work in one form or another. The Lord gave us certain tasks to accomplish and then ascended back to His Heaven. Before leaving He said that He will return and gather His servants and give rewards for the work they have done, and that they will also be given the Millennial Kingdom and the Kingdom of His Heaven. God has given us all respective works to do with the various talents and abilities to complete these works. To some he gave much work to do, and to others He gave less work to do.

The servant who received five talents and the one who received two talents did their best to faithfully

fulfill their responsibilities and make their master happy. But the one who received one talent did not do his work faithfully. He kept one talent just as it was and gave it back to the master, bringing rebuke from his master. The servant was in fact saying, "I know you are an evil master who reaps where you have not sown, so I did not do any work with the talent you gave me. So I buried it just as you had handed it to me, and now I am giving it back to you." As a result of his disobedience, this servant was cast away from the Kingdom of God, and the servant wept and gnashed his teeth in utter darkness. You probably know this passage very well. The main point I am stressing is the passage is that God has entrusted His work to His servants.

God has given talents to every one of us who has received the remission of sins to carry out His work. Some are talented in one area while others are talented in another area. Everyone who has received the remission of sins has been given the ability and the talents without exception to do God's work. With



this God has entrusted us who have received the remission of sins, with His works. He has given certain saints huge responsibilities, and to others a lesser amount, all in according to our individual talents. But we see the one who received one talent did not even lift a finger to do the works. This person may have received the gospel, but he did not acknowledge that God had in fact given him the talent, and that He has given him works to do with it. He just listened to the gospel and believed it, but just ignored all of God's commands.

However the one who received five talents went out, produced five more talents, and gave five additional talents back to his master. The one who received two talents also made two more talents out of them, and gave a total of four talents back to his master. But the one who received one talent just took the talent he had received and gave it back to his master, saying, and "I knew you to be a hard man and you don't give us much, yet you take away from us. So with this in mind, I hid what you had given me

and brought it back to you just as I had received it. You did not really give us anything else but work to do. So here is the talent you had entrusted to me. "

How shall we live after we have received the remission of sins? What does the Lord say to those who have received the remission of sins? What does this passage say to those who have received the remission of sins? Can we not do God's work after having received the remission of sins? How can we not do God's work when each of us has received our respective talents? Some have received a talent working with computers, some have received much strength and the talent to use that strength, and others have received a talent with their hands, their feet or other talents to serve the Lord in various ways. God has given each one of us certain works to do, so that we may serve the Lord in a particular field. How then can we think that it is okay for a person who has received the remission of sins to refuse to do God's work?

This is what we are going to carefully consider



today. The Lord says here that it is a huge mistake and an evil attitude to think, that there is nothing wrong for a person who has received the remission of sins, to refuse to do God's work. Those who have received the remission of sins have no other alternative, but to do God's work. People who do not do God's work are evil. How does God regard such people? He considers them the same as people who have not received the remission of sins. In fact people who have received the remission of sins, but refuse to do His work are already dead.

God has entrusted His work to us after having made us understand and believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Then how could we not do the Lord's work? God considers those who do not faithfully devote themselves to His Holy work that He has entrusted to them to do, as evil and lazy servants. God's work is something we must do. It is something we must never neglect. How does God treat those who refuse to do God's work? He treats them as evil people. Such a person bears evil fruit

and eventually winds up receiving God's curse.

What will happen if you receive the remission of sins, and do not do God's work, by saying, "I have in fact received the remission of my sins, but what will happen if I don't do His work?" No doubt about it, you will then try to fulfill the desires of your flesh, accumulating wealth, praying with 'the laying on of hands' on the heads of other people and boasting about it. After that you will try to accumulate a huge amount of money to buy a grand house and a flash car to live lavishly. Will you not, of course you would? But if you do not do God's work as a Godly person who clearly knows the gospel and believes in it, and being the one who has been entrusted with His works, what will God think of you then? Without a doubt, the bible says that He will consider you as the most treacherous and evil person among all those who are evil, and as someone who is worse than those who have not received the remission of sins.

The Lord says, "*But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten*



*with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more*" (Luke 12:48). What will happen if we become negligent with God's work and do not serve the gospel after having received salvation? To God we will be like a thorn in His eyes, like the children of the serpent. We will look like people who are killing souls of the world against His will, instead of saving these precious souls as commanded by Him. "They shall be cast into the hell. Have they been saved? What salvation? Everything is nullified!" This is what God shall do when he looks at those who do not serve the gospel.

Even in the way things are in this world, at home, there are the parents and the children, and at a company, there are the presidents and the employees. And in a company, there are departments, each with a leader and staff carrying out respective work. Should an individual not do their respective work, how would that particular individual look in the eyes of

the president of the company? The president will view that individual with much disdain. How will the president of the company feel if an employee is constantly in discontent, criticizing everything about the company, having no regard for the company, holding strikes, and asking for a raise all the time? Such an employee will seem like an enemy, and soon will be booted out.

After receiving the remission of sins, we must remember that not doing God's work does not just affect that work, but rather it will hinder other people from receiving the salvation, due to such disobedience of ours. Other people can receive the remission of sins if we who have received the remission of sins give ourselves to the work of sharing the gospel with those who are seeking God's Word, in order to receive the remission of sins. The Lord is saying that He will question us for the sin of not witnessing this gospel, should we neglect this work, the consequences these actions, is that we hinder people from receiving true salvation. In



Ezekiel we can see that God will call the watchman to account, if the nation is overtaken because of the watchman's neglect in his duty (Ezekiel 33:6).

I once went through a very difficult time after having received the remission of sins, I even thought, "I should lay down my work for the peace in my household. I should keep my mouth shut for the sake of those around me. They will be comforted more if I give up serving the gospel." What would have happened if I had succumbed to such a situation and bitten on my lips? First of all my family would not have heard this gospel. Secondly those around me would also not have heard the gospel. Thirdly all those around the world would not have heard the gospel.

I really struggled with this matter thinking, "Should I be quiet and stay with the denomination for my own comfort, or should I serve the gospel and do God's work even if it means I will be facing some difficulties, suffering persecutions, and getting thrown out of the denomination?" After much

mulling over and serious contemplation, I decided to be on the side of the Lord, making these loud statements, 'I will serve the gospel. I will do God's work. There is no true gospel to be found in the world. How then can I shut my mouth when this gospel is nowhere to be found? I know this gospel and I have received the remission of my sins. But there are so many people who do not know the gospel and do not believe in it. How can they hear about the gospel if I do not share the gospel?'

So after that I made the final decision. I decided resolutely, thinking to myself, 'I must do God's work. I will do God's work to share the gospel worldwide. I believe this is what I must do even if it is very difficult.' Although I had much difficulty at that early time, I thought that this is nothing compared to what Moses had to face. I thought, 'Moses left his Egyptian palace with all its wealth and wandered in the wilderness of Midian for forty long years, tending sheep and following the Lord. What is this that I am doing compared to that?'



Furthermore a born-again person should work for a great and just cause in this world, rather than living for a selfish little greed.' After I made up my mind to follow the Lord no matter what, I felt peace at my heart. It was difficult and I make no bones about it, but that was the right decision.

So I started believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, serving the gospel and doing God's work. As a result of my commitment, God gave me much work to do, and He told me to share this gospel throughout the whole world. He also told me, "All the people in the world do not know the gospel of this Truth. Even the theologians and the pastors, as well as all the Christians of the world do not know this." Armed with this glorious precious gospel and Gods instructions, I decided that I should confront all the theologians and denominations. Through this I came to understand God's will and decided to follow it. Some of these people told me, "Are you Luther? Are you so great that you must think of the whole world and all the people in it? Just take care of

yourself man." Well I am not Martin Luther.

Martin Luther was a religious reformer. At the time nobles in Germany paid much tax to the Catholic Pope, and including the kings of Europe. These strict religious laws of the Roman Catholic Church ruled most of the Western nations of those days, and the violation of that law was not to be tampered with. Thus the power of the Pope reached its zenith. The Anglican Church was established in England because the Pope did not approve the second marriage of King Henry the Eighth of England. Did you know that Martin Luther was a Catholic priest? There was an autonomous city government inside Rome called the Vatican City, and the Pope ruled absolutely over that city. They needed an extraordinary amount of money to build St. Peter's Cathedral there. So in order to collect funds, the Pope Leo the Tenth commanded his men to sell indulgences. They sold indulgences forcibly, saying, "The token that you buy will lift your parents out of the hell and get them into the purgatory if they



should be in hell. And by giving money to this cause it will lift them out of purgatory and get them into the Heaven.” So these gullible people paid a lot of money for them.

Martin Luther saw that and thought it was very wrong and crooked. So he posted the 95 Thesis that argued against the wrongs of the Catholic Church at that time. That caused a serious problem and they called him in for a religious trial. The Roman Pope wanted to kill him for doing this. But the German nobles who wanted to break out from the oppression of Roman Pope protected Martin Luther. History tells us that Martin Luther stayed in a secluded room and translated the Scriptures. And he also wrote letters of confrontation to the Papal Court in the Vatican. That consequently became the Religious Reformation of early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Calvin of France came on the scène after that and after that John Knox rose in Scotland, as well as many others to lead Europe through the Religious Reformation. However the Religious Reformation had absolutely nothing to do

with the Truth of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. These so called Religious Reformers did not preach the gospel truth of the water and the Spirit.

I believe that God has given talents and ability to everyone who has received the remission of sins and that He has entrusted them with His works. We could see this also in today's Scripture passage. This world would not be able to receive salvation if all the born-again people who were truly born again, were to just receive their salvation and then forget about the work of God. That is why I am reminding you that “Those who do not do God's work after having received the remission of sins are the evil ones.” They are the most treacherous evildoers among all those who are evil. Some may argue about this, saying, “Have they not received the remission of sins in spite of that? If this be so, why would God then send them to hell?” In today's Scripture passage the Lord says that He will cast these lazy people out of the Kingdom.

Let us read Matthew 25:24-25 together so that you don't think I am saying this out of my head. It reads



as follows, *“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’”*

What we need to understand here is that God gave this servant a specific work to do in his position. But he did not use the talent and went his own way. He thought, “What did He give me? He did not give me anything. He just asks me to work for Him. He is the kind of person who tries to collect from a place He has not planted and tries to reap from a place He has not plowed. He does not give me anything, but He always asks me to do things for Him.” He understood his Master in this way. Because of his terrible attitude toward his Master, he refused to do God's work that was entrusted to him to do, even though he had heard the gospel and received salvation. Whatever he did, he did for himself, and he never lifted a finger or did any work for God until the time

of his death.

Eventually the Master returned when he was not expecting Him. When the time came to calculate the profits, this servant expressed his contempt against his Master, saying, “I knew you would return, because of you said so. You are really a hard man for you ask us to do work for you for nothing.” We understand from this that the Lord gave talents and blessings to a person who had received the remission of sins, and entrusted that person with His work. But the servant thought that the talent was his own and did his own work instead of doing that of Gods. How then will the Lord treat such a person? Only punishments await him, even though he has accepted the true message.

It says in verse 26-30, *“But his master answered and said to him, ‘you wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with*



*interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"*

When a certain servant was entrusted with God's work but could not fulfill it for whatever reason, he should have handed the work over to another person and relieved himself from that responsibility. But if he did not even bother about it or even let another person do the work that he was entrusted with, he is preventing God's work from being fulfilled by burying it. Therefore even though he had heard the gospel and believed in it, what happened to him due to this sin? It says, "*And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*" Where is '*the outer darkness*'? Is it not hell? God deals harshly and sternly with these lazy people with attitude problems. He regards them

more evil than those who have not been born again by not believing in this precious gospel. A person who has not as yet received the remission of sins has a chance to be saved, but a person who had believed and has thus turned away to become a sinner, does not have a way to repent again.

Here, one talent, two talents, and five talents indicate the quantity of work that each servant has been entrusted with. Regardless of how much work they have been entrusted with, what happens to those who do not fulfill their responsibilities and leave the Church? By doing this they kill countless number of people. This is the consequence for which one cannot avoid God's wrath. How could we even think of doing such a thing when we have a good conscience?

The Lord left the heavenly throne came to this humble world in a form of His own creation that being, man. He lived for 33 years to bear our sins. And in order to bear our sins, He received His baptism, died on the Cross, and rose from the dead. How could we not witness such salvation and live



only for ourselves when He had to experience such humiliation for 33 long years, He washed away all our sins, and gave us salvation? These 33 years, during which God was in this world of His creation, is a very long period. During His life here on this earth, the Lord fulfilled His responsibilities for our sake. He prayed on the Mount of Gethsemane, "*O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.*" Therefore, the Lord went to the Cross-after He bore the sins of the world.

Jesus knew things would unfold exactly as they were written, but He did not make any excuses at Pilate's Court. He would have avoided the penalty of death and come out from the unjustified imprisonment if He had given them an excuse. The governor Pilate would have let Him go free if He had just said, "I am not the God that the Jews are talking about, and I have never said that." Pilate said, "Just tell me this and confirm to me; you are not the King of Jews. Then I will let you go free. I have the

authority to let you go. It seems to me that you are not an evil person. Just tell me so and I will let you go." Pilate really wanted to let Jesus go, but the Lord did not say anything. Why did Jesus keep quite and did not say anything? He knew that He had to be nailed to that Cross and shed His blood because He had already received the baptism and had taken all the sins of humanity on Himself. That is why He did not say anything.

Who do you think that was for? Jesus did this to fulfill the work of God the Father, and complete the work of saving us from all our sins. The Lord did not give an excuse. Instead He just received the punishment to save you and me from sin. Then with His last breath on the Cross, He cried out, "*It is finished,*" and died. After that He rose from the dead on the third day, and went up to the Kingdom of Heaven. Now He has become the eternal Savior for all of us. The Book of Hebrews says, "*He was obedient and faithful to the Father's will even though He was God's true Son.*"



Were we originally true sons of God? No, of course not. We were mere sinful creatures. For creatures like us, God the Father sent His only begotten Son to this world, had Him blot out all our sins through the water and the blood, and gave us His perfect salvation. Therefore we are now able to receive the salvation through the gospel of the water and the Spirit that He has given us, and thus become the children of God. God gave His children the work of preaching the gospel to the people of this world. If we the children of God refuse to do this work that He has entrusted us with, then tell me, who will then do this precious work? What kind of person will we become if we do not do this work? We will become an ungrateful person unfit for use in His Kingdom.

I am also a human being, and a lot of thoughts run through my head. But I believe in Him resolutely and confess, "It does not matter what difficult circumstance or hardship I am in, and it does not even matter whether I do a good job or not. What matters is whether or not I do my very best. I am sure

the Lord will take no notice of my insufficiency only if I do my best for His work. The important thing is whether or not I do my best." Many thoughts run through my head so frequently. But I always think of the work that God has entrusted to me with, and I do my very best in this work He has given me because that is the way to serve the gospel, and the only way for me to live as well. This applies to all of us who have received the remission of sins.

In God's Church anyone who has been entrusted with God's work does his best to accomplish that work. All of us from Sunday school children to adults, and from the ministry workers to the lay saints, are the people of God and the servants of God, and each one of us has one's own respective work. We will be sinning before God if we do not do that work He has been entrusted to do. If a person refuses to do God's work, we really cannot do anything about that person, but that person has to clearly understand the consequences of his actions.

People who behave in such a manner will be



separated from the gathering, and those who are separated are those seeking their own greed. People who do not do God's work after having received the remission of sins are evil. And that's not all. These people will go to hell. Do you think you are okay just because you have received the remission of sins? Who can be more evil than those who do not do God's work after having received the remission of sins? Who can be more evil than those who do not do God's work even though they know what to do, and what is expected from them?

We are insufficient and frail in many ways. Even though we have these many shortcomings, we nevertheless press forward and do the work with the talent that God has given us. What kind of people are those who do not do God's work even though they know the gospel and believe in it? These people are more evil than the sinners. They will face destruction and eventually go to hell. I understand that sometimes a born-again saint can become discouraged because of one's insufficiencies even after having received

the remission of sins, and become exhausted with God's work. However I am at a loss to understand why people are leaving the Church with attitudes, saying, "I will no longer do God's work. Instead I will now concentrate and do my own work." Some say that they did receive salvation even though they do not serve the gospel. But it is a lie, and just their own thinking. God tells us over and over again in the Four Gospels that those who do not serve the gospel will be cast into the utter darkness, and that there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

What does "gnashing of teeth" really mean? Does it mean that a person is outraged by unjustified consequences? The unfaithful servant thought he would receive a reward as one of the saved, but instead he was punished and cast into hell. So we see his bad attitude over his unfair mistreatment. However God's punishment can never be unjust. It is fair and just. That is how big the sin of not doing God's work is after having received the remission of sins. If these sins were not that great, many among us



would long ago have quit doing the work of God before even finishing it. But those who have received the remission of sins must carry out God's work until the end.

We should be faithful to the work of God from the moment we receive the remission of sins until the end of our life. Whether we are doing God's work or not, resting, eating, drinking, or whatever else, we must do it all for the glory of God. Think for yourself whether or not one who has received the remission of sins should live for God's glory. And by doing this, discern whether it is right or wrong according to God's Word.

Talent in this parable denotes a certain quantity of gold or silver. It has the meaning of the measure of the God-given talent and the quantity of work He has entrusted us with. It is said that God has entrusted His precious work to His servants. Then tell me, who are His servants? They are those who have received the remission of sins. We need to remember that God will never ever use sinners who have not as yet

received the remission of sins as His servants.

You and I must be very cautious: We should not depend on our knowledge, thinking that we are so very smart. Those who are boastful before God and think they are more intelligent than Him trust their own judgments more than God's Word. These people do not consult with God's servants and do not accept their advice. They cannot but help make their own judgments and follow their wrongful thoughts. When God's servants try to help these self-righteous people and make them do God's work, they do not listen to their advice. They just follow what they think is right. Then even God will forgo His desire to use them and entrust the work to others.

In today's Scripture passage the master took back the one talent from the unfaithful servant and gave it to the faithful servant who had five more talents. The only thing that God could give to a person who does not do God's work is rebuke. But God gives much praise and blessing to those who are faithful to the task entrusted to them. Is it distressing, or is it joyful



to do God's work? It is really joyful and pleasurable to do God's work, even though our flesh may get exhausted at times from carrying out huge amounts of God's work. When people who have received the remission of sins do not have any of God's work to do, their life becomes boring and eventually becomes depraved. Therefore the more work of God a righteous person has, the more joyful and elated they become.

When there was no work of God to do, did you not experience those useless thoughts, doing things that are totally contrary to God's will, and chasing after your own greed? When there is no work of God to do, we are prone to chase after our own greed and eventually do things that stand against God. Do you know what the consequence is for those who think nothing of God's Church? It is total destruction. What about those who assist them? They also end up facing destruction. That is why we should refrain from helping people who have left God's Church, doing their own work instead. We are all human

beings, and could have compassion for them thinking that's understandable. But God's curse will be upon us if we should stand on their side.

That is why we must never help people whom God hates. God hates His enemy, and He hates the helpers of His enemy even more. Therefore we must consider whether or not God will be happy before we lend help to them. Otherwise we could run into big problems with God. If we associate with a person who is cursed, then we will be cursed as well. No matter how much a person has heard the gospel and believes in it, we should not share fellowship with such a person, if that person is only interested in his or her own work, and refuse to do His work. We must make a clear distinction between a person like that and us. We must cut off the relationship with a clear understanding and declare, "I can only do this much of God's work because I am insufficient, but I am in the Church and doing God's work. But you have decided not to do God's work. That is why I must cut off our relationship."



Some people regard these unfaithful people who refuse to do God's work as wise or courageous. That is a foolish notion of an unwise person based on his or her own thinking and judgment. God abhors and hates most those who do not do His work. On the contrary, God loves those the most who want to do His work, despite their many shortcomings. Do you know why God loves me? He loves me because I do God's work in spite of my numerous insufficiencies. Do you know the reason why God loves you? God does not love you just because you have received the remission of your sins. God loves you because you are doing God's work instead of following your own personal greed.

God loves all those equally who have become His children, by having received the remission of sins. God loves all His children equally because each one of them is very precious to Him. God really loves those who voluntarily do the work of God the Father in His presence. Whether they do much or little, those who are faithful to the work entrusted to them,

will eventually reap abundant spiritual fruit. Everything may seem to go smooth for those who do not do God's work, but they will receive severe rebukes and curses from God because they are like a thorn in His eyes. In the end they will fail in everything they do.

Is it hard to do God's work? If we think about this for a minute with a clear mind, working in this world is even more difficult than God's work. We would have to work harder than this if we want to make 3,000 dollars per month in the world. We could do God's work together. But we would have to finish our job on our own in the world. It is a great blessing to be doing God's work together in God's Church because we can be dedicated to a righteous cause, and our entire daily needs will be taken care of as well.

Living in this world without doing God's work is a cursed life. Therefore there is no reason to envy that kind of life no matter how successful it may be. People can suddenly lose all they have, owing to a



terminal sickness that could use up ten times as much as what they have earned in their lifetime. That unfortunately is life. Think what a great blessing God has given to us, who used to live in such a manner. God has blessed His Church in our times. He has blessed us because we are together doing His work in His Church after being born again of the water and the Spirit. As it is said in God's Word, it is not because we are great. God is happy to bless His Church because we who became the children of God by faith are living out a life, which God is pleased with.

People who do not do God's work after having received the remission of sins are an oddity. God deals with such people separately because they are actually killing other people. We must pay keen attention. We must not waver although the Devil does not leave us alone and tries to instill his thoughts and desires of flesh in us, causing us to waver. You and I are the righteous. We are the righteous who do God's work? You and I have

received the remission of sins and become God's people. And we will enter God's glorious Kingdom and enjoy eternal life and blessings after having carried out God's work faithfully in this world.

That is why it is said in Romans 8:18 that our trials in this world cannot be compared with the glory we shall enjoy in the future. We go through trials for a short period of time in this world as we carry out God's work, because we are His children who will enjoy His glory and live beautifully in that wonderful place forever. Even though the born-again may experience hardship, a life as the righteous is a special privilege, because God has given His work only to those who have received the remission of sins. It is very rewarding to do God's work, because God does not entrust His Work to just anyone. I am just re-emphasizing something that you already know all too well.

A short while ago, a ministry worker of our Mission told me that he will quit ministering, find a regular job and come back to Church as a lay



member. It is an illusion to think that a person who has been serving the Lord wholly can just quit, have a regular job, attend the Church and do God's work in his or her spare time. It is more difficult to have a regular job, attend Church and serve the Lord than to just devote yourself completely to God's work. Truthfully when a minister worker says that he or she wants to quit ministering and become a regular member, it means that they really do not want to do God's work. A person like this will usually endure this situation for a while, but then disappear completely from the Church. Then one day show up again as an enemy to the gospel, causing harm to the Church.

Some people even say, "I will do God's work outside God's Church." But how can a person do God's work outside the workplace of God? And some others also say that they want to support God's work of evangelizing the world by earning worldly riches and sending them to the Church, even though they are leaving the Church. God's Church does not need

these donations. God does not use this type of money. Money can be provided anytime when God blesses.

You and I have a responsibility towards Him as the children of God. It is a beautiful responsibility, for we are working in a place entrusted to us. But there can arise some other fleshly thoughts in our hearts from time to time. At times we desire to live for ourselves. In those moments we must boldly defeat the thought, saying, "In the name of Jesus, I command you, Satan, Get away from me!" God has given us the salvation. And He wants to use our hands, feet, mouth, and everything else for His work. If we want to serve God's work, we need to give all that God has given us to fulfill the will of God. Do not think that everything can be solved just with money.

I pity those ministry workers who are thinking about giving up God's work and leaving the Church. To them, therefore, I advise not to quit their ministries that God's Church has entrusted them with. I admonish those who have already quit



ministering and have gone back to working in the world because they will eventually stop attending the Church altogether, although they say that, as laymen, they will serve the gospel with material things. We must do God's work if we attend His Church. People who come to Church just for the worship service and leave smartly right after the service, will eventually leave the Church.

Therefore you must think about what God wants you to do, and just start doing it, whether the predecessors of faith ask you to do something or not. I am not rebuking you. I am just reminding you that those who refuse or sit idly by not doing His work will be punished by God and considered as a sinner. Who will receive salvation if none of us do God's work? When those who should be doing God's work do not do the work, others will not be able to receive salvation. These people will receive the punishment as an evil sinner because they are actually interrupting and interfering with God's work

The Lord's Prayer says, *"Our Father which art in*

*heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."* Hence, as it is God's will, the Kingdom of God must also be fulfilled in this world. God's Kingdom means God's Church and fulfilling His Kingdom, means witnessing the gospel all over the world in order that many souls can receive the remission of sins. In God's Church, all the believers gather together and praise God while worshipping Him and sharing fellowship with one another. Then would God bless those who do not do such work?

This world is the Devil's kingdom, so it is not possible to establish God's Kingdom by forming alliances with the world. Those who work only for themselves become like a debauchee who do not work when their stomachs are full. We can diligently do much work because we do it for others. We would not be able to do as much if we were doing it for ourselves. As for those who work only for themselves, they would earn much money if they were to work as if they were serving God, but would



they be able to do much work if they were to live only for themselves? If people were to live only for themselves, they would be prone to work just for whatever their needs are.

We are doing the righteous work, and it is rewarding, and because it is rewarding, we go on doing the work diligently. There is not much for those who live only for themselves. These people are useless, regardless of how much money they may have. When I was living in Sokcho City, Gangwon Province in Korea, I once had a conversation with a wealthy person who owned a large theatre in that city. Although he had millions of dollars, he said that he had bought noodles with the money he had made by collecting recyclable items from the street, brought back home the radish that came out as a side dish, and had eaten it as an accompaniment with his drink.

He said he had built his wealth in such manner. I wanted to say to him, "I hear you have a lot of money, don't you? Why don't you give me one billion Won (This is equivalent to US \$1,000,000) I

will use it for a worthwhile cause. What good is it to just hold onto the money? It becomes meaningful only if you use it for a righteous cause. I will use it for the righteous cause in your name." People are nothing but a pitiful tightwad if they just live for themselves and are not generous to others. Of course, we also are prone to be bound by ourselves in many things, but the born-again must live for the righteous cause. We must live for God's work until the end of our life, because God has entrusted it to us.

A decision to quit doing God's work must be made with much consideration. God's protection and all the blessings will be over as soon as we stop doing God's work. There can only be the curse if we do not continue to do God's work, even if we did receive the remission of sins. And if the children of God were to associate with sinners who are not God's children, becoming one with them, that in itself would be a short cut toward destruction. All the blessings will be cut off if a person who has received the remission of sins marries a person who is not the



born-again, and does not receive the guidance of the Church. That will bring an end to hearing God's Word and serving God. If by chance you started to attend a worldly church, a place where God does not dwell, parted from the gathering of the righteous, even if you do clean the church, buy pipe organs, and put up golden curtains for that church, it will not mean that you are serving God.

What kind of person should we be after the receiving of the remission of sins? Should we become a person who is faithful to God's work, or should we become someone who just does it with minimum effort? The decision is yours. What can we do if you want to leave the Church? Then again, will there be anything special when you do leave the Church? I will tell you one thing for sure: You are harming yourself and doing evil to yourself if you should do this. Do you think that you have suffered losses and made sacrifices personally while you were attending the Church? Would you not have made as much sacrifice if you were living for yourself?

I would like to tell you this: Do not try to connect yourself with God's Church if you are not doing God's work, after having received the remission of sins. God is the Master of His Church, so He cuts off those He considers inappropriate. You have probably seen such things yourself. Let's say a man has left the Church. Although no one had said anything to him, he left the Church on his own volition because he did not believe in the gospel. But the fact is that God had cut him off from the Church. God said that a branch that does not yield fruit even though it is connected to the vine would be cut off.

In spite of your shortcomings, you must believe in this gospel of the water and the Spirit. And you must keep on doing God's work even though you may not have been entrusted with much work. We shall meet the Lord after having carried out the work of the Lord quietly. Do you think we could help a person become a success in this world just by giving that person money? You must understand and guard your heart because the born-again will also be cut off, if



they should befriend a person who does not do God's work. God knows everything. The person who had received one talent, as noted in Matthew 25:14-30, was someone who had received the remission of sins but did not do God's work. That person was treacherous. That person was very wicked. Today's Scripture passage describes this evil servant without the distinction of sex, and so we do not know whether that person was a man or a woman. But the fact of the matter is that God considers those who have received one talent, but refuse to do His work as an evil being.

To this day you and I have been serving the gospel faithfully. However, knowing that the Word of God is like that, and understanding what the Scriptures tell us, is more important. If we are experiencing any inadequacies, we should admit them before God, and we must take into our heart, acknowledge, and accept what God has said. You must realize "I must believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and do God's work even though I have these shortcomings. I

cannot but be like this, because of my inadequacies. But I think I should not be doing these things that will make God unhappy." And please do not associate with those who have received the remission of sins but do not do God's work. Even associating with such people is to pile His curse upon your head. Can I truly know who you are? That is not possible. But God know you through and through and He will cut off the rotten branches. And if that is not enough, He may give these people incurable sicknesses and expose their wickedness before all people. We have shortcomings, but we are a very blessed people, doing God's work, having received the remission of sins. I believe in this. Do you also believe in this?

As you and I remain faithful to the end, as those who have been entrusted with God's work, I hope that we will receive the blessings of faith and become those whose faith gets better with each moment, growing like the rising sun. I hope God will bestow His abundant blessings upon you and me who are faithfully serving the gospel. Amen. ☒



## **We Must Spread The Gospel When We Can**

**< Matthew 25:14-30 >**

**“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five**

**talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’ Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ But his master answered and said to him, ‘you wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited**



**my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**

Brothers and sisters, it is good to see you all again. At the recent meetings we had in *Praise the Lord Church* in Sokcho City, I was asked in short notice to be the speaker, because Reverend Shin who was supposed to speak but had something else important to do, and was unable to attend this meeting. So I hurriedly went there to preach the Word in his place. It was there that I learned that if a new placard is posted, many people respond and attend these advertised meetings, but if the advertising is shabbily

done or it is a reused one, then people do not respond so readily. I don't know if it is because we are in an age of fashion, but people are really sensitive about these things.

Lately, we have been holding revival meetings on the Book of Revelation. The last one also was on the Book of Revelation. I delivered various sermons regarding the Word in Revelation 6 and Matthew 24. I did this because I really believe that era we are now living in is just like the era shown in Revelation 6. This is the era of the black horse whether we would agree or not. We are now experiencing the harsh blowing of yellow sand in spring, untimely flooding in summer, and devastating typhoons in fall, the abnormally warm temperatures in winter. We are now observing abnormal weather patterns and natural disasters increasing and becoming much more serious. There are many cyclonic abnormalities occurring around the world, and many of these do not even get reported.

We are in the process of publishing another book



on ‘the Book of Revelation’ and including the Mongolian edition of our first series. I cannot describe how hard this is. It seemed as though the Mongolian edition was almost completed, but after having proofread and checked it again, we found many parts of the original text were lost in the translation. So the ministry team gathered together again hurriedly examined it. They worked feverishly to the late wee hours of the night, and barely got finished, and by next morning they finally completed it, and it left for printing. Actually it was the printer’s office’s day off, but fortunately we had a prior arrangement with them, so they opened the offices and completed the work for us. We are due to go to Mongolia very soon where we will be not only be preaching the gospel but also carrying as many books with us as possible, so these books had to be completed within just a few days.

We continued with these end time revival meetings, looking at focusing on particularly Matthew 24 through to chapter 25:13. In Matthew 24

the Lord speaks about all the things that would take place at the end time. And in Matthew 25 through the parable of the ten virgins, He speaks about two groupings of people, these being, those who are waiting for the Lord without having received the remission of their sins, and to those who have. Also through the parable of the talents, He speaks about His rewards and punishments over the faithful and the unfaithful, when He returns back again, after the era of the pale horse has passed. And from Matthew 26 our Lord speaks about Him dying on the Cross.

The gospel of the water and the Spirit is now being spread rapidly throughout the world. But there still are still many places and countries in which it needs to be made manifest. We intend to enter Mongolia very soon and spread the gospel personally, but there still are many countries, not just Mongolia, that needs to hear this gospel.

If we look at today’s Scripture passage, the Lord says, *“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own*



*servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.”* The Lord opened the first part of the parable of the talents by explaining that a man had delivering his own goods to his servants. The ‘goods’ mentioned here refers to non other than souls.

God came to this earth and eliminated all the sins of mankind, (past, present and future) living in this world. God’s possesses everyone living on this earth. The truth is that they all are the creations of the Lord. People, regardless of who they are, can never be compared with some earthly material object no matter how great it may be. When the Lord returned back to His Heaven after being resurrected from the dead, He gave orders and entrusted these people to His faithful servants. To explain this better, the Lord left after having entrusted the work of saving souls to God’s faithful servants, by giving them the ability to do so.

Our Lord, who had plans to travel to a far country, delivered His goods to His loyal servants, and left. When He eventually returned, He calculated to see whether each one of them had completed the work he gave them, if it was done well or not. So in today’s Scripture passage it tells us how He praised those who had done well and punished those who did not. We can no doubt have several thoughts and meanings about this parable of the talents. However, during this hour we are going to carefully consider this parable, particularly in relation to Revelation 6.

Our Lord has as depicted so vividly in this chapter, decided on seven eras for this world. Firstly God will save many people’s souls through the gospel of the water and the Spirit during the era of the white horse. He will firstly come to this earth, and blot out all the sins of people, through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. He then will entrust souls to those who believe in this gospel and instruct them to live by doing ‘the works’ for these souls. We have to think deeply about this by latching or linking



today's Scripture passage with the Book of Revelation.

God has entrusted us with all the souls in the whole world. And He has given us the power to save them and the ability to spread the gospel to them. God has given every person abilities to save souls and to do the work with all their heart. Today's Scripture passage speaks of 'talents' as money, but it is really speaking and referring to our abilities. We are endowed with the abilities that God has given us to be able to work for His precious gospel. In other words, God is speaking of the abilities we all have been given for the purpose of spreading the gospel to every soul throughout the world. With these talents, we can deliver the gospel to them, help them perceive it, and have them receive salvation and return back to God.

Giving five talents to one man, two talents to another, and one talent to someone else means that the Lord gave each individual person different types of abilities. Giving someone five talents means that

He gave that person many different abilities. He also gave one man two talents but another man one, and then afterwards left and traveled to a far country, promising that He would return and make an assessment and pay each one accordingly. In this respect our Lord has delivered His goods to His servants, and has given each one of them abilities, and left again. It is mentioned in the parable, that he who had received five talents took those talents, left immediately, ran business, and made five more in the process. He who had received two talents also conducted business and made two more. But the one who had received one talent buried it in the ground and returned it to the master when he returned.

Here in this story, the three different servants received their respective talents: The first servant received five talents; the second, two talents, and the third one talent. But they all should have done business and made profit utilizing all of the talents that they had received. Those who made profit, whether it was a lot or a little, received praises from



their master. The servant who had received two talents also received praises, just as the one who had received five talents had. But the one, who did not make any profit, for he just buried his one talent, received reproof and suffered his master's wrath.

Let us now take a look at the part about 'making some profit.' It is written that the one who had received five talents immediately went and traded with them, and made five more. Making profit is the important concept here. When conducting a business, making profit is the most important thing, otherwise why be in business. When the Scripture passage speaks about trade, you should not be thinking about money. Rather you should realize that the word 'trade' mentioned here refers to the work of saving souls. All souls belong to God, and we should carefully consider the fact that God has entrusted us with the task of spreading the gospel to these souls.

Anyone who has received the remission of sins, and thereby has their names written down in Heaven, has the obligation of spreading the gospel to those

who have not. There is no reason for you to say that you do not have the ability to spread the gospel. Anyone who has received the remission of sins is able to spread the gospel in one form or another. Before the Lord left the earth, did He not give all of us various talents, in order that we may be able to spread this gospel? If you are unable to spread the gospel to many people, you can at least spread it to all those around you, and if you did not receive a great ability, you can serve the Lord in various ways, according to the ability you have received. You can personally spread the gospel to the souls whom God has entrusted to us; you can assist other people spread the gospel; you can support them; and you can work hard in various ways. If you just would determine yourself to do so, you can do the work of God.

The Lord said that to whom much is given, much is required; someone who has received much ability cannot help but serve much. The person who had received five talents immediately went, did business,



made five more talents, and gave them back to his master when he returned. A person who has received much ability should do a large amount of the works. One cannot help but do as much as he has received. Every saint has his or her own share of works. In the area you have been entrusted with, you are to serve the Lord within those circumstances, abilities, and everything else given to you by God.

The Lord will return back to this earth riding on a white horse and save us, as well as the entire humankind, through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. But we need to remember that when God moves and works; Satan does so also. The Lord will definitely come again at the end of these times. During the last days, we will go through the era of the pale horse, and as a result we will experience and suffer martyrdom, being resurrected, and the rapture. Until that time arrives, we should be single minded and carry out the work of saving souls by spreading this gospel. It is our God given duty to be taking charge of, and carrying out these works until the

Lord rewards us in the Millennial Kingdom.

We should have the Godly attitude of not been able to help ourselves but work with the amount of talents, of which He has entrusted with. However it is not the case that we should work more, just because we want to work more out of our greed, and that we refuse to serve just because we do not desire to serve. Each one of us is duty bound to work according to the circumstances God has granted us and the various giftings He has given us. Therefore no one should make excuses, saying, “I am unable to work for this gospel. I cannot serve it. I do not have the ability.” Anyone who has received the remission of sins can serve the Lord, whether the Lord has entrusted that person with a lot or a little.

Therefore you must not make excuses, and whatever the circumstances, you have to do the work of saving souls. Like this all our Churches in Korea are currently carrying out the work of spreading the gospel throughout the entire world. When doing this, we find at times it becomes difficult and exhausting



work, and there also are times when we get annoyed, as some tasks do not get accomplished in good time. We are spreading the gospel throughout the world by translating our books into various languages. But there are times when the translators do an insincere or ignorant job. This makes me really upset. In most of these cases, our dedicated staff working in this department, do not know the languages of those countries, but even so they examine the translated drafts paragraph by paragraph, comparing it with the original text to find out if there are any omitted parts.

Sometimes we discover that certain translation work has been done very poorly and full of errors. When we try to correct these errors through other willing translators, it then takes so many more hours, and we wind up paying extra fees. It is nerve-racking because we become pressed for time and many resources become involved. When this happens, the desire to quit right there and then, rises up inside of me, and I start thinking that it would be better for us to live just the way people of the are

now world living, because I too am human.

However, despite these earthly feelings, we cannot do this because of the great commission, and because there is no one else who is able to spread this gospel of the water and the Spirit except us. Is there not someone else ‘once in a while’ who can relieve us of this duty and spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we could think like that and of course do so. But unfortunately that someone could be found, who might have been spreading this Truth. Since this is clearly the entrusted work that we must take charge of now, we cannot give in and quit.

We are doing the work of proclaiming the gospel to the entire world through the Internet, as there is no one else in this world that believes in and spreads this gospel of the water and Spirit. If there had been people around like that, the truly born-again like us; don’t you think they would have sent us some message by now? They would as soon as they heard about us, immediately made contact, saying, “We too are spreading the gospel this way. We see that you



are also doing it. We are glad to have met you.” Then we would have been overjoyed, so overjoyed that we would have immediately sent them an e-mail and shared fellowship with them. But believe me there is no one like that out there. Therefore we cannot help but do this entrusted work on our own, by taking charge of it.

I went sometime ago to a revival meeting at the Sokcho Church, and I cannot describe how busy they were. Of course, all our Churches in Korea are busy in this way, working tirelessly for the gospel. I was with Reverend Roh in his office at the Sokcho Church, and he too is very busy, answering telephone calls etc. It is partly due to him starting several things at once, and also things he had not as yet been able to complete. I sincerely hope these incomplete things will be completed soon, and I trust that things will turn out well for him. Workers have been sent out from our Churches to every region. We normally have the Mission School open until June, but this time the students were able to graduate really early.

We should also not neglect our sisters, and should think hard about what would be good for them also. We are considering having them take on the workload of the e-mailing department, which is extremely active in our sending and receiving of messages throughout the entire world. I really think it is now time that we purchase several computers solely designated for this purpose, we should then assign qualified persons, and have them send out mail drops, informing people about our homepage. We are living in an age of information technology, where there is a swift exchange of information, and we must spread this gospel, using all methods available to us. We have to do it whether it is difficult or not. God has delivered His goods to us with instructions, and left. He has, by doing this, entrusted all the souls of the world to us, and gave each one of us the ability to work for the gospel.

This is why we have this obligation of spreading this gospel, because we are living in the very end times, and in the Book of Revelations being fulfilled,

where the world is becoming more chaotic. People all around us are dying spiritually for having led a wrongful life of faith, by believing in the false pre-tribulation rapture theory. Tragically there are many people, even among those who are waiting for the Lord to return, are becoming discouraged, disinterested and thus, abandoning their faith in Jesus out of total despair. There is no question about this. These souls are all dying.

When visiting our homepage, you will notice an increasing amount of questions regarding the Book of Revelation are been asked. We readily reply to all these questions. However it appears that foreigners are the ones with these many questions. Perhaps it is because they at least have some interest in Jesus and the end times. They seem to ask many pertinent questions, and we respond to them with the answers. But it seems that Koreans are unable to even ask questions properly. Besides that, they are pompous and brag about themselves at every given opportunity. They are so full of hot air that only the

subject line has some substance. When I at time peruse religious sites on the Internet that have great subject lines or a eye catching advertising brands, I get a strong feeling that they are just occupying space without having the proper knowledge, unable to provide appropriately explanations.

Although we are using a lot of resources spreading the gospel to the West, it seems only the underdeveloped countries like Mongolia are open and have an acceptance for the gospel. Mongolia has a low standard of living, which was similar to Korea in the early 1970s. The Internet, like many similar countries in the world, is readily accessible to their respective government agencies and large corporations, but it has as yet not become available to the local citizens. There are sadly a large number of countries where the Internet is almost non-existent; and generally people living in these countries are not that corrupt. So when preaching the gospel to them they receive the remission of sins by having immediately accepted the gospel in their heart. You



cannot imagine just how well they believe as we preach, just like hungry people devour food.

We have to not only spread this gospel to people in these undeveloped countries, but also to lost souls throughout the world. Since all of them have been entrusted to us, how can we not spread the gospel to them? Although we should take care of ourselves, there are times of sheer exhaustion and even fainting, as we steadfastly work and press onwards. This is the era of the black horse mentioned in the Book of Revelation chapter 6, and we all have to do proclaim this gospel to as many people in this world, with all our strength, before this age ends.

The era of the pale horse is just about on us, where it would be virtually impossible to spread this gospel any more. It is difficult but it will become much more difficult in the coming days, so we should again take stock of our situation and ‘set things in order’ and keep on doing the gospel work, and not looking back. Spreading the gospel is like a running a marathon, the course in front of us seems so long and difficult,

but we must focus setting our minds on the goal, and not just fall down due to exhaustion, but we should rather run at a steady and confident pace.

We should spread this gospel by pacing ourselves and renewing our strength; only by continuing to run can we arrive at the finish line. You and I are these marathon runners sent by God to give widespread witness of the gospel of the water and the Spirit, all over the world. God has entrusted His goods to both you and I and left again, only to return later. He has entrusted the souls of this world to us. He left after having entrusted the souls in our country as well as numerous souls in foreign countries to whom we must spread the gospel. Therefore we together are the ones designated to carry out this important work. Even though we are exhausted, we have to carry out this work until the end. Taking care of just one’s own self is really hard enough, yet we must also take care of those souls as well. Of course, living by risking your very life for the sake of other souls is never an easy task.



If by chance we had no knowledge of what kind of era was coming in the future, we would have been discouraged and died like all of them. In just a short period of time, the whole world will face colossal disasters through natural famine, and finally the era of the pale horse will arrive. In this dark era, the Antichrist will make his appearance and kill many people who believe in Jesus and who have been truly born again. After the martyrdom of these righteous people, there will come the time when the Lord will resurrect and rapture these saints. For this reason alone, we cannot but go on living spreading this gospel, taking precious care of what time there is left right now. Therefore we steadfastly continue with the spreading of this precious gospel.

Lately we have been experiencing much suffering and hardship due to a long period of drought. As we pray, I believe God will give us much needed rain, according to our needs. The saints in our locality need to also recognize what kind of an era we are now living in. We are also suffering along with

others these kinds of natural disasters, which are now taking place throughout the world. Very soon we will start to experience more serious natural disasters, which will start to materialize around the globe. People have the tendency to ignore the Word of God, regarding it as unimportant and neglecting it. But as soon as they start becoming directly affected with the suffering of these events, they will again seek out the truth, and come to believe it again. People have this age-old tendency to believe if they suffer terrible hardships, but do not believe in God if they are living without these troubles. This is why God is making the whole of mankind suffer these troubles and hardships.

If we look at Matthew 24, starting from verse 7, the Lord talks about various serious events that will occur during the era of the black horse. *“For nation will rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”* These are the events that will



occur during the era of the black horse. In other words, these events will take place during this time period. For He said, *“For nation will rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”*

Jesus said that when these famines and earthquakes arise on earth, it will be the beginning of sorrows. When these frightful disasters become a reality on this earth, then the era of the pale horse will soon arrive, and the calamities of the seven trumpets will be rapidly poured out on this earth, one after another: Fireballs, hailstones, and comets will rain down from heaven like unguided celestial missiles; Stars will fall into the sea and into the rivers, bringing about huge tidal waves, tsunamis and indescribable destructive earthquakes. During this period or era, calamities as mentioned by the Lord will surely come about, so we have to believe in this gospel and do everything possible to proclaim it to the entire world, while it is still relatively peaceful,

before the era of the pale horse arrives.

When people run marathons, they tend to hit their physical limits after having run about 30 kilometers. Like this example, we are also at a point when things are extremely hard. Nevertheless, even if we are so exhausted and experiencing hardship, we must remember to pace ourselves accordingly, and continue to run this race with the finish line in view.

We should all realize that this era, which we now are living in, is the actual era of the black horse, and that we have arrived in the era of these disasters. In one year, due to no rain, the ground cracks up like an over baked cake; water levels in reservoirs become critically low, leading to an argument about whether or not farming can even be done at all. We are now witnessing a worldwide trend of the building of dams, some of which are of mega size proportions. And in yet another year, huge unnatural cloudburst will occur, accompanied with abnormal sustained downpours making for the ripening of crops difficult, flooding occurs in divers places, people lose their



lives and homes, with heavy causalities. This kind of abnormal weather phenomena does not only occur here in Korea.

Look at all the disasters that have recently happened around the world, the scientists could never have predicted it. These events are not a temporary thing. All this has been foretold in the book of Revelations especially in Chapter 6, where it refers to the era of the black horse. The era of the black horse refers to an era or a time of spiritual and physical famine, and we are now living in such a time.

When the era of famine arrives, people will suffer hunger, food to sustain us will be scarce due to natural disasters, and along with this people will suffer spiritual famine. Soon after this time or era, the era of the pale horse will arrive as if just it merged in with this era. When reality strikes, this era would have already become the era of the pale horse, disasters will from then on fall from heaven. Since we know and believe that such an era will come about, we cannot be having our private thoughts. We

will have no time to spare for that. I tell you I cannot help but preach sermons about the Book of Revelation in this day and age.

What is more, the saints must also really pull their thoughts together and concentrate on the spiritual work. Yes, it is tiresome and difficult, but we must know, believe in, and serve this gospel of the water and the Spirit. And as for those who have already received the remission of sins by believing in this gospel of the water and the Spirit, they should spread this gospel to their family members, friends and to other people and take care of those souls, who all are the belongings of God.

We must spread the gospel to other souls as well, and live for this gospel the rest of our lives by managing the goods entrusted to us by God, and carrying out our businesses with our abilities. After all God has instructed us to live this way. Therefore we must be ever watchful, and our spirit must be awake. We must discern this era well, keep the faith, and lead a life of faith spreading the gospel to



everyone throughout the world, all the while praying incessantly. It is all because God has entrusted us with this work.

I am determined to finish my book on the Book of Revelation, have it translated into every language in the world, and distribute it widely to everyone. This is because there can be no future when one cannot accurately foresee this terrible era. One cannot be guaranteed of a future if you cannot perceive the present accurately.

As for us the truly born again, who are living in this era, and knowing all this, should not let our faith come to standstill. By accurately discerning this era, we should also know the next era that is following. And by leading a correct life of faith in the present, we will go on to the Lord having lived by this faith. In order to successfully accomplish this, we must spread this gospel of the water and the Spirit throughout the entire world, and thus throw away our personal thoughts and desires. Brothers and sisters, we must discard those thoughts that desire to live

high and noble like princes or princesses. We should be bound to God, spreading the gospel to all those who belong of God, serve the gospel through the ability that God has given us, put ourselves in a position by faith, to proclaim this gospel all over the world, and live as God's servants. Although we are constantly fighting fatigue we realize that there is so much more work we still need to do.

There are brothers and sisters who have recently entered our Mission School. I believe that they have really set their heart on living entirely for the gospel. I believe that they are 'the people of faith' who desire to live totally for the Lord, eating and suffering together through hardships, with the aim of fulfilling the great commission. We are also living in a time when laborers are scarce, and people who wish to live entirely for the Lord are only but few in number. However you and I must diligently carry out the work, which has been entrusted to each of one us, by using the abilities that God has given us, and we must proclaim the gospel with all our heart and might to



the best of our ability. We should just simply be living for this gospel.

We are going to go to Mongolia this time. We intend to work in Mongolia for a week. It will take a day to get there, and a day and a half will have passed by the time we have unpacked our travel luggage. Since we have to take another day out of our schedule for getting back, there will only be five days to work. I do not know how much work we can do in five days.

I hope and pray that God will lead some souls to us, and allow us to preach the gospel to those souls, help them receive the remission of sins, and establish God's worker there, so that they can live for the Lord. They then will be able to lead a proper life of faith, separated from their former faith. I really desire to establish God's Church in Mongolia. By establishing God's Church and its leaders there, it would be then our duty to look after them, with living expenses, materials and books, and by doing this we will be able to spread this gospel through that

strategic Church, and use it as a springboard to spread the gospel throughout that region of Northern Europe and China.

Mongolia is connected to China and Russia through a network of rail links. Mongolians have easy access to either of these two countries using this form of transport. This nation was once colonized and ruled by both Russia and China. It is independent now, but as the result of past history, Mongolians have free access into these countries without the need for a passport or visa. This is why we desire to establish God's Church in Mongolia. As for countries like the Philippines, we will only be sharing electronic books and paper books. We will not enter countries that we do not need to. There are many nations in the world where public order has as yet not been established well, like some in the Middle East. In countries where politics are in turmoil with internal wars and ongoing conflicts, you could surely suffer a serious mishap by mistakenly going there. Looking at it from that perspective, Mongolia with its



political and economic problems being of a secondary nature, it is really not that bad compared to other countries, so I am glad for this fact.

Dear fellow believers, now is the time for us to unite, pulling ourselves together, believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and spreading it all throughout the whole world. Do you believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? Do you believe that your sins and mine have all been remitted through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? The gospel of the water and the Spirit is simple, but it is the real definitive Truth. There are a very large number of false teachers in this world who do not spread this Truth. Therefore, we who have this knowledge and believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must carry out this work.

Those who sincerely wish to be born again must know and believe in this gospel through the books we are sending them. We are spreading the gospel through printed media; we have done this because it was necessary. Those who have come to meet the

gospel through our books will realize the fact that the Lord has atoned for not only all their sins, but also for all the sins of those to whom they will be spreading the gospel. When people spread this gospel, they gain strength, and you too will come to experience the same as you do the same. We will be clothed in the power of the Holy Spirit as we go on living that way. We must spread this gospel with strong faith, and we must concentrate more of our efforts into the work of spreading this gospel.

In the future, other than writing books, I will concentrate my efforts on traveling around Korea, holding revival meetings, and spreading the gospel and taking our Mission School students along with me, for on the job training. No matter what field I work in, I feel most strengthened and at my best when I am spreading the gospel. Are you the same? How much strength do you gain when you spread the gospel? How joyful are you when you profess, “Jesus has eliminated all of your sins”? Was there any occasion where you had gained more strength than



doing this work? Actually working for the gospel is not an easy task, but the fact remains that our hearts feel most peaceful, most glad, and best when we spread and serve the gospel. Spreading the gospel and serving the Lord is the ultimate best.

We will go to Mongolia and spread this gospel, but there has to be humble souls. They have this perception that a large number people in Korea are rich businessmen. With this in mind we are going there to engage in a spiritual warfare against the powers of the darkness that has ruled over these souls for a very long time. We with this truth must make the people in that area surrender to God.

Brothers and sisters do you think that every Christian community in this world has knowledge of the gospel of the water and the Spirit? No, they do not. The gospel of the water and the Spirit is a treasure hidden by God, and so it is a secret. During the era of the seven seals as depicted in the Book of Revelation, even to those who do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, it will remain a

secret. Therefore the false preachers and unbelievers will not be able to know this Truth, no matter how hard they look at the Bible.

While I was making this book based on the Book of Revelation, I felt once again that there really are not that many books worth referring to as references. When people write a book they should at least make some assertion of their own and show the truth clearly. But the writers of these books just go on unfolding personal stories and useless words, instead of referring to Scripture passages and showing their deep meanings. Because of this situation, people who are also searching are unable to know the Truth through them. People like this who gather up useless information and extort the spiritually blind are the wolves who ravage the souls of man. We who have knowledge of the gospel of the water and the Spirit have a huge amount of work to do. I will repeat and give thanks to God who has given us this work to do. I trust that the follow up books will be published soon so that I may be able to give them to you as a



gift.

Brothers and sisters, I do realize you are exhausted, but let us despite this fatigue serve this gospel for a little bit longer, living for it and spreading it. This world is truly wide and there is a huge amount of work still to be done. And so we will be carrying out much work this year, including the next. When the time arrives when we are unable to work overseas anymore, we will live well and eat well amongst ourselves. That is because at that time we will still be able to spread the gospel here in Korea. We will be able to spread the gospel in Korea until the era of the pale horse arrives.

Brothers and sisters, I know it is very hard, but let us again gather our strengths and spread the gospel until the time when we can no longer do so any more. I am sure the Lord has appointed us to do this work. Instead of thinking worthless things, the sisters should serve the gospel well through the Internet. The brothers should have faith and think about the gospel before any thing else, in accordance with the

command of the Lord: Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. As the end draws closer and closer, we must think about this gospel first and foremost and live for it with the utmost priority.

I am sure that the workers of God will arise in great numbers in our Church. We actually are training all the saints here as God's workers. All the righteous in Korea number about 300 people, and we are working in our respective department toward the whole world with our God-given talent. The work that we do leads people throughout the world into thinking that we are an immensely large missionary organization. However you and I are able to accomplish this great work only because of God. The ministers in charge of the literature ministry currently reported that although missionary groups in other countries had total disregard for us when we at first sent them the first book of the gospel book series, since then they are now requesting more books, so we have started to send them volumes 1, 2, and 3 of the English editions, they have come to recognize the



preciousness of our ministry and changed their attitudes to a position of humility. It is now reported that when we talk, they listen to us well, and are really co-operative.

Since our work is done by our faith in God, I believe He is the One opening up and paving the way for us. God also wants His Kingdom to be expanded throughout the world through us because the gospel, which we spread, is the real Truth. If everyone throughout the world had knowledge of this gospel and believed in it, then perhaps our efforts in working like this may not have been necessary.

Scientists reckon that because the ‘yellow sand phenomenon’ is so severe in Mongolia, people who visit that region should not forget to take protective eyeglasses. And they tell us because of this, the seasons lag about two months behind those of Korea. So we see the weather there right now is warm during the day but cold at night. Mongolia has a centralized heating system, which is also effected by this phenomenon, and the authorities there have

informed the nation that after the 15 May 2006, they will be switching it off. So with this in mind we will be taking blankets with us to prepare ourselves for those cold nights.

Brothers and sisters, I ask that you keep us in your prayers. Our going there will be the same as you going there. Remember with us are going there to spread the gospel; it is never to have a good time. No matter which country that may be, the only reason we go there is to spread the gospel and to establish God’s Church. If we appoint one or two workers and establish God’s Church there, the workers will grow spiritually, keep their faith, and live for God. And as our Mission continues to teach the workers there through our books on spiritual growth, they will rise up, foster more souls, and spread the gospel. And soon they will be able to do God’s work as His good loyal and faithful workers. I hope that you pray for us much.

This Tuesday Reverend Kim and his wife will return back from the United States. Right now I am



trying to figure out a good place for our ministry workers to gather together with Rev. Kim. There are times I think that we should gather together and feast ourselves by barbequing two plump pigs. Brothers and sisters, you are exhausted, I know that? Let's gather up our strengths. Am I the only one who is repeatedly saying that I am weary, as none of you are? I know that all of you are weary. There cannot but be hardships in this era of famine that the Lord spoke of. Even so I once again admonish you: You must live for the gospel; you must believe, without fail, that this current era is the era of famine; you must carry out to the best of your ability, the work you have been entrusted with; and you must live out your faith, loving one another.

In the future this world will become more difficult to live in, and a better world will never arrive. This is an absolute fact. Brothers and sisters we must keep the faith well and serve the gospel well too. When you first seek His Kingdom and His righteousness, your flesh will be well off, and also you will be

receiving blessings. I believe you know for a fact that if you do not first seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, you will not be able to receive any blessings. Also I believe God provides for His workers with all that they need, feeding them and clothing them satisfactorily. Amen. ☒





# USER GUIDE



How to Read

Easier Way to Read

Cover Page

|||||  
**HOW TO READ**  
|||||

**PAGING THROUGH THE BOOK**

**Page by Page**

**Skipping to a Page**



# PAGE BY PAGE



## • **KeyBoard**

1) Page Up / Page Down Key

Page Up = Previous Page,      Page Down = Next Page

2) Arrow Key

← or ↑ = Previous Page,      → or ↓ = Next Page

## • **Acrobat Reader Menu Button**

◀ = Previous Page,      ▶ = Next Page

## • **Link**

◀ = Previous Page,      ▶ = Next Page  
Contents = Go to Table of Contents



## SKIPPING TO A PAGE



### 1) Key Board

Ctrl + N Key : The number of page you want to go to.

### 2) Acrobat Reader Scroll Bar

Click and drag in the scroll bar until the page number in the number field matches the page you want to go to.



|||||  
EASIER WAY TO READ  
|||||

## Using Bookmarks

You can move easily where you want by using bookmarks

- Show bookmarks : Press F5 Key on your keyboard
- Hide bookmarks : Press F5 Key again

