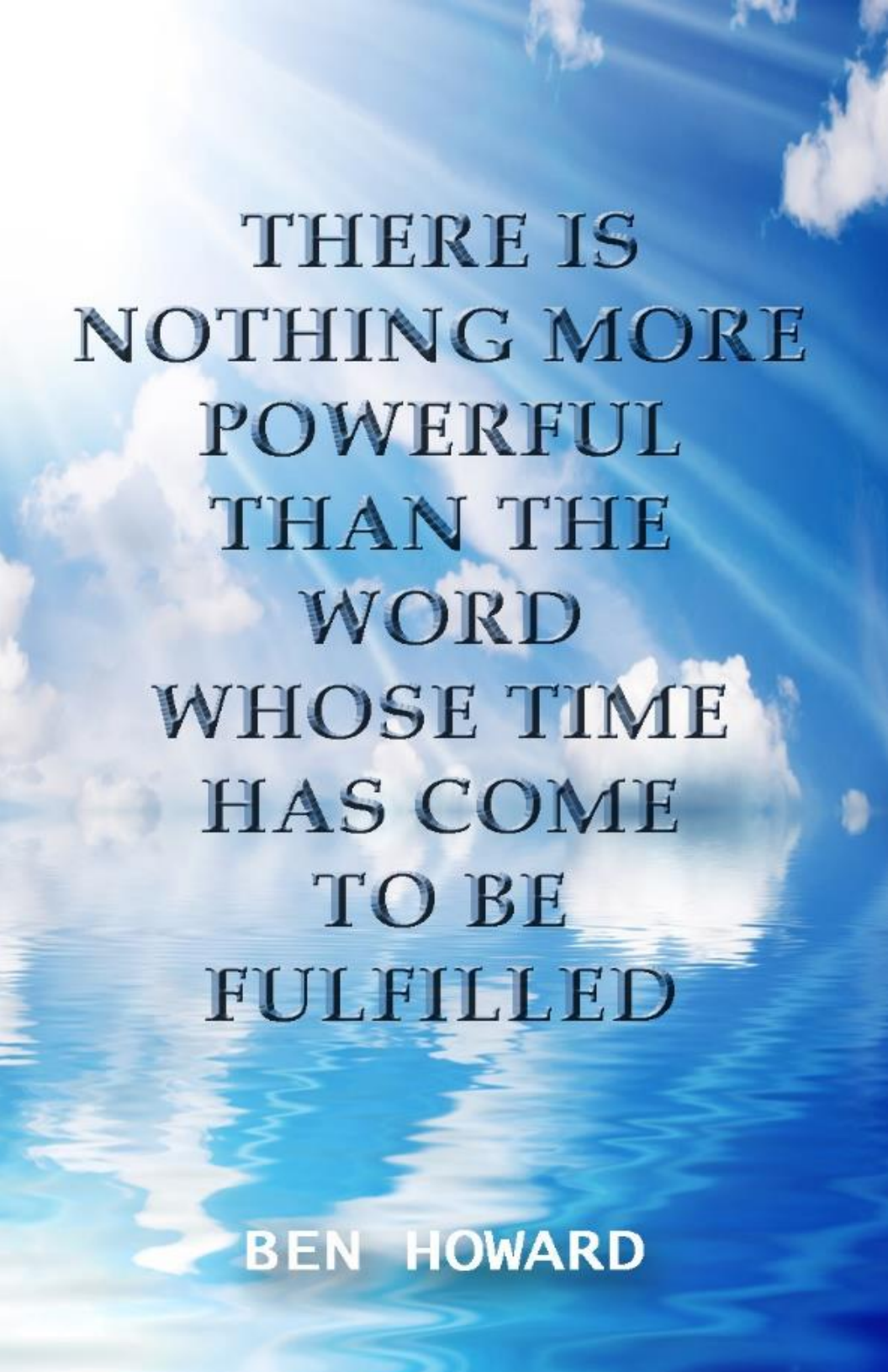




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BEN HOWARD

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A Gospel Message That Has No Worthy Opponent

*Thought for the book taken from the message
delivered on February 14, 2016
Dawsonville, Georgia U.S.A.*

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All scripture quotations are taken from
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Published by the Sound Of Liberty
7286 Hwy 53W, Dawsonville, Georgia 30534 U.S.A.

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A Gospel Message That Has No Worthy Opponent

I'm glad to see each one this morning. The weather was supposed to be really bad today; but it turned out not to be as bad as the weather forecasters predicted. So I praise the Lord for that; and I praise Him for His goodness and mercy upon us. Now let's pray before reading the scriptures.

Heavenly Father, as we come to you with your Word open before us, we know that you are the author of the Word and the only one that can give the correct and precise meaning of it. We know our sufficiency has to be of you. So I pray, Lord, that you grant that; not only to me, but to the hearers, also. And we will be so careful to praise you for it, in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Now today, we will be reading from the Book of Matthew, Chapter 16, for our text scripture. But before reading that scripture, we will be laying out the road map in the Word for this important message. We will be including other supporting scriptures which are very specific to the hour that we are living in today. It's a great blessing to us when we realize that when God sent the Apostle Paul to take a message to the Gentiles that there were many of the Jews that believed Paul's preaching, too, and were included as part of the virgin which was produced by his message. For he was the messenger ordained to espouse a virgin to Christ. And once we see this truth, it sets our thinking in the right direction for understanding our part of the Word of God as it applies to our day. Hence, the goodness of God is continued in the fulfillment of the prophetic part of the Word for the wife.

When we read Paul's writings, we find that he laid the prophetic Word for the wife's covenant within the New Testament (or New Covenant). This means that when Paul was introducing the New Covenant, all who would believe and accept the Lord Jesus Christ, receiving their new birth, would be under that new covenant. Wherever he went, he boldly proclaimed this new covenant by telling the nations that they could not be justified by the Old Testament Covenant that God had made with the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. He also began to tell the Jews that Christ Jesus was not only their Messiah, Savior, and King, but he was also telling them, "It is Christ in you, the Hope of Glory!" Needless to say, he was rejected by all except those that God had ordained to believe his preaching concerning 'the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ of both the Jews and the Gentiles.' But Paul kept right on preaching this New Covenant to all. And as we follow Paul's preaching, we see that his message began to turn more towards Word that could only be understood by revelation. This was true of both the Jews and the Gentiles, who collectively were a specific group—the virgin that was to be married to Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:2-3) From this point on, Paul began to lay a foundation for the wife's covenant within the New Testament Covenant that would eventually produce a marriage to the virgin whom his message espoused to Christ. But lo, and behold, the serpent came into the picture and beguiled this young virgin (as he did Eve), and the marriage did not take place at that time.

So Paul began to lay away prophecies that could not be fulfilled in his day. And as the virgin fell away, she went into the long period of time known to us as the seven church ages. At this time, the virgin came under a survival law as God saw fit to send each particular age a message, which would be their salvation in that time period. This time period is also known as the kingdom of heaven age, which wheat and tares would grow

together until the Mighty Angel of Revelation, Chapter 10, proclaimed that there should be time no longer for it to be like this. (Revelation 10:6) And now we have reached the time where the wife's covenant that Paul prophesied about and laid the foundation for comes into plain view. This applies to those that were ordained and chosen of the ten virgins that are shown in Matthew 25:1-12 to be married to God's own Son. These prophecies were sealed away in the Book of Redemption and is the part of it that is known as the little book of Revelation, Chapter 10. This is the wife's covenant that's within the New Testament Covenant. This marriage covenant for the wife is made known by the sounding of the last trump of God message and is now being preached. This last trumpet message completes what was begun in Paul's day by facilitating our marriage to Christ, the living Word. And now we are bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh. (Ephesians 5:30-33). Our marriage to the Lamb has produced this glorious union with our Lord, as He has given us the Christ part of His name, which makes us the fullness of the body of Christ in the earth, known as Christ the wife. (Ephesians 4:13-16)

Now having given a prelude to this message, I want to take a thought and entitle it, *There Is Nothing More Powerful than the Word Whose Time Has Come to Be Fulfilled*. My thought is that when we read the Word of God, we see certain things coming into being that belong only to the wife. And even though we see this, it sometimes looks as though things will not go as promised. But then as the time comes around, we see that everything is just as the Word says; and, as always, it prevails and we see everything working out just like it is supposed to.

In the Old Testament, we can read the Book of Jonah 1:17, where the Lord had prepared a great fish (a whale) to swallow Jonah because he had disobeyed Him. But God kept Jonah alive in order to fulfill His will. So here in Matthew 12:40, it refers back to this. It says, "*For as Jonas was three days and three nights*

in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." No one knew that what happened to Jonah was a hidden truth of what would happen to our Lord Jesus Christ when He came.

So when Jesus was speaking about Jonah, He showed us that this scripture was really portraying His death, burial, and resurrection. And it came to pass just as God ordained it. In Matthew 16:21, it says, *"From that time forth (after Peter by revelation had told who Jesus was) began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day."* Well, He did exactly that; but the meaning of what He was saying was concealed from His disciples. It was only after Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead that His disciples received the understanding of what this scripture meant.

Let's look at Luke 24:13-35. *There were two of His disciples on their way to Emmaus, and as they talked together and reasoned about the things which had happened to Jesus in Jerusalem, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But He was concealed from their eyes, that they should not know Him. And Jesus said unto them, "What manner of conversation are you having with one another, as you walk, and are so sad?" And they began to tell Jesus of the things that had taken place, "We thought for sure this man Jesus was the Messiah and had come to redeem Israel, but they have crucified Him. And then certain women of our company astonished us, when they went early at the sepulcher of Jesus and found His body not there, and said they saw a vision of angels, which said that He was alive." Then Jesus said unto them, "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory?" (Why can't you believe the Word?) And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself. Finally, they came into the village, and Jesus made as though He would go on, but they*

constrained Him to abide with them. And as He sat there with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and broke it into and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him. Then suddenly He vanished out of their sight, just as suddenly as He had appeared. And then they said, "Did not our hearts burn within us, as He spoke to us along the way." This shows us that what He was telling them just wasn't getting through. But the point is that Jesus Christ came and did exactly what the Word said that He would do, but it wasn't made known until it was quickened unto them. So what we see is that it came time to make it known and to fulfill it.

One of the scriptures that I use oftentimes is found in John 2:22, because it is here where we find that the disciples began to understand what Jesus had been telling them about the resurrection. One of the reasons I love this scripture so much is because of an experience I had after I received a new Bible from some people in South Carolina. One night I was going through the new Bible, marking some of my favorite places. And I was reading Matthew, Mark, and Luke; just going through the New Testament and getting my places marked. By the time I got over to John and read Chapter One it was getting late, so I thought, "I'll just leave this until tomorrow." I went on to bed and had a dream. It was a very strange dream to say the least. In this dream, I was down below my house in the woods. There appeared a white marble granite-type stone monument in front of me in the shape of an m. It looked to be about 6 feet tall and about 30 to 40 inches wide. It was so glistening white. At the curve at the top of the m on the left side in bold black letters was the word **AND**. Then on the right side in the curve at the top was the word **AND**. Just as suddenly as this appeared, it disappeared. Then I woke up. And as I thought on this strange dream, I said to myself, "Surely that can't be spiritual." When I got up the following morning, I sat down at the table where I had left my Bible open the day before. So I started to read, John, Chapter One, again, as I had the night before. And then I went

on to Chapter 2. As I read Chapter 2, I came to Verse 22, and I read right over the *two ands* in that verse without noticing them. At this point it seemed that something warm came over me and suddenly I was in the woods again looking at the stone type monument with the *two ands* written on it. Then as I looked at my Bible in John 2:22, those *two ands* there in the scripture began to rise up and off the page, becoming larger as they rose. Then as they returned back to their page, they went back to their normal size. This happened several times, and then stopped. After I regained my composure, I began to read John 2:22 again. Then I saw something in that verse that I had never seen before. It spoke of the written Word and the spoken Word. Watch this scripture as it reveals the *two ands* in John 2:22. It says, *“When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; **and** they believed the scripture, **and** the word which Jesus had said.”* Notice here that those two ands had just come up off the page and they were magnified by becoming larger as they rose. Remember, this scripture is speaking of the resurrection of Jesus Christ—and He certainly was magnified and glorified when He arose from the grave. This was a prelude to the resurrection of the dead members of the body of Christ in this day, at which time, also, the physical translation (or change) of the living members of the body takes place. Then we will all be glorified and magnified together as all the members of the wife show both the first *and*, along with the second *and*, of the Word for this day.

Let’s read that part of the two ands of John 2:22 again, *“and they believed the scripture, **and** the word which Jesus had said.”* Notice this point, there are two *ands* that stand out in this verse of scripture. The first *and* is *“and they believed the scripture,”* which is the written Word. But the second *and* is, *“and they believed the Word which Jesus had said,”* meaning that the scripture has to be quickened. In Ephesians, Chapter 2, we find where Paul began talking about the word being *quickened*, which

means it comes alive to us, and we see it in a way we have never seen it before. There are also other places that the Bible speaks of 'the Word being quickened.' And I am praying that the Word will be quickened to us today. Otherwise, we are just reading the letter of the Word. But rest assured that God will always quicken the part to us that is for our time and our day. And for us, that means the Word coming alive that will translate these mortal bodies into glorified bodies to unite with the glorified resurrected members of the wife of the Lamb, as together we are bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh.

Notice my title, *There Is Nothing More Powerful Than the Word Whose Time Has Come to Be Fulfilled*. And at that time it ceases to be just the letter of the Word; for it comes alive and we begin to come into everything that is written about us, because we are the Word for this day. Paul told us about this in his writing in 2 Corinthians 3:2-6. And at this time, the Word will bring to pass what is written to be, and it becomes the most powerful force in the world and there is nothing that can stop it.

Now let's read our text scripture in Matthew, Chapter 16, starting with Verse One. It says, (Jesus talking to the Pharisees and Sadducees), *"The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven."* Notice, they were willing to work together to try to find something against Him (though at other times, they were enemies). They came to tempt Him; they were not interested in a sign from God concerning the fulfillment of the scripture. I want you to notice that the Pharisees' and the Sadducees' mission in life at that time was to do something to discredit Jesus and put Him in a bad light. But God always gave the victory. Watch what Jesus says. Verses 2-3, *"He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. (They knew the natural things.) And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the*

times?” That is the way it was in the religious world then, and it is the same now. People know about the natural things, so they can discern what is taking place here in the earthly realm, but the heavenly signs of the times they cannot discern. Jesus Christ, God’s heavenly sign in a natural body, was there right among them, but they did not recognize Him. (It’s the same now with the wife of the Lamb and this last trumpet sounding in our day.) Jesus was sitting right there in the midst and they sang about Him and preached about the coming of the Messiah, and there He was. But they couldn’t read the signs, so they didn’t know — but the elected of Israel knew. And today the wife of the Lamb knows, as we have been reading the signs of the spiritual coming of the Lord for the resurrection and for our physical translation to be caught up together in a rapture. Because now the time has come for it, and nothing can stop it. And whatever else takes place in the world doesn’t hinder it to the point that it will be delayed; it will come to pass on time. That’s why we can say confidently that this gospel of this last trumpet message has no worthy opponent, because it’s seen only by spiritual revelation.

Let’s continue on with Verse 4. It says, “*A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he (Jesus Christ) left them, and departed.*” They couldn’t put together what Jesus was saying. He just left them and went on His way not bothering to go into any more details except for saying, “That is the only sign you are going to get.” But they missed that sign. And it is very clear that they did, because on the day of Pentecost they went about to try to stomp out the name of Jesus Christ. But even before the day of Pentecost (after His crucifixion), the soldiers that were guarding His tomb were paid large sums of money by the religious leaders to say that the disciples of Jesus had come by night (while they slept) and stole His body. Those religious leaders told the soldiers, “Do as we say, and if it comes to the governor’s ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.” So the

soldiers took the money and did as they were told. (Matthew 28:11-15) There were certain things taking place; the Word was being fulfilled, and there was an external force trying to cover it up and trying to hinder it. But it all took place right on time; everything began to fall into place, because it had come time for that portion of God's Word to be fulfilled. Amen.

In the Book of Luke, there is another scripture that basically says the same thing that Mathew, Chapter 16, says; but it adds a few more details that I would like to read. Let's start with Verse 54 in the Book of Luke, Chapter 12, *"And he (Jesus) said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is."* They could read the natural signs exactly right, but spiritual signs they couldn't read. Now it is the same thing with the denominational and independent churches of today, they can't read the signs. When we came through the seven church ages, there were so many times that God moved the pendulum of light forward, but the people had already built themselves a denomination and they stayed with that. And as the light moved on, they were left in darkness.

Notice, Verse 54 again, *"And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is."* Verse 55, *"And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass."* Yes, they could understand natural things, but they knew not what He was talking about spiritually. There was something going on right among them and they couldn't see it. That is the point that Jesus was making. There was something going on right among them and they rubbed elbows with it every day; but yet they didn't read the signs correctly. They could only read the natural signs. We have to be in the Spirit to read the spiritual signs.

One of my favorite scriptures on this is 1 Corinthians 2:11 which says, *"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."* So we want to get that good and clear

here—‘even so the things of God knoweth no man.’ We operate in a natural world and we need to know some of the natural things of this life; how to make a living, how to drive a car, how to get around in this society. But we have to know that there is something more important about life than these things. Even now there is a spiritual move of God taking place, the spiritual Christ in fullness walking amongst us, and that’s the thing we don’t want to miss. Because God fulfills a certain portion of the Word and it will slip right through, and all but the elected miss it. Watch these people here that Jesus was talking to. There He was, the very Son of God, with the very Christ in Him (Christ, the Word, that assisted God in creating the heaven and the earth), and yet they knew Him not.

Let’s read Luke 12:55 again, *“And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass.”* Verse 56, *“Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but how is it that ye do not discern this time?”* Notice that, *“You don’t discern this time.”* *“What’s the problem here that you can’t discern this time?”* See, the very God of heaven was fulfilling that part of the Word, and that was the part that was the most powerful force in the world, and nothing could stop it. So there is nothing more powerful than the Word whose time has come to be fulfilled. That means whatever the Word (whose time has come to be fulfilled) says, we can have faith in it, and we can rest confidently that this is what is going to be!

Now there are certain signs of the times in the natural that can direct us to what is taking place in the spiritual. When we look at what is going on in the Middle East, what is going on with Russia, and we see what is going on with the pope, that puts it in a place where even the natural man can discern it—and that’s good. But the spiritual part is more important and can only be understood by revelation as is laid out in the Word. But while all of this is taking place out here in the natural realm, there is something else taking place. Now watch this. The very Christ

that was within Jesus, and became part of Jesus, that caused Jesus to become Jesus the Christ, He came back in the form of the Mighty Angel in Revelation, Chapter 10, and brought with Him a little book, which was our portion of the Book of Redemption. Then the authorizing voice of the Almighty God spoke and told us to go to the angel and say, "Give me the little book," which we did. (Revelation 10:8-11) The angel said, "Take it, and eat it up (all of it)." In eating our part of the Book of Redemption, we became the living Word that made us bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh and we are forever the little book part of the Book of Redemption. Meaning that we have always been in the mind of God. He sent down our part of the Book of Redemption to let us know that we have always been His perfect choice to be the wife of His only begotten Son. He knew that we would eat the little book (Christ's flesh and bones), and now it is our own flesh and bones in the earth, just as Jesus was Christ's flesh and bones in the earth in His day.

Now we're not just as God's thoughts, but we are God's thoughts that have become manifested flesh and bones (Word), and are back home in God's mind as our part of the Book of Redemption. That is the special part of God's redeemed family. This means that the Word in the little book is no longer separate from the wife, as it has taken on human flesh. This is the home that Jesus Christ spoke of when He said in John, Chapter 14, "In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare (make a way) for you to get back to where you were in God's plan before the world was." This shows the many mansions which are the many parts of God's family that finds their place in the Book of Redemption, as the wife has found hers. Because the Lamb of God paid the price for all of us on the cross. (Revelation, Chapter 5) Let us praise God for this great redemption for His children!

We have met many adversaries in this body; but be not worried with some opposition here in this life, because we have a new body waiting in the wings, just as we already have a new

life for our souls; for our soul is redeemed and sealed unto the day of redemption. We are baptized into the body of Christ and nothing can change that, and we are not tossed to and fro and carried about, so we are safe inside the body of Christ. The soul has been baptized into the body of Christ and is one hundred percent safe. But there is a birth for the body that we haven't received yet. So now this body must be born again (or changed). Because our salvation is not complete unless and until we receive a body that is glorified, one like unto His own glorious body. And that is the promise of God.

So in essence, what Jesus was saying was that they could read all about the natural things; they had it all together. But that has nothing to do with whether you've got it all together spiritually or not. Someone can read all the signs and make all the right predictions, like some of these in the political realm today. I heard a comment the other day that someone made about a politician. They said, "He has tapped into the spirit of the people, and they have it going like they want it." But that has nothing to do with tapping into the Spirit of God; you don't tap into it, you are brought into it by the revelation of His Word. Yes, there are those in the political and religious realms that can read the people and what is going on. And many times those religious people, the Pharisees and Sadducees, could do that. They could read things so well that Jesus said, "You can read the signs in the sky, but you cannot read the signs of the times. Because if you could, you would recognize the Son of God right among you now." Now I say unto you, "The wife can read the signs of the times. We know that there is a trumpet blowing; and as it blows, it hits the right pitch perfectly with what Paul prophesied."

In last week's message entitled, *Prophesying Again Means Refreshing and Bringing to Pass What Has Been Prophesied*, we showed that Paul's prophecy is refreshed and brought into being by this trumpet sounding today. Paul said in his day, "If

the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who is going to be able to prepare?" In Paul's day, those that were ordained to be a member of the body of Christ under the message of espousal had to spiritually understand what Paul was preaching to them. And there was no uncertain sound to them. And in this day of the marriage, there is no uncertain sound as this last trumpet sounds out loud and clear. We have a perfect understanding that we have passed the *till* of Ephesians 4:13-16 and are no longer tossed and fro with every wind of doctrine, but have reached the fullness of Christ. And that's our marriage to the Lamb of God shown unto us by the sounding of the last trumpet. That's why we know whereof we stand.

We have read the signs of the spiritual coming of Christ correctly. I'm not talking about the coming of the Lord Jesus at the beginning of the millennium; but I'm talking about the Christ that has already come and baptized a people by the fullness of His Spirit into that one body in the second leg of His spiritual coming, which completes the spiritual coming of the Lord. (Revelation, Chapter 10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-16)

During the first leg of the spiritual coming of Christ, there was the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The true seed of that day received what God was doing and rallied to it. But the religion of that day put Peter in jail and killed many of the true saints. They were going to kill Peter, but God had given him the keys to the Kingdom and he had to use it to open the door for the Gentiles. (Matthew 16:17-19) And regardless of his external situation of being in jail, Peter was so peaceful in the Lord. As the song says, "I'm so peaceful in the arms of the Lord." He was actually laying down sleeping, although he was to be put to death the next day. But the angel came and woke him up, saying, "Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals and cast thy garment about thee and follow me." (Acts 12:5-17) Watch this. All of these great things were happening, but those religious people could not recognize what was going on; oh, but they

could recognize the signs of the weather, and they could get along with the Roman people there. The fact is, the Romans beautified that big temple there in Jerusalem. The Jewish people and the religions of that day were very prosperous, but they couldn't recognize the working of God through Jesus Christ and the apostles. No, they couldn't recognize the very God in the Christ of the Bible standing right there talking to them—and they missed it. They couldn't recognize the most powerful thing in the earth that was taking place right before their eyes, because it was so humble.

In the Book of Matthew, Chapter 17, we see the same thing with John. When Jesus came for His earthly ministry, the disciples started to get a glimpse that this was the Messiah. But there was one scripture that was bothering them much. Matthew 17:10 says, *"And his (Jesus') disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias (Elijah) must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them."* Notice, they went to the meetings of John; and even the religious people came from Jerusalem to ask John, "Are you the Messiah?" But John said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness." They said, "Well, if you are not the Messiah, why are you baptizing the people?" The point is, even the disciples told Jesus, "There is something that has to happen first. Elijah has to come before the Messiah comes." Well, it had already happened. They knew John. They had went to his meetings and heard him preach. It was the greatest thing that God was doing in the whole world! But they didn't get it. And there John was, fulfilling that portion of the Word of God which had been brought into being. It was the most powerful thing on the face of the earth!

See, there is nothing more powerful than the Word whose time has come to be fulfilled. Notice, even some of the disciples of

the Lord in John's day, when the time came and God fulfilled His Word, although they were hearing John and asking him questions, they weren't comprehending what God was doing right in their midst. John came with the Word of God, and although he didn't do miracles, it was the Word whose time had come to be fulfilled. It was a humble working of God. God can hide things in simplicity or He can put things in the light in a great visible way. And although Jesus did perform miracles, and it was as clear as the noon day sun, do you know what they said about Him? They said, "He does these things by the spirit of Beelzebub." I think about Mary's and Martha's brother named Lazarus, whom Jesus loved. By the power of God, Jesus raised him from the dead. Many of the Jews saw it and they really got scared. They saw all the people following Jesus and heard about all the miracles, and they thought, "This man is going to mess up our organization." They didn't know it, but their time had expired for manipulating the written Word. And now the time has expired for all the religious systems of this world, as the wife is married to the pure Word for this hour.

There is one particular case that we read about in John, Chapter 9, where a man was blind from his mother's womb and Jesus healed him. When the religious Jews asked the man, "How did you receive your sight?" He said, "A man that is called Jesus came and put mud on my eyes and told me to go wash, and now I can see." And some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not of God, because he keeps not the Sabbath day." But others said, "How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?" And there were divisions among them about Jesus. Then they asked again the man that had been blind, "What do you have to say about this man, Jesus?" And the man said, "He is a prophet." But the Jews didn't believe that the man had been blind to begin with, so they called his parents in. They gave testimony that their son had been blind from birth; but how he received his sight they knew not (they said this because they feared the Jews and didn't

want to be thrown out of the synagogue). So they told them to ask their son, and let him speak for himself. So they called the man in again and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man, Jesus, is a sinner." The man said unto them, "Whether He is a sinner, I know not; but one thing I know, that I was blind but now I see. How is it that you being leaders in Israel don't know about this man that is doing these great things?" The greatest thing in heaven and in earth was taking place, because the time had come for that to be fulfilled. And today—nothing, no power, can stop this trumpet from blowing and raising the dead and changing the living.

When we look at the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, we see that it took place just exactly as the Word said it would. And at that same time, the Old Testament saints rose from the dead, also. (Matthew 27:52-53) Next came the day of Pentecost for the Jewish people, as the Lord Jesus Christ came back in the Spirit, in the form of the Holy Ghost. Then as God moved by His Spirit, here came a people that were not called His people in the Old Testament, but would become His people. This was the Gentiles. That is what Paul was referring to in Romans 9:25-26, *"As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God."* He is telling about a people that weren't even seeking God. But when He called them to be His people, they didn't try to be righteous; but they got their righteousness strictly by faith. This starts at the end of Romans, Chapter 9, and goes into Chapter 10. Paul tells the Jews, who had all their rituals and ways of doing things to be righteous, "You go about to establish your own righteousness, thereby denying the righteousness of God." Let that be something that we think on. That should be put in our notes. If we seek it of ourselves, we don't get it. We've got to say, "I had no righteousness of my own; but now I have perfect

righteousness because Christ Jesus gave me His righteousness and now it's my very own, praise God!" This doesn't mean that we don't live right. We present our body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God. But we are not doing it to add to our righteousness. We love Him because He first loved us and we do the things the Spirit bids us to do, which is always the right thing to do. He gave us His righteousness. And any righteousness that we could conjure up on our own would be as filthy rags in the eyes of God. He took our sins and gave us His righteousness; therefore, this is who we are—the righteousness of God. And that settles the righteousness question.

So there comes a certain time when the Word will be fulfilled. And when the time comes for this Word to be fulfilled, nothing can stop it. The Word whose time has come is the most powerful force that there is. And with the eyesalve of God, we can see what part of the Word the time has come to fulfill. We've been baptized into the body of Christ. Now the last and final thing that we receive is complete salvation, which is fulfilled upon the glorification of this mortal body. Before our physical translation takes place, we can have sickness, we can have pain, and sometimes even get frustrated. But for that soul, and that mind that is stayed upon the Lord, there is peace. But as far as the physical body's part of salvation, it's not redeemed yet. But that is one of the things that God is now doing—as He is sounding this trumpet, our full redemption draweth nigh. And now the dead have begun to move around. We see in 1 Thessalonians 4:14 that Jesus brought the spiritual part of them down with Him, and now we find them over in the Book of Hebrews 12:22-24 as the spirits of just men made perfect. They are made perfect by that perfect knowledge of what God is doing. And at this present time, they can hear the voice of the Son of God sounding forth through the wife of the Lamb.

In John 5:28, Jesus is speaking, *"Marvel not at this for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice."* So

the question is asked, "Is there a voice of the Son of God in the earth in this hour?" Has it come time for the dead to begin to hear that voice? Well, if you will read in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 it talks about the spiritual coming of Christ. Verses 14-16 says, *"For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:"* Notice Verse 14, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." Meaning He sent them with Christ. He brings them right here. And Paul said in a prophetic utterance, "You've come to them." Not only to them, but to angels, also. We were spiritually translated into that heavenly environment. And he said it is heavenly Jerusalem. That's a spiritual place—and those spirits are here with us and are soon to go into a resurrected body.

Now I want to bring in about the body that went into the grave coming up and being united with the spiritual man. It's in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 15, where it is showing that the body is sown in corruption, but when it comes forth it will be raised in incorruption. It was sown in weakness, but it will be raised in power. As the body decays, all the imperfections decay away with it. And when it comes forth in the resurrection, God gives perfection to it, just as He did to the inner man which hears this same message we are hearing. Yes, those spirits hear the same message we're hearing. They hear the voice of the Son of God, which He expresses through the sounding of this trumpet.

Now the hearing of this trumpet has brought us into Area 51, into a certain area of time where we have the Word whose time has come to be fulfilled. This brings us into this area of the scripture that is seen in 1 Corinthians 15:51—that's Area 51. It's

not when the *shout* part took place, and it's not when the *voice of the archangel* part took place, but it is in this time of the trumpet sounding, and we are the people that are hearing it and we can't help it, because we are ordained to hear it. There is something in it that sets our souls on fire and that is what we've been waiting for all our lives. And this is the time when the dead is going to be raised and we're going to be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. This is our gospel.

All right, let's go to Ephesians, Chapter One. Here it talks about the gospel of our salvation. Ephesians, Chapter One, is so good; it seems that we could stay in this chapter forever and never get tired of reading it. But we want to pick up with Verse 11. It says, "*In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.*" Now that's why we see this; that's why we are here. It's not "I will this" and "I will that." No, it's by His will. God has already been down here at the end of our journey and saw us coming up in time to where He would fulfill this part of the Word. He saw the decisions that we would make, so God by His foreknowledge of this present time justified His predestination of the future. And that's why He could put our name in the Book of Life before the world was. By His foreknowledge of the present time, He justified His predestination of the future for the wife of the Lamb.

Verse 12, "*That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.*" That's what our lives should be, to the praise of His glory. Now how can we be loose in our living? How can we be loose in our thinking? We bring our mind into captivity of the law (love) of Christ. We're in the body of Christ. And in there, there is only one mind—the mind of Christ. Verse 13 says, "*In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard (you heard; faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word) the word of truth, the gospel (the gospel for us; that's what God is quickening and fulfilling) of your salvation.*" The gospel of their salvation? No.

It's the gospel of *your* salvation; and there is nothing more powerful than the Word whose time has come to be fulfilled! There is a gospel of our salvation and it's not for any other generation. It is for us! We are going to be changed! There's a gospel for us. Christ is in us, and we're in Him—the Hope of Glory. It's Christ in all His glory — His fullness manifested as the wife of the Lamb. It's more than the baptism of the Holy Ghost, which was the first leg of His spiritual coming; in this day, it is in fullness.

Continuing with Verse 13, *"in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,"* Verse 14, *"Which is the earnest of our inheritance **until** the redemption of the purchased possession (spirit, soul, and body), unto the praise of his glory."* Now here's the point—the body itself is going to be delivered from this bondage of corruption; just like the soul is. There is a gospel and it is in Area 51 of 1 Corinthians, Chapter 15, and it has no worthy opponent. There is nothing more powerful, no adversary strong enough to oppose it; for its time has come.

Now I want to get over in Romans, Chapter 8. Paul is speaking. Verse 13, *"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."* And on to Romans 8:18-19, Paul says, *"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature (the outer man) waiteth for the manifestation of the Sons of God ('the manifestation of the wife of the Lamb')." In other words, we are clothed in fine linen, which is the Son's own righteousness, in our full glory, with a glorified body. And the next verse says, "For the creature was made subject to vanity (In other words, it wasn't our fault that the fall took place. We were born in sin and shapen in iniquity, but God made a way.), not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope. **Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of***

God." I want to ask you a question. Do you feel your spirit telling you the time has come—that this is the Word whose time has come to be fulfilled—and it is the most powerful thing on earth and nothing can stop it? These scriptures concerning our new bodies are the scriptures whose time has come to deliver the children of God from the bondage of corruption as the soul was delivered and baptized into His spiritual body.

Verse 22, *"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also,"* Notice, "ourselves also." That means we're right there in the midst. Our soul has reached that perfection through the fullness of Christ, clothed in fine linen, clean and white. Now this body has become one with our spirit and will always be with our soul; for this is the fullness of our salvation as the soul doesn't go into the rapture without the body. We don't want our soul going out there somewhere without our body. For if that happened, our body would have to be buried. But there is a scripture whose time has come—'We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.' This is the scripture whose time has come, and it's the most powerful Word in the earth and nothing can stop it. *"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits (that's the Holy Ghost) of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting** for the adoption, to wit (what?), the redemption of the body."*

We're waiting for the redemption of the body, as we've been translated into the glorious liberty of the children of God by this second leg of His spiritual coming. When the voice of this trumpet began to sound forth, it brought a message that strikes exactly true to what Paul prophesied. He told us about Area 51 (1 Corinthians 15:51-52); so let's not worry about what is going on out there around us. In the natural realm, in the natural Area 51, they built an aircraft with such technology that it can fly right through the radar without being detected. Now the wife of the Lamb is coming through this world and the 'worldly radar'

doesn't detect that there is anything going on. Just like Jesus, He walked right among them, did exactly what the scripture said He would do, and some said, "You're of the devil." And when someone expressed an interest in Him, the religious leaders scornfully said, "Have you become one of His disciples, too?" It's the same thing today. Some saints that are not ordained to see this trumpet message, and many that are not Christians, express doubt as to whether this message is what Paul was writing about in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52. Well, the people that believed in Jesus Christ as the Messiah, as He walked upon this earth in the flesh, answered the critics like this: "When the Messiah comes, will He do more than this?" So today we say to those that have doubts that the trumpet is now sounding, "When the trumpet sounds will it make the Word live more than what we see in this day? You be the judge."

In John 3:4-8, Jesus tells Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." That is speaking of a spiritual birth for the soul. But now I tell you, "Our body must be born again!" It must be changed from this body of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. This is the message whose time has come! It is one of the most powerful forces in the world today and it cannot be stopped! It has no worthy opponent. Notice, there will be a resurrection of the dead. There will be a physical translation of the living. There will be a rapture where we will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. This is the Word whose time has come and nothing can hinder or stop it. And now we are saying, "Lord, pour the eyesalve on me." And our eyesalve is the special anointing that comes with the fullness of Christ and the power of the Holy Ghost. And we couldn't see this message without it.

Let's pray. *Heavenly Father, we come to you now. We come praising you, Lord, for your goodness and mercy. May this Word go forth and may we realize that the time for this to be fulfilled is here. It is taking place and we see it. For the glory of God, may you reveal this to your saints. In Jesus Christ's name. Amen.*

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