

Knowing the Times – Seasons – Purposes & Activities of God

There is a war going on all over the world.

We are experiencing the warfare in our own nation as the ungodly are trying to change the times and the seasons and laws in favor of abominable practices that defy God's order for mankind.

Do you realize that most of the Body of Christ is asleep and doesn't even know or seem to care what is happening in every platform of our culture: Homes, schools, government, even the church?

We must wake up – Rouse to Reality!

We won't get a second chance at turning this nation's heart back to God.

This is the final play of the last days.

It's like the 4th quarter, 3rd down and yards, with the score tied & just a few seconds left on the clock and the ball is on the 1 yard line.

9th inning and tied score, the winning runs is on base with two outs and 3 balls and two strikes and the church is up to bat.

What are we going to do – CHOKE and fail to fulfill what the Lord has left us here for?

Ecc. 3:1 “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven...”

1Chron. 12:32 “The sons of Issachar had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, and all of their brethren were at their command”

- The world doesn't have leaders like this, the church is supposed to be the leaders who influence the governmental and other systems that govern nations.
- We need to be the people of God who know the strategy and plans of God for this season and stand up and lead and other will gather around.
- Without this leadership, we all are just left standing with a dumb look on our faces wondering what just hit us.

You mean to say there's something wrong in church?

YES

- We need to purify our lives – 2Cor. 6:16-18
“What agreement [accord, unity] has the temple of God [your body & soul] with idols?”

For you are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be separate [sanctified], says the Lord, and touch not the unclean things; and I will receive you, and will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

- One of the things grossly wrong in the Body of Christ now is the allowance of polluted people to fill pulpits and they are applauded simply because they have a gift – not an anointing, but a gift.
- We need to draw a line and mark those who are not preaching the real Word of the Lord.
- Their lives don't match up with the Word they give and they are releasing contamination and confusion on people.
- It sends the message: “It doesn't matter how you live, just operate in your gift!”
- It does matter how you live, God's Spirit won't rest and work through an unclean vessel.
- The problem has become that the church is so deceived, it can't tell the difference between the Holy Spirit and witchcraft operating.
- Someone rebellious against God can't be filled with the Holy Spirit – Acts 5:32 “We are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit who God has given to those who **obey** Him.”
- Somebody is fleecing the flock – laying out with women, going to the bars and clubs, smoking this and taking that – then coming to the pulpit attempting to declare the Word of the Lord. And what is sad; so may applaud them and think they are great and God's gift to the church.
- You need to know the life of the one you listen to and receive teaching from.
- How godly a life do they live?

**The situation in the world is so critical right now,
we can't survive a miss-diagnosis another minute.**

You're going to think I'm old fashioned and out of touch with today's culture; but my Bible – God's Word, from the lips of Jesus says: Matt. 7:13-16

“Straight is the gate and narrow is the way which leads to life, and **few** there be that find it.

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from stickers?"

Jesus' admonition is to: "Enter at the straight gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in there."

There may not be as many saved people as we thought!

2Tim. 2:19 "The foundation of God stands sure, having this seal, The Lord knows those that are His, and let everyone that names the name of Jesus Christ depart from iniquity."

V.21-22 "If a person purifies themselves from these, they shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified and fit for the Masters us, and prepared for every good work.

Flee youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, love, peace along with others who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

- The attitude that I can live any way I want to and still be known as a follower of Christ is just plain – flat wrong and is deception.
- Well you know God made us all and loves us – Yes, HE did; and HE made us male and female and there is a difference and you can't change how the Lord created you to be.

We need leaders and God's people to be as Ezekiel described them:

Ezekiel 44:23 "They shall teach My people the difference between the Holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean."

- We have to learn how to separate and to be separate!

Isa. 21:5- "They prepare the table, they spread the rugs, having set the watchers, the revelers take no other precaution, they eat, they drink.

ARISE you princes, and oil your shields for your deadly foe is at the gates."

God is saying to leaders and the Body of Christ to RISE UP – AWAKE and ARISE!
Oil your shields!

The shield of faith is the number one shield we need to be oiling and preparing.

Eph 6:16 "...taking the shield of faith so that you can quench the fiery missiles of the wicked one."

- Our shields are down, that is why the enemy is making the headway he's making even in the church. Marriages and families are under assault by the enemy and he's winning because your shield of faith is not oiled to quench the fiery darts coming into your home.
- It's said by statistics the divorce rate is the same in the church as it is in the world.
- If the devil can erode your marriage, your family – he will be able to erode the church.

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- Tables were prepared, the rugs were spread for festive parties, watchmen were set in place –
But the call was, ARISE – your enemy is at the gates!
 - The watchmen were set in place, the festivities were on; but if you don't listen to the watchmen, what good are they?

Sounds like Jesus' warning of the last days:

Matt 24:38-39 “For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and know not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.”

The warning is RISE UP – OIL YOUR SHIELDS, FOR YOUR DEADLY FOE IS AT THE DOOR!

- We can't say the deadly foe is not at the door of this nation or even the church today.
 - People are preaching a hyper-grace message where you can live anyway you choose and it's right because it's right in your own eyes.
 - You don't have to confess your sins, it's already covered by Jesus in his death for all.
 - People are compromising the Gospel and saying a personal surrender to Jesus as Lord and Savior is not necessary – HE died for all humanity anyway.

Heb. 10:26 “If we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.”

There’s a Fake Jesus out there that people are saying HE has led them to do things that are anti-biblical/scriptural and wanting us to validate it as a prophetic word.

Paul said: 2Cor. 11:4 “For you seem ready to endure it if a man comes and preaches another Jesus than the One we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received or a different gospel from the one you received and welcomed; you tolerate it.”

Gal. 1:6-8 “I marvel that you are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ to another gospel. Which is not another; but there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

When people start talking to you about things that are not aligned with God’s Word – you better get them out of your life, they will contaminate you, mislead and deceive you.

Rise Oil Your Shields:

- Your shield of faith have to be oiled because they dry out.
- The leather shield would began to crack and the layers separate without the oil.
- You have to oil your shield so you don’t dry out and you can quench the fiery darts of the wicked one.

True prayer is an audience with the King:

- No potentate on earth gives the offer the King of the Universe gives to us.
 - We can talk to Him anytime – anywhere - any place- about anything.
 - Your requests can be made known to Him in prayer.
 - Jesus said: John 16:24 “Up until now, you have not asked anything in My Name; but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so that you joy may be full and complete.”

2Cor. 6:2 “For He says, in the time of favor I have listened to you and heeded your call, and I have helped you on the day of deliverance, the day of salvation. Behold, now is truly the time for a gracious welcome and acceptance; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

Matt 6:6 “But when you pray, go into your most private room, and closing the door, pray to your Father, Who is in secret; and your Father, Who sees in secret, will reward you in the open.”

- Get private
- Get quiet – unplug from the TV, disconnect from the internet & phone, all distractions.

Psa. 46:10, 11 “Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our Refuge and Tower and Stronghold.”

- This generation hates silence, we have to turn something on just to have noise in the background.
- Now, they have created **white-noise/pink noise** to help you unplug from all the distractions and to calm you down to focus.
 - It a hissing or swooshing noise made by media when not receiving a signal, or sounds of the ocean or waves, or rain used to drown out other noise so people can sleep or do work and focus.
 - Someone who has Tinnitus has a built in white noise HaHa.

Isa. 26:3 if you’ll get your focus on the Lord, He will take you to a new place of rest and peace.

“I’ll keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Me; because he trusts in ME.”

“Whose mind is stayed” – a firm word for FOCUS.

Jude tells us we are in troubled days: We must stand and defend the Faith!

Is what you believe in worth defending?

Jude 3 “I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Fight with the last drop of our blood for the faith once delivered to us.

Psa. 92:10 “...I have been anointed with fresh oil.”

That is what we need – the fresh oil of the Holy Spirit to empower us.

One of the best ways to lose a move of God is to think we’ve seen it all.