

# URGENT, ELEVENTH HOUR MESSAGE

## What is Coming and What to Do

### Introduction

This treatise is an urgent eleventh hour message designed to prepare the saints for the marriage supper of the Lamb (Matthew 25) for the Scripture says in Revelation 19:9, "*Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.*" This treatise is taken from eleven hourly radio broadcasts delivered by Pastor Peter John Peters.

Some may take issue with some of these teachings but the teachings in Part 10 & 11 are the most important and best be taken seriously by those who seriously want to be part of the marriage supper crowd.

This book is initially offered free to those who request it. These radio messages, presented on eleven 60-minute cassette tapes or CD's formatted to play on any CD player, are available from Scriptures for America, PO Box 766, LaPorte, CO, 80535 for a \$50.00 offering. The eleven messages can also be heard at our website, [www.scripturesforamerica.org](http://www.scripturesforamerica.org). Published by The LaPorte Church of Christ, LaPorte, Colorado, 80535.

### "Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do." Part I

#### *Wake Up- The Day Of The Lord Will Come*

Our Father in heaven, we come together and ask you in the name of your blessed son, our Lord and our Master, our Redeemer, our King, that You would bless this message with the anointing of Your Holy Spirit upon this teacher. We pray that you would guide and direct to the scriptures that you would want taught; that you would anoint upon the spirit in which it is taught, that Your people might recognize the seriousness of the hour in which they live. We ask for an anointing on the words as they are dispersed and read, and Your anointing upon the hearts of the people that You are calling. Heavenly Father, put upon them an understanding that they are living in the eleventh hour; and help me, Father, to teach accurately what I think Your word teaches as to what is coming and what needs to be done. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Obviously, I am not going to get it all done at one time. There will be some that will say, "Yeah, yeah, we know - urgent, for sure." Well, that is just the way it is. I know this is the way it is because the word of God says that is the way it would be at this time. In *II Peter*, Peter is trying to awaken the people. Peter was doing his job. He had a special job. Have you ever thought of all of the apostles why

Peter was singled out by Satan? Jesus said, "*Peter, Satan has desired to sift you but I have prayed for you.*" Why was the devil picking on poor ole Peter? You know, there were twelve apostles. Why Peter? Then it occurred to me - Peter was given the keys to the kingdom.

Oh, I would that God's people understood that there are other people, sons of hell, a brood of vipers, that are doing everything they can to keep them out of the kingdom. I have read the scripture many times and I read it so many times because we have been so conditioned and so programmed for such a long time that everyone is the same that we do not recognize there is a difference between sheep, wolves, and snakes. We are told that we are all the same under the skin. The brotherhood of mankind.

However, Jesus said it very clearly in *Matthew, 23:33*. "*You serpents, you brood of vipers, how shall you escape the sentence of hell.*" Now, that word hell is gehena and it was a dump where dead bodies were deposited along with the refuse of the city. That is what it means - like the grave. How are they going to escape the sentence? And, friends, there is a sentence that has been decreed upon these people and those that are being taken in by them. These people have a mission and they have carried out their mission well. Would that God's people, the sons of God, had labored as well for their Lord as these sons of hell have labored for theirs. Jesus did call them sons of hell. He said to them, in *Matthew 23:15*, "*You travel about on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one you make him as much a son of hell as yourselves.*"

Well, these sons of hell have done their job well. What is that job? *Matthew 23:13* tells us. Read the words of the One who does not lie. "*But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from men; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.*" The apostle Peter recognized his job - how could he miss it? Jesus said to him in the *Gospel of John 21:14*. *This is now the third hour that Jesus was manifested to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon (son) of John, do you love me more than these? He said to him, yes Lord; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, feed my lambs. He said to him a second time, Simon (son) of John, do you love me? And He said to him, yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, shepherd my sheep. He said to him a third time, Simon (son) of John, do you love me? Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time do you love me. Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.*

*And Jesus said to him, tend my sheep. Truly, truly I say to you when you were younger you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you and bring you where you do not wish to go. Now this he said signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he said to him, Follow Me.*

Peter was faithful to his calling. A calling by the way that he would not do if he did not know the difference between sheep, and snakes and dogs and wolves and goats. These are all Bible terms. Terms that you cannot understand unless you let the Bible describe itself. The Bible describes God's people as the sheep of His pasture. The descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were destined to form a multitude of nations - to be as the sands of the sea and the stars of the heavens. These people, this race of people, Peter was to attend.

Notice that I specifically used the term, "race." A lot of people are already uncomfortable because they have been programmed not only to believe that there is no difference in people - we are all the same (which is contrary to the Bible because the Bible says that there are some that are sons of God, some that are snakes, some that are dogs). One of the problems that we have with the shepherds today is that they do not tend God's flock, His sheep. Peter did. And, Peter understood who they were. One person called in on a broadcast and asked about the people in South America. He asked if I knew about the healings that were going on down there and if I believed it. He asked me if I knew much about it. I said, "No, nor do I care to because that is not my calling." You see, I have a calling for my people and I am not ashamed of that calling, my friends. Some have callings for other people, but not me. In *I Peter*, 1:1, Peter writes: *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen.*

Peter is writing to a chosen people who have been scattered. Scattered is a Greek word that means "Israelites in other countries" according to [Strong's Concordance #1290](#). It is only used three times in scripture. In *I Peter* 1:1 above. Also in *James* 1:1, which says: *James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.*

There it is again. There were twelve tribes that originated from Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and they were, at the time of the writings of the apostle Peter and of those of the apostle James, a chosen people scattered abroad. The word is also used in the *Gospel of John* 7:34, 335 where Jesus said where I go you cannot go and they said, "Where is he going? Is he going to the Dispersion?" (that meant to the lost sheep or to the Israelites scattered abroad).

If you want to understand the stories of the Bible and you

want to understand prophesy you need to understand that about 700 years before Christ the house of Israel, which was a separate nation from the House of Judah, was scattered abroad. They had been conquered by the Assyrian world power of the day. And, a big share of the house of Judah was conquered as well. The capital of Judah, Jerusalem, was not conquered. Those people were taken into Assyria - conquests - never to return. What happened to them? People are told by so many in theology circles today - ministers - they just went out of existence. Well, you can believe that if you want, but I find it a little hard to believe that God is a liar! If you believe that they just went out of existence, then you believe that God is a liar. God said they would grow to such an immense number that they would be like the sands of the sea and the stars of the heavens and they would form a multitude of nations. No, they did not go out of existence. In fact, the prophet Hosea was the prophet that God sent to those people and Hosea made it known that they had a choice - Repent or perish. Same choice, by the way, that you are facing right now. We are at a time when we had better repent or we will perish.

If you read the *Book of Hosea*, you will see that he carried that message, "repent or perish." They did not repent. As a nation, they perished. But, as a people, they did not. Hosea said, in verse 9-11: *And the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammī, for you are not My people and I am not your God." Yet the number of the sons of Israel Will be like the sand of the sea, Which cannot be measured or numbered; And it will come about that, in the place Where it is said to them, "You are not My people," It will be said to them, "You are the sons of the living God." And the sons of Judah and the sons of Israel will be gathered together, And they will appoint for themselves one leader,*

What did that say? It says that while you are no longer going to be my people, as a people you will continue to grow like the sands of the sea, which cannot be numbered. So, these people are in existence. Remember what Peter wrote in *I Peter* 1:1: *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen.*

And, these are the people that he was chosen to minister to. My sheep, Jesus said. It was only the Israelites who were called the sheep of his pasture. That's right. Black people were not called the sheep of his pasture; yellow people were not called the sheep of his pasture; the Assyrians were not called the sheep of his pasture - just Israel. Now I don't say that just to make you feel a little uncomfortable. Get used to the truth. When you have been lied to for so long and you are so comfortable with the lies, the truth does tend to make you feel uncomfortable. I did not say that God does not love black people. I did not say that God does not love Mexican people. I just told you that those are not the people known in the Bible as "My sheep." I did not say that they could not have benefit from the cleansing

blood of Jesus. My mission is an eleventh hour mission to the people that Peter Peters has been given the job to minister to. Now the apostle Peter went on to say of these people in *I Peter 2:9*, “*But you are a chosen race*”. Oh, my, now that really makes you uncomfortable! The King James Version says generation, but the word race is a better translation. That is what they were, a race. (By the way, in the radio series I will predominantly use the New American Standard Translation).

Now, at this point you have been so conditioned that you must think, “This guy must be a Nazi. A white supremacist.” And why might you think that way? Because you have been programmed; you have been conditioned to think that way. And don’t tell yourself that you have not been programmed, my friends. They don’t call it TV programming for nothing. Would to God that you had spent 10 percent of your time in the word of God versus the time that you have spent in that television tube. So, we have been programmed - programmed to think chosen race will rule the world. No, the chosen race is a servant race - one to serve the world. And, that is really what they have done. You know, it has been that race that has taken the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to all of the other races of the world. Take it or leave it.

Here is another truth that you can take or leave - it might make you a little uncomfortable, but Christianity has been, historically, and is still today, predominately a white man’s religion. Let that sink in a minute. Why is that? Because Jesus said, “*My sheep hear My voice and follow Me.*” If you rule out Catholicism that is really a true statement. And you can rule it out because it is not really Christianity. But that is what they present to you as Christianity – these people who work to keep you out of the kingdom; program you with their Hollywood entertainment.

Now with all of that said, Peter, in *II Peter 1:12, 13* is tending the flock and he said to them, *And I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder, knowing that the laying aside of my earthly dwelling is imminent, as also our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.*

Jesus made it clear to Peter way back there in *the Gospel of John*, Chapter 21, that when he got old someone was going to take him where he did not want to go. Tradition has it that they took Peter and they were going to crucify him and he said, “*I am not worthy it, so crucify me upside down.*” That is where you get the sign of the broken cross; it used to be the peace symbol of the hippies of the sixties. When Peter said, “*I want to stir you*”, the word stir in the Greek is dee-eg-i-ro and it means to awaken fully, to arouse. My friends, that is what I want to do – to awaken you fully to the seriousness of the hour that we are in. He uses the word again in *II Peter 3:1*. He says this: *This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you; and in which I stir up*

*your sincere mind by way of reminder;*

He is trying to stir them up. And he says, “I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder.” Remember, that word means to awaken, or arouse. Read on: ***That you should remember the words which were spoken beforehand by the holy prophets***

You know, there is a stirring, an awakening going on among God’s people; I see it. But, the false teachers are making money from it. You see, the books that are selling the most now in the bible bookstores are books dealing with prophesy. It seems like one after another are cashing in on people’s interest in prophesy. Well, Peter said, “*I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets.*” I can say in my own life that I have never been led more, ever, by the Holy Spirit into the writings of the prophets, into the writings of *Revelation*, into the prophecies of the New Testament as much as I have been right now. I feel that urgency. I hope that it comes across; I hope that I can stir you up. “About what, Pastor Peters? Oh, Yeah, I know what Pastor Peters is talking about. For centuries they have been saying that these are the last days.”

That’s right.

Read the next verses. *II Peter 3:3-7: Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mockings, following after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? For, ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as they were from the beginning of the creation. For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that then was destroyed and being flooded with water. But the present heavens, and the present earth, by His word have been reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and the destruction of ungodly men.*

That is where we are. No, it is not the end of the world. No, it is not the destruction of the world, but it is the destruction of the ungodly men in the world. It is the destruction of the world as we know it now. Peter goes on to say in this same chapter, verse 13: *But, according to his promise, we are looking for a new heaven and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.*

I ask you, “Would you like to dwell in that new heaven and that new earth?” In fact, I am going to ask you a further question. “Would you like to live the next thousand years in a thousand year reign?” I am not just talking about living forever. I am talking about a select few who get to rule, from what I have come to understand of prophesy, to rule and reign with the Savior for a thousand years as God SETS things in order. If you think that this thing called the new

world order is going to succeed, think again. “Would you like to miss much of the suffering that many are going to endure with the birth pangs that the Bible speaks of concerning that new creation called the new heavens and the new earth?” It is all part of prophesy.

Now, for years I have heard about this stuff called dispensationalism. For years, I have been asked the question, “Pastor Peters, are you a pre-millennialist or a post-millennialist?” For years, my reply has been, “Well, I am a pan-millennialist.”

They will answer, “Well, what is a pan-millennialist?”

“A pan-millennialist is one where it will all pan out in the end.” But, what I was really saying is that I don’t really understand it all. I did understand that the teaching of the rapture was not right. In fact, I have always threatened to bring a message entitled, “Pardon Me, Ma’am, Your Rapture Has a Rupture.” But, I have had to hold off on it. You see, sometimes the Holy Spirit works by guiding.

When you are baptized for the remission of sins as it says in *Acts 2:38* you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. *Acts 2:38* is a passage that most of the preachers out there do not want you to read. It shows them up to be liars when they tell you that all you have to do is believe on Jesus and accept Him as your personal savior. *Acts 2:38* were the words of the apostle Peter who had been given the keys to the kingdom. It is only natural that he would be the one to stand up on the day of Pentecost and be the one that was preaching. And what did he preach? Well, he certainly did not preach this lie that has been introduced into the church world that says that all you have to do is believe on Jesus and accept Him as your personal savior. He taught repentance and immersion, baptism, for the forgiveness of sins so that you might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. That is what *Acts 2:38* says.

And, when we receive that Holy Spirit we are helped by it; it gives us illumination. I have found that there are times in my life when the Holy Spirit reveals to me what is not right, but does not always reveal to what is right until the time has come. I think that is how we got the saying, “A truth whose time has come.” The Bible tells us there are men whose job it is to keep us out of the kingdom. It tells us over and over—Peter tells us that in *II Peter 2:1* *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies,*

There have been many of them; one that has been well known in many circles is C.I. Scofield. You might have heard of the Scofield Bible, or the Scofield notes. There are Baptists right now who would think that I was talking blasphemy if they heard me talking against C.I. Scofield – to them that is almost like talking against one of the apostles!

What would you think if I said I was talking about a liar, a cheat, and a paid agent? One paid to introduce dispensationalism and false teachings into the ranks. For some of you who are really uncomfortable, I am going to make an offer. We carry a book about C.I. Scofield. I highly recommend that you read it. It has been fully researched and documented. Normally, it is available for a \$25 offering, but if you send a \$20 offering plus \$2 postage and handling to Scriptures for America, Box 766, LaPorte, CO 80535. We will send you this hard backed, well-researched book that will be an asset to your library. It will help you to see *II Peter* Chapter 2:1, how the false teacher comes in to introduce a destructive heresy. And, my, how the church world has been destroyed by its effectiveness by the rapture doctrine and the dispensationalism that has been promoted so much by the writings of C. I. Scofield.

One of the things that these serpents do is they set the parameters - like are you pre-millennialist or post-millennialist. In the 70’s there was a saying, “Better red than dead.” That is a way of setting parameters. How about changing the parameters a little bit—how about “Better red’s dead.” I like that one. The Bible says that there is going to be a whole lot of dead people coming up and you are going to be in that number, my friends, unless you do something. Peter made it known. That is why he was trying to stir them up. That means fully awakened. Then he directed them to the prophets—why prophet after prophet has talked about the day that is nearly upon us. It is called the day of the Lord.

Turn to *Isaiah 13*. I had a general idea when I started this lesson where I wanted to go, but praise the Heavenly Father, the Holy Spirit directs us to the scriptures. And, I hope you can feel the Holy Spirit touching your heart and mind as to the urgency of these lessons. *Isaiah* is just one of many prophets that talk about the day of the Lord. Start reading in *13:9* *Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it. For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises, And the moon will not shed its light. Thus I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud, And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless. I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold, And mankind than the gold of Ophir. Therefore I shall make the heavens tremble, And the earth will be shaken from its place At the fury of the Lord of hosts In the day of His burning anger. And it will be that like a hunted gazelle, Or like sheep with none to gather them, They will each turn to his own people, And each one flee to his own land. Anyone who is found will be thrust through, And anyone who is captured will fall by the sword. Their little ones also will be dashed to pieces Before their eyes; Their houses will be plundered And their wives ravished.*

That is just one of the many prophets that speak of the day

of the Lord. What did he say? *“The day of the Lord is coming... To make the land a desolation; and He will exterminate its sinners from it.”* The rapture doctrine says, *“Now don’t worry about it, churches, because you are all going to be raptured out of here. This world is not my home - I am just passing through.”* As a result of that teaching, by the way, Christians have ceased to be the salt of the earth. Salt is a preservative and they were supposed to preserve the morality. Of course, the destroyer’s job is to destroy. They have destroyed morality and decency; they have destroyed our borders; they have destroyed our family units; they have destroyed our money system; they have destroyed men’s words and God’s people should have been the salt of the earth and preserved it all.

But, we are where we are now and where is that? It is the hour just before the return of the bridegroom for the marriage supper. This is a prophesy, too. It is found in the *Gospel of Matthew*, Chapter 25. You are going to learn, if you read these lessons in their entirety, that there is a coming of the Lord before the marriage supper and a coming of the Lord after the marriage supper. You will find out that not everyone makes it to the marriage supper, meaning that not everyone gets to leave this world; and you will find out that the rapture is a false doctrine but the reality of it is partially true in regards to the true doctrine of the first resurrection. Read this story in *Matthew 25:1-13*; it is a story about Christians who needed to be stirred up, fully awakened; they were in the eleventh hour and they were getting drowsy. *Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, “Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those virgins rose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the prudent answered, saying, “No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. And later the other virgins also came, saying, “Lord, Lord, open up for us.” But he answered and said, “Truly I say to you, I do not know you.” Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.*

Our father in heaven I pray that if nothing else in this lesson that the people will be stirred from their drowsiness, their complacency, their lukewarmness and become awakened to the opportunity that they have - to go into the marriage feast. I ask that Your spirit would bring this about in the hearts and the minds of the remnant that you have given this preacher, Peter Peters, the privilege to attend, and to

feed, and to minister to. I pray in Jesus name, Amen.

In the book of *Revelation*, Chapter 19, the chapter that follows the fall of Babylon, it tells us in Verse 9: *And he said to me, “Write, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’”*

I don’t know about you, but I want to be in that blessed number. I don’t want to be in that number, the foolish virgins who did not make it in. Who are these virgins? They are Christians. Read in *II Corinthians 11:2*. *For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

Those Christians were likened to pure virgins. And so the prophesy in *Matthew 25* was that about 50% of the Christians who made it into the marriage supper. What goes on there and why do you want to be there? What’s in it for you and how does it tie into the thousand year reign? Well, to find out you need to read the next messages in this series.

### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part II**

*The First Resurrection  
Verses the Rapture*

Our Father in Heaven I pray for Your divine blessings upon this message, that it be taught properly, logically, and in such a way that Your people can see a truth that has been obscured from so many for so long. I pray, Father, for an anointing from Your Holy Spirit upon those being taught, that it might bear fruit to Your praise and glory. I pray in Jesus name, Amen.

This is part two of an eleventh hour message. In Part I, I talked about Peter being given the assignment to tend the sheep. Some elaboration was made on what it takes to be a good shepherd - that it is necessary to be able to identify a sheep versus a dog, a snake, a wolf, and so on. I wasn’t being facetious – these are Bible terms and unless you understand that they are Bible terms that refer to men, you can’t be the shepherd that you should be. You cannot understand prophesy, if you do not really understand who the sheep of His pasture really are. One of the great problems today that causes much confusion is that the shepherds are pointing to a people, who according to *Revelation 2:9* and *Revelation 3:9*, are of the synagogue of Satan. They are saying that these are God’s sheep and that prophesy is going to happen in the Middle East. The Anglo-Israel truth is a key that helps unlock Bible understanding. You see, the Bible teaches us that we are destroyed not only for a lack of knowledge but also destroyed for a lack of understanding. There are people who know their Bible; they have knowledge of the Bible and they can quote from it, but they don’t understand their Bible. One needs both. May God by His mercy and grace grant that to us, his remnant.

In *Hosea 4:5*, we are told, “*So the people without understanding are ruined.*” (the side note for the word ruined is thrust down.) This is in the same chapter where he tells us in Verse 6, “*My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge.*” We need to know our Bible and we need to understand our Bible. And, we need to understand who the people of the Bible are to understand prophecy that still applies today. If you think all prophecy has been fulfilled in 70 A.D., there really is no sense in your reading this message. I don’t want you to waste your time and I certainly don’t want to waste my time on you. But, I pray that maybe you would reconsider.

Another title for this message might be, “The First Resurrection Versus the Rapture”. In Part I of this series, not only did we mention Peter trying to stir up the sincere minds of the people (we pointed out that the word “stir” means to awaken), but we also related that to the needs of the virgins waiting upon the bridegroom and the marriage supper. That story is in *Matthew 25*. We also talked about prophets as Peter talked about prophets in *II Peter*. To review, read *II Peter 3:1*: *This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you, in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets...*

So he directed us to the prophets. Also, in the last message, we read about the prophet Isaiah. *Isaiah 13* talks about the day of the Lord. That passage tells that the day of the Lord is a day of destruction of ungodly people. There have been many ungodly people in the land and in the churches. People that pose as teachers with a mission. That mission, as we learned previously, is told in *II Peter 2:1*: *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there shall also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies...*

It was also pointed out that C.I. Scofield, according to the research done by many people, fit that category. We have a book entitled [The Incredible Scofield](#) which I would recommend. It is available from this ministry for a special offering of \$20 plus \$2 postage and handling. Send the offering to Scriptures for America, P.O. Box 766, LaPorte, CO 80535 and we will send you this well-researched, hard bound book entitled [The Incredible Scofield](#).

We ended Part I in *Matthew 25*. This is the story of the sleepy virgins, awaiting the marriage supper. What is that marriage supper? What goes on there? *Matthew 25* is about awaiting the marriage supper. We have another story in the gospels about waiting for the return of the bridegroom from the marriage supper. Both of these stories need to be understood. Read now about awaiting the marriage supper in *Matthew 25:1-12*- *Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom. And five of them*

*were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, “Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those virgins rose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the prudent answered, saying, “No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. And later the other virgins also came, saying, “Lord, lord, open up for us.” But he answered and said, “Truly I say to you, I do not know you.”*

The oil is not just the Holy Spirit as some people say. Notice that the virgins that were lacking oil were told to go and buy some oil. You cannot buy the Holy Spirit. In fact, there is a Bible story in *Acts 8:18*: *Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, saying, “Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.”*

The apostles had the ability to lay on hands and bestow the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Holy Spirit that you receive at baptism is not the same, but the principle still remains – you do not pay money for any part of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps to illuminate our paths and gives us understanding. We are the light of the world and we are to let our lights burn. But, the prudent said, “Go buy your own oil.” I believe that this refers to the oil of understanding. “My people are destroyed for a lack of understanding”, *Hosea* said, “as well as for a lack of knowledge.” A lot of people have knowledge of the prophets, but they cannot understand the prophecies because they do not understand the Israel message. The oil of understanding comes with a price. “Go buy your own oil,” they said. How many times have you tried to give understanding to a fellow countryman, perhaps a fellow Christian, and they say to you, “*Oh, I just don’t buy that. I just can’t buy that.*” What they are really saying is that they are not willing to pay the price to have that understanding. “I’m not willing to pay the price.” Well, the prudent virgins had paid the price. These virgins were awaiting the return of the bridegroom. It says, “Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him,” and they were waiting so that they could go into the marriage feast. In the *Gospel of Luke, 12:35,36*, it tells about a different waiting: *Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps alight.*

*And be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast*

The five virgins that were left behind and did not make it into the marriage feast are here giving instructions to have lamps burning and to be ready for their master when he returns from the wedding feast. But, oh, my friends, neither you nor I want to be in the lot of the five foolish virgins that do not make it into the wedding supper of the Lamb. We would miss a tremendous blessing. We are told, in *Revelations 19:9*, “*Blessed are those that are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.*” The virgins, as I have mentioned, are, according to *II Corinthians 11:2*, the Christians. *For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

There has been a false teaching that the bride of Christ is the church. The church is the body of Christ. Christ does not return to marry his own body. We will cover more of this in the next message. But, I want you to see from the passage in *II Corinthians 11:2* when Paul wrote to the church in Corinth that he referred to the Christians as virgins betrothed to one husband; that is, to Christ. So, the virgins were Christians. Now, when Christ comes and takes half of the Christians, (five out of ten virgins were taken) that will be, from what I can see in scriptures, the first resurrection. And this is likened unto the rapture. Now men like C.I. Scofield have promoted a thing called dispensationalism, and with that and the rapture the church world has become apathetic and neutralized. Their philosophy has become, “This world is not my home – we are just going to be raptured out of here.”

All false doctrines have proof texts, and so it is with the rapture doctrine. The rapture doctrine is not entirely false from this standpoint. It is a take off of the first resurrection. And, no, the entire church is not involved in that first resurrection. You will want to be involved in the first resurrection because that is how you get to go into the marriage supper. Let me prove my point. In *I Corinthians 9:23-27*, Paul is talking about running the race to receive a prize. Some of you need to be stirred up; to run in such a way, like the apostle Paul says, to win. *and I do all things for the gospel's sake, that I may be a fellow partaker thereof. Do you not know that they that run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that ye shall win. And anyone that competes in the games, exercise self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath; but we an imperishable. Therefore I run in such a way as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air, but I buffet my body, and make it my slave lest possibly, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.*

He is talking about running the race in such a way that you

will win. It is possible, and many of the saints do, run a race in such a way not to win but just to look good. They don't want to look bad. Early in my life, back in the 50's, I was stricken with polio. I was in the Children's Hospital in Denver, CO, for quite some time. I was even in a wheelchair for a time. I had to undergo therapy and my dear father, God bless him, came home at night after a hard's day work and spent time giving me therapy. Well, I got well, and quite frankly, when I was in high school, I was probably one of the fastest boys there – able to run like a gazelle. I did not like running and could see no sense in it. It makes your sides hurt and leaves you winded. But, during my junior year, my wrestling coach took on the responsibility of track coach and he knew that I could run. He made me take track and then he put me in the 440 – which I think is one of the worse races and better suited to quarter horses! I knew that in these races you had a pack bunched up in the middle, some out in front, and some in the back. It would be embarrassing to be in the back and I didn't see any sense to be out in front because that was too much work. I just ran to look good. But I ran, and one time, at a track meet in Cozad, NE., I told a friend, “I'm just going to run just like I always do and stay right in the middle.” However, I had a girl friend whose father lived in Cozad and he was coming to the meet. I didn't want to look too bad – I guess you could save that love compelled me a little that day. Coming around the last bend, right in the middle like always, I thought to myself, “I wonder if I could win this race?” I decided to give it a try. I kicked in the after-burners and pulled out of that middle pack like a bat out of Sunday school and started really running. I started passing one after the other – I could hear the coach and my friends yelling and screaming. There were just two more in front of me, and when I crossed the finish line, guess what? I did not win the race. It was nearly a photo finish, but I did not win. I have often thought that if I had decided to run that race to win, if I had started my push just ten yards earlier I would have won. If I had just decided to run to win. That is what I want to encourage you to do. Take your Christianity seriously and run to win. If you make up your mind now, it is not too late. You, too, could receive the blessing of being in the number that goes into the marriage supper. Paul said to run to win the prize. What was the prize? Read in *Philippians 3:8-14*: *More than that I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ, and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, derived from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith; that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed to his death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect; but I press on, in order that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus.*

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind, and stretching forward to what lies ahead. I press on towards the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Notice that he was pressing on towards a prize, a goal. And what was that prize? It was the resurrection. Read Verse 11 again: “*In order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*” The word resurrection in *Philippians* 3:11 is used only once; it is exanastasis and means the out resurrection from the dead. We must understand that there is more than one resurrection. Everyone that has read their Bibles should know that there is a resurrection. For example, in the *Gospel of John* 5:28-29: *Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.*

The key word is *all*. He says “an hour is coming in which *all* who are in the tombs will hear His voice; *all* will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.” That is not a resurrection that one has to press on towards, as the Apostle Paul talked about. You don’t have to worry about making that resurrection; you will be there, like it or not.

The sister of Lazarus knew there would be a resurrection. In the *Gospel of John* 11:24, it says: *Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”*

Martha knew about the resurrection on the last day. That last day resurrection that *John* 5:28 talks about where all who are in the grave will resurrect. In *Acts* 24:14-15: *But this I admit to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets; having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.*

I have given you three scriptures *John* 5:28, *John* 11:14, and *Acts* 24:14-15 that pertain to the resurrection. That is, the general resurrections where all who are in the tombs will resurrect. But again, notice that in *Philippians*, Chapter 3, Paul is pressing on for a prize. He is working towards the resurrection from the dead. Read it again: *in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect; but I press on, in order that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus.*

He was running the race in a way to win the prize and the prize was the out resurrection from the dead. That is the

first resurrection. That resurrection is described in *Revelation* 11:15-18, when the trumpet of the seventh angel sounded: *And the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.” And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, “We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign. And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth.”*

That word judged from *Revelations* 11:18, according to *Vine’s Expository Dictionary* of Greek words, means *to separate, to select, to choose*. What it is describing there is the first resurrection. God is choosing from the dead those who are going rise up out of the grave. Why? Because those are the ones that are going to be at the marriage supper of the Lamb and to destroy those who destroy the earth. You see, someone is destroying the earth and God is going to see that the destroyers are themselves destroyed. He is going to use those that he selects from the dead in that first resurrection in the destroying process. The first resurrection where the dead are to be judged happens at the sound of the seventh trumpet. In the *Book of Numbers*, Chapter 10, God is teaching the children of Israel concerning the trumpets. These things in the Old and New Testament are written for our learning. We learn in *Numbers* 10:4: *Yet if only one is blown, then the leaders, the heads of the divisions of Israel, shall assemble before you.*

So, the blow of one trumpet was for a special assembly of the leaders. That is what you have in the first resurrection. This is where the church world is confused concerning the rapture. A proof text that the rapture teachers use is in *1 Thessalonians*. I will share a true and very personal story. When my first wife of thirty-three years died, I was grief stricken. One night, not very long after her death, I had a dream. But, it was more than a dream – it was like a vision. It was so real that I reached out to hug her, but I couldn’t. In this dream, she had a message. The message that she gave me was this, “*Don’t question; be faithful. 1 Thessalonians* 4:12.” Then I woke up and I looked at the clock and it was 4:12 a.m. Needless to say, I turned on the light and grabbed my Bible and turned to this verse. This is what it says, “*so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.*”

Well, that did not make any sense to me, until I read the context. Verse 11 says, “*and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any*

need.” Then I read on: “*But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.*” I believe that Verse 13 is teaching us that we are not to grieve like the rest of the world that has no hope. Verses 14-18: *For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep 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 not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the air to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

These words in *I Thessalonians* 4:12-18 are dealing with the first resurrection. As in *Revelation* 11, the dead are to be judged; to be selected or chosen. They come with Christ and those who are alive when this happens, that are caught up in the air to meet him, are the five wise virgins who made it into the marriage supper of the Lamb. I hope that makes sense. This passage is used as a proof text for the rapture doctrine. But, it really is a proof text for the first resurrection. It is my conviction, my friends, that this is not very far away and is something that you want to attain. “*For blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb*” – *Revelation* 19:9.

The other five virgins that did not make it into the marriage supper of the Lamb, according to the scripture from the *Gospel of Luke*, have to wait for the bridegroom to return from the marriage feast – *Luke* 12:36-40. This may be material that you have never heard before. I have shown you that there is a waiting for the bridegroom to come for the marriage supper and five out of ten Christians (virgins) made it into the supper. Then I showed you scripture where the other virgins are to wait for the bridegroom to return from the marriage supper. When this happens, things happen on the earth. This is explained in *Ezekiel*, Chapter 37:3-11. This is the passage where God takes the prophet Ezekiel out into the valley of the dry bones. And these dry bones represent the whole house of Israel and they are so dry and so dead - they have no life in them. Much like the house of Israel today. *He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, You know.” Again He said to me, “Prophesy over these bones and say to them, “O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.” Thus says the Lord God to these bones, “Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the Lord.” So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and*

*flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, “Thus says the Lord God, ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they come to life.’” So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.”*

When did the whole house of Israel get the breath of life? Verse 13 of the Septuagint says, “*When I have opened your graves that I may bring up my people out of the graves, I will then put my breath in you and you shall live; and I will settle you in your land and you will know that I am the Lord. I have spoken and I will perform saith the Lord.*”

When that first resurrection happens and those overcomers, those fortunate ones that have made it to the marriage supper of the Lamb come out of the grave and those that are alive are caught up to meet them, the rest of the people will come alive. God’s people are going to have the breath of life put in them; they are going to wake up and come alive, according to *Ezekiel* 37:13. You won’t have to fight to get them to sit down and have a Bible study, either. What is necessary for them to do? That bridegroom is going to return with those who attended the bridal supper and guess what happens? You will have to read Part 3.

In Part 3 of this message, we will talk about what happens on this earth when the first resurrection takes place and what goes on at the marriage supper of the Lamb that those in the first resurrection attend. That prize, my friends, is still within your grasp if you make up your mind to run the race to win. I pray that this message helps you towards that end.

I pray that the time taken to present Part 2 has not been wasted and that it has been a blessing to you. I pray that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob blesses you, his remnant, makes his face to shine upon you, be gracious to you, and give you peace.

### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part III**

*The Ongoing Romantic Love Story*

Our Father in heaven, we come before Your throne and we thank You for the privilege we have to look into Your word and to call out to You for help in understanding it. I pray, Father, that You would reveal the truth of Your word that You revealed to the prophets so long ago. I sense that we have come to a truth whose time has come. Oh mighty heavenly Father, guide and direct this teacher in that truth, grant an anointing from You that I might teach properly, logically, and in such a way that it will help Your people to understand the days that they are in. Heavenly Father, I pray for an anointing on this message and on the hearts and

minds that are reading it, and pray, Father, that it might cause some that have been luke warm, apathetic, and lackadaisical in their walk, in their race, to take seriously this time that we are in. I pray not only for them but for myself, my family, and my church family that Your spirit would work on us; that we would forget the things of the world and realize that they are, as Paul said, “but rubbish, dung, in comparison to the treasures of Christ Jesus.” And, Father, I thank You, that You have made it clearly known through Your prophets that You are not done with this world and that there is a reckoning day not far away. May that thought comfort some who are in anxiety. We pray these things in Jesus’ name, Amen.

This is part three of an urgent, eleventh hour message. According to scripture, there is a better resurrection. First look at the scripture in *Hebrews 11:35: Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection*

Did you see? “*In order that they might obtain a better resurrection.*” In part two of this series, I am sure that many of you were introduced for the first time to the concept of the first resurrection versus the general resurrection. The first resurrection is the better one. It is the prize that Paul spoke of in *Philippians 3* when he said that he was running the race to receive a prize. And he spoke of the resurrection. It is what I tried to awaken you to so that you, too, would run the race to win that prize. Also in part two, we compared the first resurrection to the general resurrection. Many have read their Bible and know that there is a resurrection but do not know the difference between the two. The general resurrection is talked about in the *Gospel of John 5:28* where our Lord said, “*all who are in the grave will come forth*” - the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the unrighteous. That same thought is taught in *Acts 24:15*, “*...that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.*” The sister of Lazarus understood the general resurrection when Jesus said that her brother would be raised and that is *found in the Gospel of John 11:24* when she says, “*I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.*” That general resurrection is not one that you will have to labor to attain because you are going to be there, like it or not.

Paul was talking about a different kind of resurrection in *Philippians 3:7-14*. To review, read it again: *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His*

*resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

In part two, I explained that the word “resurrection” used in verse 11, “*in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead*” means the out resurrection from the dead. And then I cross referenced to *Revelation 11:18* where it tells us that God judges the dead; I also explained that the word “judged” means to choose or to select. In other words, God will select from those that died who will be part of the first resurrection. We also pointed out that the scripture used as a text to promote the rapture doctrine is really a text that promotes the teaching of the first resurrection. In *I Thessalonians 4:13-18*, it says: *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep 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 not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

That passage ties to *Matthew 25*. To review, *Matthew 25:1-13: Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, “Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the prudent, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the prudent answered, “No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. Later the other virgins also came, saying, “Lord, lord, open up for us.” But he answered, “Truly I say to you, I do not know you.” Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor*

the hour.

The passages in *I Thessalonians* 4:13-18 is pertaining to this passage in *Matthew* 25 where half of the Christians were taken and half were left. They were taken to the marriage feast. While we are reviewing, I would be remiss if I did not direct you to *Revelation* 19:9 which says, "...Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

The passage in *Matthew* 25 concerns being awakened to the coming of the Lord for those who are going to be able to go into the marriage supper. There is another coming, as well, and that is the Lord coming back from the marriage feast and bringing with him those that attended. Most people do not recognize that these are two separate comings of the Lord. This is taught in *Luke* 12:35-36, *Be dressed in readiness, and keep your lamps lit. Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.*

Notice that in *Matthew* 25 He is coming for those who go into the marriage feast with him, while in *Luke* 12:36 He is returning from the marriage feast. In *Matthew* 25 there were those who knocked but did not get in. These are the same who are waiting for His return from the marriage feast, ready to open the door when He knocks. We need to understand that those are two different and separate events.

What is the marriage supper? The present tradition known as the bachelor party is a hold over from the ancient tradition, in my opinion, of the marriage supper. The marriage supper was a party that the men who were friends of the bridegroom attended. In *Matthew* 9:15 Jesus said that the men around him then were friends of the bridegroom: *And Jesus said to them, "The attendants of the bridegroom cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they?"*

You see, Jesus likened the men that were around Him, the apostles, to the friends of the bridegroom. This is all a wonderful love story, by the way, that most people do not understand. They do not understand who the bride is that He loves. This is explained in a four part tape series called "The Greatest Love Story Never Told" and is available from this ministry for a \$16 offering. This present series is really a sequel to that series. We are never told about the love of God from the standpoint of a man loving a woman. I don't suppose there is much greater pain than that of unrequited love. But our Lord experienced that pain with His bride. When those four tapes were prepared several years ago, I only brought part of the story. We are now, in these messages, getting the rest of the story.

The *Book of Judges*, Chapter 14, is telling the story of Samson getting ready to marry. *Judges* 14:10: *Then his father went down to the woman; and Samson made a feast*

*there, for the young men customarily did this.*

You see, the marriage feast or supper was for the young men. Again, in *Genesis* 29:22 - the story of Jacob's wedding: *And Laban gathered all the men of the place and made a feast.*

These are two references from the Bible concerning the marriage supper. It is for the male friends of the bridegroom; the bride was not there. The virgins that made it to the wedding feast are the Christians that are friends of the bridegroom. They are the ones that are the overcomers and the ones that are properly clothed to go in. In *II Corinthians* 11:2: *For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.*

The Christians are represented as pure virgins.

What about the church being represented as the bride of Christ? This is taught primarily from the *Book of Ephesians* 1:22-23: *And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him whfills all in all.*

This is one of many passages that teach us that the church is the *body* of Christ. Think about it. Do you think Christ is coming back to marry His own body? No. He is not. Also in *Ephesians* there is a comparison of Christ loving the church as a husband is supposed to love his bride. *Ephesians* 5:22-33. As you are reading, realize that nowhere does it say that the church is actually the bride. What it teaches is that the husband is to love his bride as Christ loves the church. *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, because we are members of His body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.*

I understand why many churches teach that the bride is the church. But the above passage does not say that. It just

makes reference to Christ's love for the church. The church is the body of Christ. Christ does not marry His own body. He is going to marry the bride. In "The Greatest Love Story Never Told" Christ was married and He was divorced. He was the great I Am of the Old Testament. The Bible tells us, in *John 1:1*, "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*" Then, later, in the same chapter, John tells us that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. So when we read the story in the word of God about God's love for Israel, His people, and His marrying and divorcing the house of Israel, we are reading about the Word that became flesh and dwelt among us. That concept is completely foreign to so many of you. If you do not know this love story you do not have a full appreciation of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. In *Jeremiah 3:8*: *And I saw that for all the adulteries of faithless Israel, I had sent her away and given her a writ of divorce...*

Who was He married to? Israel. There was a contract, a covenant, like a marriage contract between God and Israel. Another scripture that speaks of this is *Isaiah 50:1*: *Thus says the Lord, "Where is the certificate of divorce By which I have sent your mother away?"*

You see, God's bride of old was not the church – it was the people, Israel. Between this scripture and the one in *Jeremiah 3:8*, you can see that God divorced Israel. "The Greatest Love Story Never Told" begins where the story of [Gone With The Wind](#) ends. Remember, at the very end Scarlet says, "What is going to happen to me?" And Rhett Butler answers, "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a ——." Well, in "The Greatest Love Story Never Told" the house of Israel is saying, "What's going to happen to me?" And her husband says, "Frankly, my dear, your sins are as Scarlet and I don't give a blessing anymore." And, He divorced her. That took place in the *Book of Hosea*, where God said, "You are no longer My people." But Hosea held out hope because our God is so kind, so merciful, and so great. He gave hope to the Israel people that some day they would be brought back into that covenant, that marriage covenant. They didn't think that could be possible because they knew that it was impossible for their God to sin. They knew that sin was a violation of His law and that according to the law in *Deuteronomy 24* there was no way that He could ever take them back. Read in *Deuteronomy 24:1-4*: *When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, and he writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out from his house, and she leaves his house and goes and becomes another man's wife, and if the latter husband turns against her and writes her a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband dies who took her to be his wife, then her former husband who sent her away is not allowed to take her again to be his wife, since she has been defiled; for that is an abomination before the Lord, and you shall not bring sin on the land which the Lord*

*your God gives you as an inheritance.*

So, this is what happened. God divorced the house of Israel. She continued to play the harlot and was defiled by other men. But God still loved her and He came back, after 700 years. This divorce, you see, happened 700 years before the birth of Christ. Read *Romans 7:1-3*: *Or do you not know, brethren (for I am speaking to those who know the law), that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives? For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.*

Who died on the cross? The husband of Israel. God went to his grave still loving her. And, by dying, he freed her from the marriage covenant and she was no longer an adulteress, a harlot. This is a wonderful love story. He is going to have a marriage; but, prior to the marriage is the feast. What goes on at this feast? I don't really know, but I think that I have a pretty good idea.

I think that the assignments are given to a great army. Remember reading in the Bible when Jesus says, "Well done, good and faithful servant"? Well, assignments and instructions are given to those who are qualified for kingdom service. Because those people that go to the first resurrection are going to rule and reign with him for a thousand years. *Revelation 20:6*, "*Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*" The general resurrection is coming way down the line. I don't know about you, but I want to be part of that first resurrection. What a wonderful privilege to be part of the bridegroom's party! What a wonderful thing to be part of his army! You have heard me talk about snakes. What a wonderful thing to be part of that snake, gut stomping army! The land is going to be cleansed of the thorns and the thistles. The tares of *Matthew 13:40* are going to be removed. The wicked seed is going to be exterminated. Great things are going to happen and that army is going to be part of it. They will be ruling and reigning as immortals for a thousand years. Remember when Christ was crucified, the tombs opened? People came up out of the tombs –see *Matthew 27:52-53*. Christ himself, when he came out of the tomb, was able to walk among mortal men and he appeared as a man. In that thousand year reign it appears there will be mortals and immortals living together.

I know that this is a lot to think about. Some of you want to know what happens to the people that are not part of the first resurrection. Some of you are beginning to see that the first resurrection is likened unto the rapture; it is not the rapture doctrine, but the rapture doctrine is not entirely

wrong from that standpoint. When those friends of the bridegroom make it into the feast, meanwhile, what takes place back on earth. Two things. One is this. In *Revelation 19:19* it says, “*And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.*” Part of the world is left in darkness; but, just as when Egypt was in thick darkness, Israel had light. Remember there are still the other five virgins and they do have some light in their lamps. So, two things go on. The dark part of the world prepares to make war with the Son of God who is returning with a resurrected army after the marriage feast. And God’s people, in another part of the world, the bride, is making ready for the marriage. For the bride is composed of the twelve tribes and yes the church is involved in this mystery, for the New Jerusalem, which is the bride, has the names of the twelve tribes on the gates and the names of the twelve apostles on the foundation stones. See *Revelation 21:9-14*: *Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

So many of you have never heard this before, but I think what I am sharing with you is accurate. I want you to know that you have a chance right now to qualify for kingdom service. What a wonderful privilege and what a beautiful story. A story of love. Oh, that the bride loved Him today, but she does not. God’s people today are violating the first and greatest commandment – “Love the Lord thy God with all of your heart, all of your mind, and all of your soul.” But he still loves them, regardless, and He still has a plan. Many are going to suffer a great loss on the great day of the Lord because many are going to be destroyed. In prophesy it says that those of Israel will be as the sand of the sea, but it will be a remnant that will be saved. That is going to happen. That great day of the Lord is going to be, and He shall return with a great army; there is going to be a spirit put back into His people. More of this will be told in Part IV of this message.

Our Father in heaven, make this story understandable and the people out there understand Your great love for them. In this great love story where Your love is likened unto a man loving a woman, likened unto this great marriage that

is going to take place, likened unto a knight on a white horse that is returning to rescue a woman in distress. Oh, heavenly Father praise be to You that You allow the weak and the foolish such as us a glimpse of that story. Bless Your people. Bless them and keep them, make Your face shine upon them, make Your countenance shine upon them, and give them peace. Amen.

I will leave you with this poem that I wrote some time ago:

*God said, “If I could get her to love Me with all of her heart,  
I would die, just to give her the desires of her heart.”  
God said, “If I could get her to love Me with all of her mind,  
I would choose her above all and make her mine.”  
God said, “If I could get her to love Me with all of her strength,  
I would show her My love knows no length.”  
God said, If I could get her to love Me with all of her soul,  
To Me she would become pure and I would make her whole.”  
God said, “I love her with all My heart, mind, and soul,  
And, I have the strength to show her it is so.”  
And so an empty tomb shows where he has been  
And on his own strength he arose again.  
It was the way God said, “I love you.*

#### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part IV**

*Go to Work in the Vineyard While it is Still Light*

Our Father in heaven I pray in the name of Christ Jesus along with those special people that hunger and thirst after righteousness, truth, knowledge and desire to do Thy will. We come together in accordance with Your word, and we make this request. Guide and direct us into truth and understanding. Grant an anointing upon this unworthy teacher as we look at things old and new from the treasury that has been made available, and help us to understand for we know that Your people are indeed destroyed for a lack of understanding and knowledge. Oh heavenly Father, more important than all of that, bring about in our hearts and minds the urgency to be found faithful in Thy sight; to have our garments clean, washed in the blood of the Lamb and not soiled with sin and the stains of the world. And, heavenly Father, we trust that You will bring about a worthy lesson for we pray in faith and in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

As I have said previously, it is known in scripture, in *Hosea* that “*my people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge; they are also destroyed for a lack of understanding.*” I

have understood for quite some time that America is in the Bible. It is not the people called Jews over there in the land of the Is-rae-lies, and heavy emphasis should be put on the lies because it is a lie that they are the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I have also come to understand from studying *Micah*, Chapter 4 that we have gone to Babylon. I have preached on this passage more than once. Perhaps, at this point, we should briefly review; I know that we are going to get out of Babylon, but it will not be without divine intervention. What these messages are about is what I think that divine intervention is going to be. *Micah*, Chapter 4, is a story about the last days and that the mountain of the house of the Lord would be established as the chief of the mountains. This chapter tells us that many peoples will come to it - the outcasts and the afflicted. That is what America was settled by - the outcasts and the afflicted from the Old World. When the Declaration of Independence was signed and Samuel Adams laid down that quill, he said, "We have this day restored the sovereign to whom it is due." These events all seem, from what this teacher can see, to fit *Micah*, Chapter 4. In Verse 8, it says, *As for you, tower of the flock, Hill of the daughter of Zion, To you it will come — Even the former dominion will come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.*

Since the time that the builder race came and started building harbors, roads, schools, and courts, there came another people. A parasite people, my friends.

Today we suffer for what our forefathers did and did not do. We suffer for what they did in *I Samuel*, Chapter 8, when they gave up their God as being king over them. And, we suffer for what they did not do when they did not obey their God in *Deuteronomy*, Chapter 7, in wiping out all of the Canaanites. So, coming to this America came the tares, the thorns, and the thistles and they did not have the law on their hearts and minds. They had no desire to have Jesus Christ be the King over them. What happened to this nation in *Micah*, Chapter 4? In verse 9 it says, *Now, why do you cry out loudly? Is there no king among you, Or has your counselor perished, That agony has gripped you like a woman in childbirth?*

They gave up their King; the One called in scripture a mighty counselor. And trouble came upon them. Why? Read on in Verse 10: *Writhe and labor to give birth, Daughter of Zion, Like a woman in childbirth; For now you will go out of the city, Dwell in the field, And go to Babylon.*

And, that is what we have done; gone to Babylon. But, alas, be not in despair, as you read on: *There you will be rescued; There the Lord will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.*

*Revelation* Chapter 19 is a scene of rescue; of a knight in shining armor on a white horse, riding in with an army. The Bible says, again in *Micah*, Chapter 4:11-12: *And now many*

*nations have been assembled against you Who say, "Let her be polluted, And let our eyes gloat over Zion." But they do not know the thoughts of the Lord, And they do not understand His purpose; For He has gathered them like sheaves to the threshing floor.*

I hope these lessons give you understanding and hope. I understand that the nations have been assembled against God's people and their nation, just as it is described in *Psalms*, Chapter 2. The following quote is from the Septuagint - it seems it come so alive there. *Why did the nations rage And the tribes meditate vain things? The kings of the earth combined And the chiefs assembled together Against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us break their bands asunder And throw off from us their yokes!" He who dwells in heaven will laugh them to scorn The Lord will treat them with derision.*

Notice that there is an assembly to destroy God and His people. I have pointed out in the *Book of Genesis* 27:39-40, it was prophesied that Esau Edom would throw off the yoke. This will help you to understand why Esau had to have Babylon, the city. Esau was cursed away from the fertility of the earth. *Then Isaac his father answered and said to him, "Behold, away from the fertility of the earth shall be your dwelling, And away from the dew of heaven from above. By your sword you shall live, And your brother you shall serve; But it shall come about when you become restless, That you will break his yoke from your neck."*

It is by no accident that Esau is leading the pack, the confederation against God and His people in *Psalms* 83. Read these words from the Septuagint from *Isaiah* 14:21-23: *Wicked seed, prepare thy sons for slaughter For the sins of their fathers. They must not rise and possess the land And fill the face of the world with cities.*

Esau was the father of the Edomites, and would live by the sword. And so, wars are their harvest season. The preceding passage goes against the law of God which says that the son is not to suffer for the father's sin, but this is something different. This is the cleansing that has been prophesied in so many different ways; by prophets speaking of the day of the Lord and by Jesus, Himself, Who is our Prophet, Priest, and King in the kingdom cleansing parables. He calls them the wicked seed that they may not rise and possess the land and fill the lands with wars as is their way. Our forefathers did not follow the way given to them; they did not take away the Canaanites of that day and today they are in our midst. In *Matthew* 13:47-52, Jesus is talking about the kingdom of heaven and about the cleansing that is going to take place. *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a drag net cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind; and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away. So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth*

*and take out the wicked from among the righteous, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes." And Jesus said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old."*

My friends, this teacher is bringing out of his treasure new things that you have never heard before tied with the old that we have understood. Those of you that hear my broadcasts and who read my messages are like my family and many of you turn to me for teaching. I don't claim to have great knowledge and understanding, but I have promised to give you what knowledge is revealed to me. I only pray that I do not mislead you. If I end up causing you to pray more, to be more in holiness of life and sanctification, be more alert, and I am wrong, what have I hurt you? What harm have I caused you in preparing you to be awakened and ready for what I think is going to be an imminent event.

This army, as they assemble, does not know that God is going to come to the rescue. They really do think that they can war against Him and prevail. Just as Pharaoh, seeing all of the devastation, got into his chariot, assembled his great army, and came after God's people one final time. So it says in *Revelation 19:19: And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.*

What is their problem? Their problem is they don't want Him to rule over them with a rod of iron. *Revelation 19:11-15: And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.*

Truly great things are on the horizon; they have not won this thing yet; not at all. Still in *Revelation 20:6* reiterates a point that I have been trying to bring home to you. *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

This is why I have tried to stir you up, to awaken you, to try to attain to that first resurrection, so you can reign with him

for that thousand year reign. Of course, His kingdom has no end, but we are talking about the thousand year reign that those that have attended the marriage supper of the Lamb, those that have been part of the first resurrection get to be part of. I have been trying to show that there are two resurrections, but the first one is the better one. Read again in *Hebrews, 11:35: Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection;*

I need to clarify something that has been misconstrued from Part III of this message. It was pointed out to me that it sounds like women will have no part of the first resurrection. What I was trying to do was bring home the point that those that go into the marriage supper were the friends of the bridegroom. I compared the marriage supper to our present day tradition of the bachelor party. I used two Bible references; one was the story of Sampson holding a wedding supper that the young men attended in *Judges 14:10*, and the other one was the feast that Jacob held before his marriage in *Genesis 29:22* that the young men attended. But what you need to understand is *Galatians 3:28*: (this passage of scripture is used out of context so often) *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Now, that does not mean that there are not male and female literally in Christ – of course there are male and female, for we have different responsibilities and different jobs. But when it comes to the reward, such as the marriage supper of the Lamb, there is neither male nor female. What I meant is that the marriage supper of the Lamb is attended by those who are the overcomers, the ones that have kept their garments clean, and the ones that are called – *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* But, remember, that there are two callings and two separate comings of the Lord Jesus Christ. Review again *Matthew 25. Matthew 25:1: Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.*

What were they doing? They were waiting for the bridegroom to come for the wedding supper. Also, in this chapter it tells us that we do not know when it is going to happen. *Matthew 25:13: Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.*

In *Luke, 12:36: Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, Verse 40: You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect.*

The first is a coming to receive those to take them to the marriage feast at "an hour that you do not expect." The

second is a coming from the marriage feast at “an hour that you do not expect.” Two separate comings.

The fall of Babylon appears to have been the past September event, in the opinion of this teacher, and it is an ongoing process. People have been wondering what to invest in, and I have an investment for you. This is the greatest investment that is out there. You will get a huge return with the least amount of investment. It is incredible, and I will benefit, in my retirement. What am I talking about? Read *Matthew*, 20:1-16: *For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. When he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the market place; and to those he said, “You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.” And so they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day long?” They said to him, “Because no one hired us.” He said to them, “You go into the vineyard too.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, “Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last group to the first.” When those hired about the eleventh hour came, each one received a denarius. When those hired first came, they thought that they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they grumbled at the landowner, saying, “These last men have worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the scorching heat of the day.” But he answered and said to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go, but I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous? So the last shall be first, and the first last.”*

What is that talking about? It is talking about your chance and mine to work and labor in the vineyard of the Lord in this eleventh hour. A minimal amount of investment will return tremendous rewards. And, how does that affect my retirement? Well, I think that the more fruit that I can bear for the Lord as a preacher and a teacher, the greater will be my reward as well. I want us all rewarded. The joys, the promises, and the rewards of the kingdom - there is nothing in this world to compare them to. All that is in the world in comparison to the treasures in Christ Jesus are as Paul said in *Philippians* 3, “but dung.” So, take heart. You can make it into the marriage supper of the Lamb. I have entitled these messages, “An Urgent Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What to Do.” The most important part is what to do, but I must first tell you what is coming. And, He is coming for that marriage supper crowd.

Half of the church, half of the Christians, make it into the supper. When the graves are opened and people come forth and are selected as taught in *Revelation* 11, we who are left are caught up to meet them to that marriage supper. Then what happens? Rewards and assignments are given. From what I can see, these rewards and assignments are given at the marriage supper. In *Luke* 19:11-19: *While they were listening to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because He was near Jerusalem, and they supposed that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately. So He said, “A nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return.”*

The NIV says that a man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then returned. Today’s English Version says, “There was once a man of high rank who was going to a country far away to be made king after which he planned to come back home.” *And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas and said to them, “Do business with this until I come back.” But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, “We do not want this man to reign over us.” When he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves, to whom he had given the money, be called to him so that he might know what business they had done.*

The King James Version says, “*what they had done with their talents.*” *The first appeared, saying, “Master, your mina has made ten minas more.” And he said to him, “Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, you are to be in authority over ten cities.” The second came, saying, “Your mina, master, has made five minas.” And he said to him also, “And you are to be over five cities.”*

What was He doing? He was assigning them jobs. If you labor in the vineyard in this eleventh hour, you have a chance for kingdom service. To me, it is much like a new administration. All are gathered together and the new king appoints a secretary of defense, a secretary of foreign affairs, etc. Everyone is given their assignments; and, I think that is what goes on in the marriage supper. One thing that will help you to understand about getting into the marriage supper is the story in *Matthew* 22:1-2, 11-14: *Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.” But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?” And the man was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.”*

You cannot be chosen for the wedding feast without the proper garments. This man was thrown out into the outer

darkness. What does that represent? We have been talking about the first resurrection which is a form of what the church world calls the rapture. What happens to the world when the tombs open up? The scripture says in *Matthew 27:51-53*: *And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many.*

Don't think that God can't do this; don't think that it has not already been done; and, don't think that it will not happen again. Just because you haven't heard much about this, don't think that it is heresy because it is something new. When those tombs open, things happen on earth. Have you ever heard the term, "being left in the dark?" The man at the marriage supper was to be cast into the darkness. I think that means that he was put back on that part of the earth that was in darkness. *Exodus 10:21* tells the story of the darkness that came over Egypt; total darkness, but there was light amongst God's people. At the time of the marriage supper, we do know, from the prophets, that darkness will fall upon the earth. For example, read in *John 9:4*: *We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.*

My friends, this is one of the reasons that I have exhorted you to enter into the vineyard and get to work in this eleventh hour because the midnight hour is fast approaching when you will not be able to work. *John 9:5* says, *While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.*

When Jesus left the world, there was still light because the church is the body of Christ. But, when half of the church is taken out of this world in the first resurrection night will come and no man can work. Part of the world will be in darkness and a part of the world will be in light. The darkness part will be preparing for war against the resurrected army that is coming and that they are going to fight. *Revelation 19:19*: *And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.*

The part of the world that is not in darkness will be awakened. According to *Ezekiel 37:13-14*, from the Septuagint: *When I have opened your graves that I may bring up my people out of the grave, I will then put my breath in you and you shall live. And I will settle you in your land and you shall know that I am the Lord, I have spoken, and I will perform saith the Lord.*

Those people come alive. The bride begins to make ready for the marriage; for the return of the bridegroom. *Isaiah 62* teaches this and tells us who he marries. Read in *Isaiah 62:1-4*: *For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, until her righteous-*

*ness goes forth like brightness, and her salvation like a torch that is burning. The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; and you will be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord will designate. You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, And a royal diadem in the hand of your God. It will no longer be said to you, "Forsaken," Nor to your land will it any longer be said, "Desolate"; But you will be called, "My delight is in her," And your land, "Married"; For the Lord delights in you, And to Him your land will be married.*

The Septuagint says: *Because the Lord is well pleased with thee, therefore the land shall be thickly inhabited, and as a youth cohabiting with a virgin bride, so shall thy sons inhabit it and as a bridegroom, will rejoice in his bride, so will the Lord rejoice over thee.*

The Israelites will be making ready for the marriage; making ready to correct an error that they made long ago when they gave up their God as their king. So, while the marriage supper is going on, part of the world is making ready for war in darkness and the other part is in light and making ready for the marriage. I can only pray that this has been making sense to you.

The most important thing for you to do is to become a Christian, to be called, to be chosen, and to be faithful. There are some things that need to be done by all of us in preparation for this marriage supper. Read on.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, make His countenance shine upon you and give you peace. In Jesus name, Amen.

### **"Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do." Part V**

*Darkness in Part of the World, Light in the Other*

Our Father in heaven, I pray that You would guide and direct through Your continual anointing upon this series so that I can bring the truths that You want brought at this time. Truths that will be a benefit to Your people; the ones that truly want to be in that number of the called, the chosen, and the faithful. Anoint this teacher, anoint this message, and anoint the hearts and the minds of those reading. We ask that You would call forth Your Holy Spirit to work at this time in awakening Your people. And, Heavenly Father, guide and direct us into truth that we need in this hour. We pray in Jesus name, Amen.

I should reiterate the concept of the first and the second resurrection. The Bible teaches that the first is the better resurrection. *Revelation 20:6*: *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

I have taught in the past that the first resurrection is the baptism for the remission of sins. And, I based that upon the teaching of *Romans 6:3-4*: *Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

Well, this is true. This is the baptism of *Acts 2:38*, which most ministers deny and attack Pastor Peters for bringing to you. It makes them look bad. Some people think they look good in lies, for it is a lie that you can become a Christian by accepting Jesus and believing on Him. You become a Christian by the same way that they did in the first century; the way Peter, who was given the keys to the kingdom, told them – *“Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

The first resurrection is, from what I can now see, the resurrection that is described in *I Thessalonians 4:13*. Many who hold to the rapture doctrine use this passage for their proof text. In all honesty, the rapture is not totally wrong. It just isn't a rapture doctrine but a doctrine of the first resurrection. This takes place when the bridegroom comes for the wise virgins to take them to the marriage feast. Not all of the church makes it to that feast. We have shown in this series that there are two comings and we know not the hour of either one. One is the groom coming for those who will attend the marriage feast with Him and the other coming is the groom coming from the marriage feast. It is after the first resurrection that the privilege of reigning a thousand years in the kingdom is offered.

I want to quote from a book called [A Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs](#). This dictionary is a collection of what is called “the Ante-Nicene Fathers.” These men either sat at the feet of the Apostles and heard them teach or were one generation removed. Is it a divinely inspired book? No, but it is a tremendous book, in my opinion, in the way of commentary. You are getting the comments from those who “heard it from the horse’s mouth,” so to speak. Here is a quote by Justin Martyr who lived in 160 stating [that the general resurrection takes place after the thousand year reign](#): *Those who believed in our Christ will dwell a thousand years in Jerusalem. After that, the general, and in short, the eternal resurrection and judgment of all men will likewise take place.*

Couple that with these quotes from Eusebius citing Papias in 120: *Among these things, Papias says that there will be a millennium after the resurrection from the dead, when the personal reign of Christ will be established on this earth.*

Justin Martyr said that the general resurrection comes after the thousand year reign and Eusebius says that there will be a thousand year reign after the resurrection from the dead. How can you fit the two together? Simple. There is a better resurrection, as stated in *Hebrews 11:35*; the first resurrection, the one that Paul was striving for in *Philippians* Chapter 3. The one described in *I Thessalonians* Chapter 4 that many use as the rapture text. Another quote from Justin Martyr: *I and others that are right minded Christians on all points are assured that there will be a resurrection from the dead and a thousand years in Jerusalem which will then be built, for Isaiah spoke in that manner concerning that period of a thousand years.*

These comments from the early, early church fathers say that the general resurrection takes place after the thousand year reign; that the thousand year reign takes place after the first resurrection. This means that there are two resurrections.

To review, Peter said in *2 Peter 3:1-2*: *This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you, in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.*

I have never in my years as a minister and teacher been so pulled into the prophets as I am now. Because now is the time. It appears, as I have pointed out previously, that the flock seems to intuitively know this, because the biggest selling books at Bible bookstores today are books on prophecy. But, alas, they will be way off mark because they do not know who the people of prophecy, the sheep of His pasture are. And, when they read about Jerusalem they only think in terms of the old Jerusalem. Read in *Zechariah* about a new J-e-r USA l-e-m. That new Jerusalem ties in with the prophecy that was quoted in Part 4 from *Micah*, Chapter 4, about the mountain that will be raised above all other mountains. In prophetic terms, mountain means nation and that nation in *Micah* chapter 4 ended up going to Babylon. And that is what has happened to our nation. It is very clear that there will have to be divine help, and there is going to be divine help. *Zechariah 2:1-8, 10*: *I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, to measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, And said unto him, run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her. Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord; for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord. Deliver thyself, O*

*Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. For thus saith the Lord of hosts; after the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee*

I see in scripture that there will be a new Jerusalem and it is not the old Jerusalem. This scripture in *Zechariah* tells us that this new Jerusalem is inhabited with towns without walls. In that old land in Palestine the cities have walls. In the time of Zechariah, a town without walls was unheard of. And, there was a multitude of men and cattle therein. Again, we are talking about something different from the old city of Jerusalem. There are more cattle in Keith County, Nebraska than in the whole state of Israel. Here is described a J-e-r USA l-e-m. America is in the Bible and America will be redeemed from the hand of her enemies, which is Babylon. She will be delivered. God has a plan in that delivery and part of that plan is what I have been telling you – after the marriage supper, He returns for two purposes.

*In the Book of Isaiah 60:1-2 Arise, shine; for your light has come, And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you And His glory will appear upon you.*

Two different conditions. One, there is darkness covering the earth, and two, there is light shining on a people. In the Septuagint, it says: *Be enlightened, be enlightened, Oh Jerusale For thy light has come; the glory of the Lord is risen upon you Behold darkness will cover the earth*

*And thick darkness, the nations.  
But upon thee the Lord will shine and  
His glory over thee will be conspicuous*

Notice the prophesy here. And the Septuagint brings it out even better. The nations are in darkness. By the way, it says, thick darkness. In Jerusalem, which I believe to be the new Jerusalem, there is light. I think of the writings in *Exodus* 10:21-23 concerning what took place when Israel was being delivered from Pharaoh so long ago: *Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even a darkness which may be felt.” So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days. They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the sons of Israel had light in their dwellings.*

In Part IV we read in *Matthew* 22 about the man who was at the wedding feast and was not properly attired. That is one of the reasons that I stress this baptism thing so hard. “*Know ye not that all of ye that were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ.*” (*Galatians* 3-27). When the king saw the man that was not properly clothed, Verse 13, he said: *Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into*

*the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.*

You have heard the expression, “left in the dark.” When Christ comes and takes those five wise virgins to the marriage supper, half of the body of Christ is removed from the earth. In *I Corinthians*, Chapter 12, it says that the church is His body. Jesus said in *John* 9:4-5: *We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.*

*Matthew* 20, as we have already covered in this series, gives you and I the opportunity in this eleventh hour to roll up our shirtsleeves, get serious about our Christianity, and go into the vineyard and labor. And, we, according to our God who does not and cannot lie, receive every bit as much of a reward as if we had been laboring a full twelve hours. Isn't that a wonderful promise? You see, that is why I call this an urgent message. When that darkness hit in *Exodus* 10, there was no working. It was dark. When part of the body of Christ is taken out of this world in the first resurrection, that is, when the graves open and those who have died in Christ are judged or selected, the Christians who are still alive and able to go into the marriage feast of the Lamb are caught up to meet Him. That is what *I Thessalonians* 4:18 is all about. Review, starting with Verse 14: *For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep 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 not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.*

When that happens, darkness comes upon the earth. On the other hand, there will be light on some. They are the people that are preparing for the marriage. His people. These are the people of *Ezekiel* 37. As I have said before, *Ezekiel* 37 is the prophesy of the dry bones. Dry, dead bones. This deadness represents, according to *Colossians* 2:13, that they are dead in their trespasses. That is the way it is with Israel today. They are so sinful that they are dead in their trespasses. In *Ezekiel* 37 God puts the bones together and puts the flesh and sinew on them, but when does he put the breath of life into them? When the graves open. *Ezekiel* 37:13 from the Septuagint: *When I have opened your graves that I may bring up my people out of the graves, I will then put my breath into you, and you shall live.*

God's people who are dead in their trespasses now are going

to come alive. In *Ezekiel 36:26-27* we have another prophesy. *Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.*

I believe this is talking about the bride preparing for the wedding. It is Israel awakening to her identity and responsibility and getting ready to accept the administration of her King. This knowledge brings an entire national awakening. That is what I think that this prophesy is about.

Israel's heart has become so cold, so unloving. The greatest commandment is "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind, and with all thy soul." *Matthew 24* is a chapter that has been argued over many times. Some say that it was fulfilled at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem and I have to admit that I have had different positions on it. The question was asked Jesus, in Verse 3, after he had said that the temple was going to be torn down: *As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, Tell us, when will these things be?*

I think this question refers to what Jesus said in Verse 2: *Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.*

Continuing with Verse 3 *and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?*

There is no doubt that the love of the world grows cold because of sin. *Matthew 24:12: because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold.*

I feel led to say this to some of you - some of you fornicators out there. The immorality in this land is atrocious. It's like a pack of copulating dogs in heat. And it is being promoted by Esau Edom, who lost the birthright; he has control right now of what is called entertainment – which is really an indoctrination and a misleading of the sheep down a broad path to destruction. I am giving you a call right now to the holiness of life. A call to repent. In *Hebrews 12:15-17: See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.*

The older brother, Esau, could not get the repentance. He sold his birthright and now he is having so many of you sell yours for nothing more than immorality. And that immo-

rality has brought on, just as Jesus said in *Matthew 24:12*, "cold love." People have a cold love; no love at all for their God or fellowman. I think the prophesy from *Ezekiel* means that God is going to change that. He is going to make the heart of the bride ready, as she prepares for the return of the bridegroom from the marriage supper. When he returns, then what? I want you to turn to *Luke 4:17-20*. In my series "Power, Prophecy, Destruction, and Deliverance" I quoted this passage: *And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, The spirit of the lord is upon me, Because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, To proclaim the favorable year of the lord. And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down;*

He stopped right in the middle of the verse. The rest of the verse is found in *Isaiah 61:2: And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn.*

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted." Many of you, like me, mourn and grieve as you see the destruction of our country – the destruction of its morals, its integrity, its money system, its family unit, its health, etc. Jesus stopped where he stopped in *Luke 4:18* because His first time here He had a job to do. When He comes back from the marriage supper of the Lamb, He has a further job to do. That is the day of vengeance of our God and one to comfort all who mourn.

The scriptures are full of prophesies of that activity – the return of our Lord. We have already read in *Revelation 19:11-19* these words: *And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, Come, assemble for the great supper of God, so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great." And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against*

*His army.*

The Apocrypha in *II Esdras*’ 13:8-11 seems to address this war against God: *And after this I beheld, and lo, all they which were gathered together to subdue Him were sore afraid, and yes durst fight. And, lo, as He saw the violence of the multitude that came, He neither lifted up His hand, no held sword, nor any instrument of war. But only I saw that He sent out of His mouth as it had been a blast of fire, and out of His lips a flaming breath, and out of His tongue he cast out sparks and tempests. And they were all mixed together; the blast of fire, the flaming breath, and the great tempest; and fell with violence upon the multitude which was prepared to fight, and burned them up every one, so that upon a sudden of an innumerable multitude nothing was to be perceived, but only dust and smell of smoke; when I saw this I was afraid.*

We read in *Jude* 1:14-15 regarding this return: *It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way. . . .* Read more prophesy in *I Thessalonians* 1:10: . . . *that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.*

There is going to be wrath to come. And it is Jesus who delivers it. Do you want delivered? *II Thessalonians* 1:6: *For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you,*

In the series “Power, Prophecy, Destruction, and Deliverance” I referred to a scripture from *II Peter* 2: 3: *and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.*

What does that mean that “their destruction is not asleep?” It means that they are not asleep to the fact that they are destroying us; destroying us on purpose. And, the Holy Spirit has further revealed to me that they are not asleep to the fact that the day is coming when they, themselves, will be destroyed. Because God, I believe, has put in them an understanding like a rat has on a sinking ship; they understand that they are sinking and they squeak and scurry. Well, squeak and scurry, you sons of Hell, you destroyers, because God Almighty is going to “repay with affliction those that afflict us.” Reading on in *II Thessalonians* 1:7,8: *and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*

Did you know that when Jesus Christ was on the face of this earth that He wanted to kindle fire then? But, it wasn’t

time. In Part IV, we read about a certain nobleman who went to a distant country to be crowned king according to *Luke* 19:12. When he returned he told his citizens that they would have to give an account for the talents that he had given them. When he was done giving the rewards, what did he do? Read on in *Luke* 19:27: *But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence.*

The scripture prophesizes this day of slaying, of slaughter, and of destruction as the day of the Lord; by prophet after prophet after prophet. It is my conviction, from the following passages from *Luke* 12: 36, 47, 49 that the fire comes when He comes back from the marriage supper. *Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast And that slave who knew his master’s will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled!*

He is, according to His own words and He does not lie, going to cast fire upon this earth. When? According to *II Thessalonians* 1:7-8, it will be when he comes with His flaming angels and flaming fire to deal out retribution to those who do not know God and those who do not obey the gospel. This prophecy ties in with the one from *Jude* and with the parable chapter in *Matthew* 13. It wasn’t time when Jesus spoke in *Luke* 18; it was not time for the day of vengeance. But, according to *Isaiah* 60, which we have already read, the time is coming. And when it happens, the fulfillment of the prophecy from *Matthew* 13 happens. Jesus is explaining the parable of the tares. In *Matthew* 13:37-43: *And He said, the one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.*

Well, hear this. Part of the world is left in darkness, but part of the world still has light. Why do they still have light? Because half of the true church, those five virgins, were left behind – His body is still the light of the world. And, among His people there is a preparation for the marriage; they are preparing for the return of the groom. The world that is in darkness prepares for war. *2 Peter* 3: 1-14: *This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the words spoken be-*

forehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles. Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts and saying, Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation. For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.

If you continue reading this series, you will find out what to do. The most important thing is what to do to be part of that number. It has to do with adornment, being found spotless, blameless, and repentant. That new heaven and new earth has to do with kingdom rule. Wouldn't you like to be part of it? You have an opportunity to. I felt compelled to make a call to the people for holiness and Godliness of life again, and for them to turn away from the immorality and all of the sin that is in this world. Because this world as you know it is coming to an end. The world is not coming to an end, but the world as you know it is. There will be destruction of ungodly men and judgment on those destroyers who have been destroying this world. He is coming back for the bride. She will be preparing for His coming. There will be light in part of the world and darkness in the other part, as prophesied in *Isaiah* 60 and 61 that. I am giving you prophesy that I myself have never seen before. What do you need to do? You need to become a Christian. You need to be called. You need to be chosen. You need to be faithful. And, some of you need to repent and get right with God. I pray that these messages might work toward that end.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob keep you, make His face shine upon you, be gracious unto you, lift His countenance upon you, and grant you peace. In Jesus name,

Amen.

### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part VI**

*National Salvation is Part of the Story*

Our Father in Heaven, we ask for an anointing of Your Holy Spirit on this message and on this teacher. We ask that you would guide and direct us into all truths and give us understanding. Stir our hearts to be found faithful in these times that we find ourselves in. We pray in Jesus name, Amen.

This is Part 6 of this series, and I haven't gotten to the most important point – that is, what to do. But, before I begin on that, I want to respond to some e-mails that I have gotten in regards to this series. One is from a gentleman that is quite upset because of the teaching that the church is not the bride. None of us have all of the truth, and we should all be humble enough to change when we find ourselves needing to change. I had to tell my church congregation, for example, that I taught for years from *Revelation* 20:6: *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

I taught for years that this first resurrection was really the resurrection of *Romans* 6:, which likens our baptism for the remission of sins as being raised up with Christ. *Romans* 6:4: *Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

I said to my congregation, “*I can see that I was wrong.*” When I am wrong, I want to correct it, and I certainly do not want to lead anyone else wrong. I don't think that I am wrong about the bride. I have previously pointed out that God was married to Israel of old, and I pointed out that the attendance at the marriage supper were those that were friends of the bridegroom. I think those are the Christians, the over comers who have their robes properly adorned. I think that I have shown that there are two comings. I am not saying that we do anything or are not going to have to do anything. I think about God saying that He would give the people the land of Canaan, but yet God's people had to walk in faith and fight for it. And there is still a battle ahead. Don't adopt the rapture mentality and just sit back and say, “*We can just sit back and not do anything.*” In *Matthew* 25 we read about the bridegroom coming for those who will attend the marriage feast. And, it says in Verse 13: *Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.*

In *Luke* 12:36: *Be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they*

may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.

How long does the marriage feast last? I don't know. What exactly takes place on earth after this first resurrection which brings about the marriage feast? I don't know exactly, but I have shared scripture that indicates the world will be in darkness. There will be part of the world that will have light. I found some interesting quotes from The Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs regarding the resurrection. I previously stated that there were two resurrections and here are a couple of quotes from this book that substantiates that. Justice Martyr wrote in the year 160: *Those who believed in our Christ will dwell a thousand years in Jerusalem. After that, the general and in short the eternal resurrection and judgment of all men will likewise take place.*

Notice that he uses the word general resurrection taking place after a thousand years reign. The same man writes: *I and others that are right minded Christians on all points are assured that there will be a resurrection from the dead and a thousand years in Jerusalem which will then be built, for Isaiah spoke in that manner concerning that period of a thousand years.*

He understood Isaiah in the same way that I have been talking about. He says that there is a resurrection and then a thousand year reign and after that thousand years there is a general resurrection. Here is another quote from Eusebius citing Papias in 120: *Among these things, Papias says that there will be a millennium after the resurrection from the dead, when the personal reign of Christ will be established on this earth.*

These are just to show you that there are some who have taught the same thing. Here is another quote: *This has pleased Christ that the dead should rise again. Yes, they will rise with their bodies and those too will rise again that have been burned with fire in this world. This will happen when 6000 years have been completed and the world has come to an end.*

That is the general resurrection.

Still reviewing, we have the marriage supper. He comes for those and half of the church get to go. Those wise virgins represent the Christians that are ready and they are blessed with the opportunity to be in kingdom service in the thousand year reign. I speculate that at this marriage supper that rewards will be given, assignments given, and an army formed. On the earth left in darkness, from what I read in *Revelation*, they are preparing for war against the returning Son of God and His army. Another part of the world will have light as Israel of old had light when the rest of Egypt

was in total darkness and in that part will be the bride making ready for the marriage.

This man wrote to me about the church being the bride. You see, the church is part of Israel and it was Israel that God was married to before and it will be Israel that God marries again. So, from that point, the church has a part in that bride of Christ. This man wrote and said, *"Your teaching of a post resurrection marriage of Christ to national Israel is essentially the false doctrine of universal reconciliation. Moreover, to support this teaching of universalism, you are teaching that the writings of the law of God upon the heart is a matter of fleshly heredity."* Well, first of all, it is absolute nonsense that I am teaching anything to do with universal reconciliation. For those that were there at my preaching in Philadelphia in February, you know that I covered this. Universal reconciliation is, *"Don't worry about it. It doesn't make any difference what you do. In the end, everyone gets saved."* A lot of sheep are being led astray by this doctrine and quite frankly, it is quite difficult for me to keep up with all of the false heresy, false teachings that some of you become involved with. Universal reconciliation is one of them. In fact, what I am teaching in this series is that it is a remnant that shall be saved and much of the earth will be destroyed; that is why you should take heed the words of Peter in *II Peter*, Chapter 3, to be found faithful in the Lord.

He goes on to say, *"It appears that your primary motive in teaching that the church is not the bride and wife of Christ is to make room for the non-scriptural doctrine of national deliverance."* The non-scriptural doctrine of national deliverance? In my opinion, the gentleman appears to consider himself quite a scholar, but is grossly ignorant of the prophets. He does not understand what this marriage is about. The Bible talks about a national salvation, even more so that a personal salvation. All that the Judeo-Christian church world seems to talk about is personal salvation - except for a national salvation for the nation of the Jews. No, the Bible has much to say about national salvation; that is why I say, with confidence, that they are not going to be successful in destroying the nation of America. It was pointed out in Part V that *Micah*, Chapter 4, is a prophesy dealing with God raising up a nation. God has prophesied, many times, that the nation of Israel has a birth right - they can call upon their God and He saves them. For example, in *Hebrews*, Chapter 2:16, it tells us: *For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham.*

According to the footnote in the New American Standard Bible, the word descendant means "seed." He gives help to the "seed" of Abraham. This is taught over and over in scripture. *II Chronicles* 7:14 may be an Old Testament scripture, but it is not outdated. It is a truth that will apply to our nation today. One of the ingredients that make up a nation is race. I pointed out already, in this series, that the

Septuagint makes reference to God's people, "My people" in more than one place as a race. And, that is what they were – a race of people. Read *II Chronicles 7:13-14: If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

That is national salvation. That is not to say that every person in that nation had to be totally right with God to enjoy that national salvation. We have examples of this, since the New Covenant, by the way. One that comes to mind is the story of the great Spanish Armada that was christened by the Catholic Church. It sailed on England and England called out on their God. They turned to Jesus and that great Armada was destroyed by God. This is part of the birth right that comes from being born from Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In the book, The Light and The Glory, General Gage was to be sent to put the colonies in order, way before the Revolutionary War. The colonists prayed and they were saved. God saved them. There again is national salvation. I marvel that this man would say that national salvation is not scriptural. *Deuteronomy 31:29: For I know that after my death you will act corruptly and turn from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days, for you will do that which is evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him to anger with the work of your hands*

*Deuteronomy 32:36 reads, . For the Lord will vindicate His people, And will have compassion on His servants, When He sees that their strength is gone.*

Chapter 32 is prophesy, a latter day prophesy that we are living in today. And, our strength is gone. The race of people that formed America and Canada – the builder race – their strength is gone. They are being destroyed and God then shows in Chapter 32, that He will sharpen his flashing sword, he will render vengeance, he will take His arrows and make them drunk with blood, and He says, in Verse 43: *Rejoice, O nations, with His people; For He will avenge the blood of His servants, And will render vengeance on His adversaries, And will atone for His land and His people.*

This is national salvation. And it is part of prophesy, part of the birthright. For this man to say that it is non-scriptural, I marvel. God says that He will avenge the blood of His servants and render vengeance on His adversaries. What is that all about? Read in *Jude 14-15: It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way*

Does that sound like universal reconciliation to you? I don't understand how anyone could take what I am currently teaching and turn it into universal reconciliation sounds like someone desperate to try to bring Pastor Peters down into the position of a bad teacher. Read *II Thessalonians 1:6-8* again: *For after all it is only just for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution . . .*

These prophesies tie together. There is a passage in *II Peter* that a lot of people have read and never really understood it. *II Peter 2:3: and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.*

Their destruction is not asleep? I feel that the Holy Spirit revealed to me that this means that they are not asleep to the destruction that they are doing to the race or nation of Israel, the true Israel people. I am not talking about Jews, but the true Israel – the Anglo Saxon, Germanic, Scandinavian, Celtic, and kindred people. I also came to later realize that it means also to the destruction that is going to come upon them. The Bible is very clear that a certain people have been created for the purpose of destruction. This is national salvation. Just as *Deuteronomy Chapter 32* says that God will "avenge the blood of his servants, so it is that the Bible tells us of all of the cover-ups that have been going on, of all of the blood that has been spilled, all of this is going to be made known. The Bible teaches that after the fall of Babylon, "that in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all who have been slain on the earth." Revelation 18:24

It says that it has been found – that means that it was covered up all of this time, but they have not been asleep all of this time. They know what the fluoride was for. They know what the vaccinations were for. They know that the wars have been fought in such a way as to have Israel fighting Israel as in the Civil War, World War I and II. *Isaiah 26:21: For behold, the Lord is about to come out from His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; And the earth will reveal her bloodshed And will no longer cover her slain.*

Here is something that was sent to me by Bill Strittmatter. "Possible insight on future events; Ezekiel's valley of dry bones in *Ezekiel 37:10* and resurrection events in *Matthew 10:26. Ezekiel 37:10: So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.*

*Matthew 10:26: Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. "It seems to me like an old episode of the "Twilight Zone" had Ezekiel's vision in*

mind. Unexpected events that take place at the time of resurrection. Here is an outline of that TV program and suspected Bible links just to think about. I think Hollywood writers are obsessed with the Bible and get many of their points from it. In the old west, a con man and his dog come by stagecoach to an old western town. The dog is killed in an accident. The con man resurrects the dog from the dead. Witnesses see him and noise the event around town. Some confront the con man and tell him that they do not believe that he actually raised the dog from the dead; that it was just a trick. The con man states that tomorrow he will prove himself be resurrecting someone buried in the town cemetery on boot hill. That evening, while killing time in the tavern, one at a time the town's people take him aside to say something like this, "Please don't resurrect my old business partner who I shot to death." Another man quietly requests that his wife, that he beat to death, not be resurrected. The sheriff quietly requests that a certain outlaw wrongly executed not be resurrected. This goes on for some time and each person pays a bribe to the con man. At midnight, the con being complete, the con man takes the bribe money and sneaks out of town. The program ends with all of the people in boot hill coming out of their graves about midnight, each one looking to get even with the person who put them in the grave."

He says, links to the Bible might be: *the town graveyard is Ezekiel's valley of dry bones; from Ezekiel's graveyard rises a mighty army – from the town graveyard rises an angry crowd headed for town to get even with the people who put them there. At this resurrection, secrets long buried are revealed – as in Matthew 10:26. I suspect that at that resurrection there are going to be a lot of people angry, looking to get even. God might need an army and many sergeants at arms to keep order.*

He wrote that based on the writings of Ezekiel 37. The Septuagint even gives more understanding and makes this story, which he shared with me from the old series on "Twilight Zone", even more applicable. Ezekiel 37:1-10 is about national salvation. *The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, You know." Again He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones and say to them, "O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones, "Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the Lord. So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and be-*

*hold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them.*

Verse 11: *Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope has perished. We are completely cut off.'"*

This is the whole house of Israel. This is national salvation. That is what we are talking about. Now I want you to read about the breath of life coming in, according to the Septuagint in Ezekiel 37:13-14: *When I have opened your graves that I may bring up My people out of the graves, I will then put My breath in you and you shall live. I will settle you in your land and you shall know that I am the Lord. I have spoken, and I will perform, saith the Lord.*

This is talking about national salvation. Israel is dead in their trespasses and sins. When God opens the graves and brings the people out of the graves, people are going to come alive again to the things of God. Part of the world will be in darkness, but part of the world will have light and will be preparing for the marriage. Isaiah 62 tells us about the marriage and from what I can understand that marriage has to do with national salvation. It says in Isaiah 62:1-5: *For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, Until her righteousness goes forth like brightness, And her salvation like a torch that is burning.*

Does that sound like personal or national salvation? *The nations will see your righteousness, And all kings your glory; And you will be called by a new name Which the mouth of the Lord will designate. You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, And a royal diadem in the hand of your God. It will no longer be said to you, "Forsaken," Nor to your land will it any longer be said, "Desolate"; But you will be called, "My delight is in her," And your land, "**Married**";* (emphasis added) *For the Lord delights in you, **And to Him your land will be married.*** (emphasis added) *For as a young man marries a virgin, So your sons will marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So your God will rejoice over you.*

From the Septuagint, Isaiah 62:4-8: *And thou shalt no more be called forsaken, Nor shall thy land anymore be called the desert, But thy name shall be called, "my delight," And that of My country, the inhabited land Because the Lord is well pleased with thee. Therefore, thy land shall be thickly inhabited. As a youth cohabiting with a virgin bride, So shall thy sons inhabit it. And, as a bridegroom will rejoice in his bride, So will the Lord rejoice over you. Now upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, I have Set watchmen all the day and all the night. They will not cease continuously to mention The Lord, for there is none like You. When He*

*shall have reestablished And made Jerusalem a boast on the earth. The Lord has sworn by His glory And by the power of His arm I will no more give thy corn and thy food To thy enemies, nor may the sons of strangers Anymore drink thy wine, for which thou hast labored.*

I think that marriage has to do with national salvation and the church plays a part in the marriage. The church is that part that is part of Israel, and it is Israel that is the bride. So, from that standpoint, I can understand the argument that the church is the bride of Christ. But, as I have pointed out, they seem to be two separate things as well. (The bride, according to *Revelation 21:9* through *Revelation 22:5* is the holy city, Jerusalem, and on its gates are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel so in that sense it involves the true race of Israel and thus national salvation; and, it sits on the twelve foundation stones which have the names of the twelve apostles which in that sense would represent the church. It all represents the kingdom and there is still some mystery to the kingdom (*Mark 4:11*) that I do not understand).

One man wrote to me and said: *“Pastor Peters, my wife and I attended the gathering that you are sponsoring in Houston. If I remember correctly, you made a point about your view of the coming resurrection; that it would make a big impression upon an unbelieving world that we have been beating our heads against the wall trying to reach for so long. Note these writings from the Apocalypse of Beruit. They seem to reinforce what you have been teaching. From page 82, ‘For then it will be necessary to show to the living that the dead have come to life again and that those that have departed have returned again. It will come to pass when they have suddenly recognized those that they now know then judgment will grow strong and those things which before were spoken of will come.’”*

What has been spoken of before? Peter speaks of the “*fire of God*” and in *Luke 12:36*. I think there is indication that that fire happens after the bridegroom returns from the marriage supper. Then in *Luke 12:49*, Jesus said: *m I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled!*

In regards to the marriage, God was married to Israel at one time. That nation, Israel, gave up God as their king a long time ago, and from what I can see, that nation will receive Him back again. A race gave up their king a long time ago, and from what I can see, that race is going to receive Him back again. A race betrayed its husband a long time ago, and it is going to become faithful again. In *Jeremiah 3:20*: *Surely, as a woman treacherously departs from her lover, So you have dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel,” declares the Lord.*

There is a movement out there that says that all of prophesy has been fulfilled and even the resurrection has been

fulfilled – that this was all taken care of in 70 A.D. But, this resurrection that I am talking has not taken place – it is in the future, but getting closer and closer.

In Part VII, we will cover the fire of heaven, what the early Christians had to say about it, and a new concept, the Canaanite connection.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, make His countenance shine upon you and give you peace. In Jesus name, Amen.

### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part VII** *“The Fire of God”*

Our Father in heaven, through the anointing of Your Holy Spirit we ask that You would bless this message, guide and direct this teacher into the thoughts and scriptures that You want covered. We ask Your anointing in a powerful way to bring Your people to a sincere reminder so they might be awakened and stirred in their thoughts and make them aware that their God will not allow unrighteousness to prevail forever. Heavenly Father, may we always remember that You have promised that righteousness will reign upon this earth and that You have a plan. Father may this message help bring some to a reverence, an awe, and a fear of their God over the fears of all the other things that the thorns and thistles direct them to fear. Heavenly Father, I pray that Your Holy Spirit would work in our lives to love You more, to be more humble before Your throne, and to be more attentive to Your desires, needs and Word. We pray in Jesus name, Amen.

In this series, I have been reading a lot from *II Peter*, where he talks about stirring up the mind. *II Peter 3:1-5: This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles. Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.”*

Have you ever heard anyone say, “Where is the promise of His coming?” Yes, you have and probably just didn’t realize it. When you go into the local coffee shop and hear people talking about the basketball game, the football game, or what gold medal was won or not won at the Olympics what you are hearing them say is, “Ha, there is nothing about His coming.” Have any of you ever heard any of them sitting around saying, “You know, I wonder if today is the day that the Lord will come?”

Or

“Have you thought about how wicked things are getting, Frank?” “Yeah, I know what you mean, George. I was just saying the other day that we had better start looking more towards the coming of Jesus Christ and His judgment upon this earth.”

No, people just don’t talk that way and, if you start talking that way to them, they get real uneasy. They just don’t want to hear it. Why? “That’s just some religious fanatic; people have always thought that, you know.” *II Peter 3:5-7* says: *For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.*

Read it again to help it sink in: *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.*

This past Sunday, I was speaking of *II Peter*, Chapter 3, and we had some visitors in church. One was a lady that I had never seen before. In the message I brought out how God killed a lot of people. We forget Him as such a God. Frankly, we don’t like to use the word kill, but when life ceases to exist in somebody’s body, I’d say that is killing. I talked about how some people like to picture God as some long, gray-bearded, doting grandfather always loving and caring; we just never picture him as one who destroys, who kills, and who takes the lives of ungodly men. The woman got up and walked out of service. I have a feeling this wasn’t the kind of church that she wanted to attend; not the kind of God that she wanted to hear about. What I have covered so far in this message is the Word of God: *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire*

*II Peter 3:8-9: But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

The Bible has a lot to say about fire. Just because you have not seen literal fire from God for a long, long time, Israel, does not mean there is not literal fire yet to come. When one studies the scriptures, one sees that sometimes the word “fire” is used metaphorically while sometimes it is literally. Sometimes, when you are looking at prophesy, you are not sure which, but normally as you study you can tell. *II Peter 3:10-13: But the day of the Lord will come like a*

*thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.*

The day of the Lord will come and the prophets that Peter directs us to had much to say about that. In *Zephaniah 1:14-16: Near is the great day of the Lord, Near and coming very quickly; Listen, the day of the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. A day of wrath is that day, A day of trouble and distress, A day of destruction and desolation, A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of trumpet and battle cry.*

I think this is an interesting key; that perhaps the day of the Lord is tied to that trumpet and battle cry. Continuing with *Zephaniah 1:16-18, 2:1-3: Against the fortified cities And the high corner towers. I will bring distress on men So that they will walk like the blind, Because they have sinned against the Lord; And their blood will be poured out like dust And their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold Will be able to deliver them On the day of the Lord’s wrath; And all the earth will be devoured In the fire of His jealousy, For He will make a complete end, Indeed a terrifying one, Of all the inhabitants of the earth. Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame, Before the decree takes effect — The day passes like the chaff — Before the burning anger of the Lord comes upon you, Before the day of the Lord’s anger comes upon you. Seek the Lord, All you humble of the earth Who have carried out His ordinances; Seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden In the day of the Lord’s anger.*

There the word “fire” is used in conjunction with the day of the Lord. When it says, “*all will be consumed*,” I think that is the general “all”, because the prophesy says that some who seek humility and righteousness can be hidden in the day of the Lord – in other words, they can survive. That is what you want to do. You want to see the new heavens and the new earth that God has planned. We read how on the day of the Lord’s wrath, all of the earth will be devoured in the **fire** of his jealousy. I don’t know if that is metaphorically or physically. From what I can see, though, it is most likely a literal fire, based on the other prophesies concerning the day of the Lord.

In *II Peter*, Chapter 3, the word “*fire*”, and the phrase “*being burned up*” could be used metaphorically, but I don’t think so. It compares it to flood water and that was literal water. So, it stands to reason, then, that Peter is talking

about literal, judgmental, killing, consuming, and destroying fire.

I want to show you the many Bible scriptures that there are dealing with a literal, judgmental fire. To make those scriptures more real, first read some New Testament scriptures. We are told, in *Romans 15:4*: *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Things that we are going to read about, written in earlier times, about literal, destroying fires of judgment were written for our instruction, according to *Romans 15:4*. A parallel scripture would be *I Corinthians 10:1-6*: *For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and all ate the same spiritual food; and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness. Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved.*

As we read in Old Testament scriptures about literal fire, let us not forget that these things happened according to *I Corinthians 10:6* as “examples for us”. For us who never talk about the day of the Lord, when the fire is going to destroy the Israelites and non-Israelites, like He did before. No one talks that way anymore. They don’t think it will happen. Read further, Verses 7-8: *Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, “the people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play.” Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day.*

There is a lot of immorality in the world today and no one thinks very much about it anymore. They have been so conditioned by the thorns and the thistles that run the Hollywood screen. Verses 9-13: *Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

So, dear Christian friends, you are going to be without excuse. If you have been caught up in some of the temptations of the world, and you willfully and flagrantly have gone

that way in the sight of God, it is time to repent. God is not willing, as Peter said, “*for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.*” But, if you don’t you should expect the consuming fire.

I know that it is a little old fashioned and a little out of date to be hearing about the hell fires of God. But, read the Word of God and it tells you, over and over, that your God has in the past used literal, burning fire to judge evil men. And that is what Peter is talking about. He is not talking metaphorically about fire. He’s talking, in my opinion, about literal fire. There are some scriptures that I wish you to read. *Genesis 19:24*: *Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven*

That was literal fire. It came down and it literally destroyed men. His fire is far more disastrous than a nuclear bomb. *Leviticus 10:2-3*: *And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. Then Moses said to Aaron, “It is what the LORD spoke, saying, ‘By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.’”*

Literal fire. *Numbers 11:1-3*: *Now the people became like those who complain of adversity in the hearing of the Lord; and when the Lord heard it, His anger was kindled, and the fire of the Lord burned among them and consumed some of the outskirts of the camp. The people therefore cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to the Lord and the fire died out. So the name of that place was called Taberah, because the fire of the Lord burned among them.*

Also read *Numbers 16:35*: *Fire also came forth from the Lord and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering the incense.*

These verses show that literal fire was used by God to literally consume, destroy, burn, kill, and obliterate (or whatever term you wish to use). These passages from the Bible were put down for our learning; as an example for you and for me. In *I Kings 18:38*: *Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.*

This was old Elijah confronting the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel and it was literal fire that came down out of heaven. And some of you don’t think that it is ever going to happen again? Well, think again. There is an interesting example in *II Kings*, particularly in light of the teaching we have in the New Testament in *Luke, 9:54* that says, “*Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?*” The Lord rebuked them because of their spirit, but what is interesting is that these apostles had learned from Jesus that they could call down literal fire. The story in *II Kings* is about Elijah who not only could but did bring down fire. *II Kings 1:10-12*: *Elijah replied to the captain of fifty, “If I am a man of God, let fire come*

down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty So he again sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he said to him, "O man of God, thus says the king, 'Come down quickly.'" Elijah replied to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

This, again, was literal fire, not metaphorical fire. There are so many examples of literal fire. In *I Chronicles* 21:26: *Then David built an altar to the Lord there and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. And he called to the Lord and He answered him with fire from heaven on the altar of burnt offering.*

Another, from *II Chronicles* 7:1: *Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices. . .*

We have many quotes that we can look to from the Bible dealing with fire. *Psalms* 21:8-10: *Your hand will find out all your enemies Your right hand will find out those who hate you. You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your anger The Lord will swallow them up in His wrath, And fire will devour them. Their offspring You will destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men.*

I want to take these thoughts on fire and direct them to what I call the Canaanite connection. There are two things, as I have said in this series, that our forefathers did and did not do that have had a great consequence on us in this end of the age in which we are living. One is when they, in *I Samuel* Chapter 8 gave up God as being their king. That has had tremendous consequences for many centuries in the way of wars and deaths. And, along these same lines, it is what they did not do. They did not follow the edict given them in *Deuteronomy* Chapter 7 to kill all of the Canaanites. Now, there is no indication that the Canaanites were any descendants of Cain. Cain was cursed of God; and the Canaanites were cursed of God, but they were different people than Cain's people. Often, we have some who come crying and yelling about the descendants of Cain and complain that I do not take their position that Eve had sexual relations with Satan and that type of thing, yet they do not talk about the Canaanites that God said to "kill them all and let their god sort them out." That's basically what He said, if you take time to read it in *Deuteronomy*, Chapter 7. They didn't do it. Today, I am not telling you to do it; in fact, I'm telling you that you can't do it because you don't know who they are anymore. But, they are, and they are thorns and thistles in our sides and pricks in our eyes today. Just as God said they would be. That's why I choose Psalm 21:8-10. Read it again: *Your hand will find out all your enemies; Your right hand will find out those who hate you. You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your an-*

*ger; The Lord will swallow them up in His wrath, And fire will devour them. Their offspring you will destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men.*

I think He is talking about the thorns and the thistles, and you will think the same, I think, when I get into what I consider to be the Canaanite connection. You should read this scripture from the Septuagint from *Isaiah* 14:21: *Wicked seed, prepare thy sons for slaughter for the sins of their fathers that they might not rise and possess the earth and fill the world with wars.*

I think that this ties in perfectly with *Psalms* 21:8-10. The Septuagint reads this way: *Let thy enemies feel thy hand and Thy right hand find out all that hate thee. Thou will make them like an oven of fire At the time of thy presence. The Lord with His wrath will confront them, And a fire shall devour them. Thou wilt destroy their fruit from the earth, And their seed from among the sons of men.*

The next quote is *Isaiah* 10, and it is quite a prophesy. It pertains to our day, from what I can see. *Isaiah* 10:12-17: *So it will be that when the Lord has completed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, He will say, "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the pomp of his haughtiness." For he has said, "By the power of my hand and by my wisdom I did this, For I have understanding; And I removed the boundaries of the peoples And plundered their treasures, And like a mighty man I brought down their inhabitants, And my hand reached to the riches of the peoples like a nest, And as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth; And there was not one that flapped its wing or opened its beak or chirped." Is the axe to boast itself over the one who chops with it? Is the saw to exalt itself over the one who wields it? That would be like a club wielding those who lift it, Or like a rod lifting him who is not wood. Therefore the Lord, the God of hosts, will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors; and under his glory a fire will be kindled like a burning flame. And the light of Israel will become a fire and his Holy One a flame and it will burn and devour his thorns and his briars in a single day.*

In this prophesy God is saying that He is not going to allow these people to take credit for what He has done. The people that He is talking are the people that He is going to destroy and He calls them "thorns and briars." The next scripture that I want you to read is one that we do not normally think of in terms of prophesy. *Matthew* 7:15-19: *Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and*

*thrown into the fire.*

We are told that a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. He says, “Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles.” When He says tree, He is talking about a family tree. The thorns and the thistles and those from that family tree are going to be thrown into the fire. That is literal fire. Don’t you start to feel too complacent. You, too, could very well be in that number because so many have been caught up into the ways of the thorns and thistles that we find ourselves in the predicament that is described in *Hebrews 6:4-12*: *For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame. For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God; but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned. But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way. For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

I sense, through the leading of the Spirit, that there are some of you that need to take seriously those words. It is time to repent. “God does not desire that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” Peter was speaking to the flock not to the thorns and the thistles.

How did the early church speak about literal fire? The following quote is from [The Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs](#). This is a reference guide to more than 700 topics discussed by the early church fathers. These are comments, sort of, “from the horse’s mouth” for these men heard it from the apostles themselves. From 170, Melito writes: *So also it will be at the end time, there will be a flood of fire and the earth will be burned up together with its mountains. Mankind, too, will be burned up along with the idols they have made, but the just will be preserved from His anger.*

Here is a quote from Irenaeus in 180: *After all the desires of the whole world must also pass away when the time for its end has come. This must take place so that the fruit can be gathered into the granary but the shaft left behind may be consumed by fire.*

By Tertulian in 210: *This has pleased God that the dead should rise again. Yes, they will rise with their bodies and those, too, will rise again who have been burned with fire in this world. This will happen when 6000 years have been completed and the world has come to an end. In the meantime the heavens will be changed with an altered course, for then the wicked are burned up with divine fire. The creature burns with groaning in the anger of the highest God. Those who are more worthy live again in the world for a thousand years according to God’s command; however, this is so they can serve the saints and the High One under yoke. What is more, they will be judged again when the reign is finished.*

Notice according to Tertulian that when the wicked are burned up by divine fire, he says, the heavens will change with an altered course. In 290, Methodias said: *It is not satisfactory to say that the universe will be utterly destroyed and that the sea, earth, and sky will no longer exist for the whole world will be deluged with fire from heaven and burn for the purpose of purification and renewal. However, it will not come to complete ruin and corruption. God did not work in vain.*

Here is another quote by Methodias: *For in reality, God did not establish the universe in vain or only for it to be destroyed as those weak minded men say. Rather, He made it to exist to be inhabited and to continue. For that reason, the earth and the heavens must exist again after the burning and shaking of all things.*

That burning and shaking reminds me of another passage from the *Book of Hebrews*. *Hebrews 12:25-29*: *See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven. And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, “yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven.” This expression, “Yet once more,” denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire.*

Here is a quote from Lactantius: *Those persons whose sins will exceed their good works either in weight or in number will be scorched by the fire and burned. However, those who are filled with complete justice and maturity will not feel the fire for they have something of God in them that repels and rejects the violence of the flame.*

Some will say that this is absolutely preposterous, but is it? You who say that and say that you believe the Word of God, have you not read how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego,

men of God, were able to walk amongst the fire and the flames and not be burned?

This message is trying to show you that, as Peter said, “*The day of the Lord will come.*” As the prophets say (and Peter told us to look to the prophets) the day of the Lord is a day of destruction. And the Word of God teaches clearly that there have been many people destroyed by literal fire, by a God who is described as “*a consuming fire.*” I have given you some scriptures that teach that God, in the past, has used literal fire in the way of judgment on mankind. I also cited New Testament scriptures to help you understand that those other passages from earlier times were given to us as examples. Then I shared some commentaries of the early Christians – the Ante Nicene Fathers – who learned from the Apostles themselves. They understood that the fire of God was going to come upon this earth.

This is the time to become serious about your Christian faith. I am not telling you to sell your businesses and spend the rest of your life in meditation. In fact, I tell you to go about your business, raise your families, meet your responsibilities, but take the scriptures seriously so that you might live Godly lives - lives where you pray, where you are humble, and where you serve Him.

The most important part of this series is yet to come. That is, what to do. But, before I can get you to do I have to get you to see; to be “*stirred up in your sincere mind*”; to be awakened to the reality that things are not going to continue on as they are now. This is what is important to me – to drive this point home. Some of you know that you should take some of these points seriously. Some of you that are living in immorality; some of you that are living luke warm lives; some of you who need to repent. Now is the time to do it. Now is your opportunity, according to *Matthew 20*, when you can go into that vineyard and reap full rewards even though you work only the last hour of this age. What exciting times.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, make His countenance shine upon you and give you peace. In Jesus name, Amen.

**“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming  
and What To Do.” Part VIII**  
*The Cursed Canaanite Connection*

In Part VII of this series, I talked considerably about the fire. God is going to destroy destroyers and the ungodly. It is called the day of the Lord. The prophets have spoken about this from stem to stern. I hope that you recognize that I am in some uncharted waters. I have some people that are upset with me because we are breaking the tradition of man in certain ways as we look deeper into the Word

of God. In *Amos* we are told that God does nothing without revealing it to the prophets. He has revealed all that He is going to reveal to the prophets - the prophets in the scriptures. It is up to us to understand those prophets. The *Book of Acts* describes a very well educated man found studying the scriptures. He held a position equal to the Secretary of Treasurer in the land of Candace and he was reading from the *Book of Isaiah*. *Acts 8:26-35: But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, “Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a desert road.) So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.” Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: “He was led as a sheep to slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he does not open his mouth. In humiliation his judgment was taken away; who will relate his generation? For his life is removed from the earth.” The eunuch answered Philip and said, “Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.*

This scripture points out that a lot of times we read the prophets and wonder, just as the Ethiopian eunuch did, of whom is he speaking or of what era is he talking about. We need help and that is why God has given us the Holy Spirit. I feel that the Holy Spirit has led me into the prophets as I have never been led before. I am trying to understand and then to share that understanding with you concerning what the prophets are speaking about. What does that have to do with the cursed Canaanite connection? In *Zechariah* Chapter 14 there is a passage of scripture dealing with prophesy that ties in with *Revelation* Chapter 21 dealing with the bride of Christ. It is interesting to see some of the similarities. *Revelation 21:9-12: Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel.*

The bride of Christ is not as simple as the church makes it out to be – that is that the bride is the body of Christ. This

is the bride of Christ there in *Revelation 21:10*. It deals with the kingdom of God and we are dealing with mysteries that many have tried to figure out. It involves the church, it involves the twelve tribes of Israel, and it involves prophecies of national restoration that God has talked about concerning Israel. *Zechariah* Chapter 14 seems to have similar prophecies as what we read in *Revelation* Chapter 21. *Revelation 21:23: And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.*

*Zechariah 14:6-7: In that day there will be no light; the luminaries will dwindle. For it will be a unique day which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but it will come about that at evening time there will be light.*

More descriptions of the bride and the New Jerusalem that comes down from heaven in *Revelation 22:3: There will no longer be any curse . . .*

Now *Zechariah 14:11: People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security.*

*Revelation 22:1: Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb,*

*Zechariah 14:8: And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea;*

We are told in *Revelation 21:27: and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

There will be nothing unclean and no one that practices abomination will be found in this heavenly Jerusalem, this bride of Christ described in prophetic language in *Revelation 21*. In *Zechariah 14:21: Every cooking pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the Lord of hosts; and all who sacrifice will come and take of them and boil in them. And there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts in that day.*

The Moffet translation says “huckster” for Canaanite and a side note in the New American Standard says merchant for Canaanite. I think that *Zechariah 14:21* ties in with *Revelation 21:27* and that gets us to the “cursed Canaanite connection.”

We are coming into the time of God's new world order of the new heavens and the new earth. As that time comes, there will be a great cleansing so that there will be no “Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.”

Where did the Canaanite come from and why does God oppose them? Read in the *Book of Genesis 9:19-25: These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated. Then Noah began farming and planted a vineyard. He drank of the wine and became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent. Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it upon both their shoulders and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were turned away, so that they did not see their father's nakedness. When Noah awoke from his wine, he knew what his youngest son had done to him. So he said, “Cursed be Canaan. . . .”*

Note that God cursed Canaan, yet it was Canaan's father who committed the act known in scripture as seeing the nakedness of his father. Why did God do this? In order to understand the answer to that question, we must first understand what it meant to look upon the nakedness of his father. This is an idiom and the Bible tells us more of what it means in *Leviticus 18:8: You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife; it is your father's nakedness.*

This passage from *Leviticus 18:8* is giving reproductive laws. It is saying that you are not to lie with your mother - “it is your father's nakedness.”

Does that make sense? Read it again: *You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife; it is your father's nakedness.*

Verse 9 says: *The nakedness of your sister, either your father's daughter or your mother's daughter, whether born at home or born outside, their nakedness you shall not uncover.*

In other words, you shall not reproduce with those members of your household. That is what is being talked about and God said, in *Deuteronomy 22:30: A man shall not take his father's wife so that he will not uncover his father's skirt.*

Also read *Deuteronomy 27:20: Cursed is he who lies with his father's wife, because he has uncovered his father's skirt. “And all the people shall say, Amen.”*

This is enough scripture to help you understand the Canaanite. The Canaanites came from Canaan, who was cursed because his father uncovered his father's skirts or looked upon his father's nakedness – that is, he lay with his mother. The outcome of that was the birth of Canaan; Canaan was the result, you might say, of violated genetic law. As a result, these were a cursed people. They thought differently and they behaved differently. Perhaps this will help you to understand why God said to the Israelites of old, in *Deuteronomy 7:2: and when the Lord your God delivers them before you and you defeat them, then you*

*shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them and show no favor to them.*

There are many people who are the clay arguing with the potter – taking issue with God that He is not a loving and merciful God. The Bible is very clear. God does not change. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. This loving and merciful God of Israel understood something – you cannot convert a Canaanite. It is that simple. The Canaanite converts the Israelite. It has to do with another spiritual law and that is “be not deceived.” Evil companions corrupt good morals. So, God made it very clear that there is only one thing to be done with the Canaanite – destroy them. And, He said, if you do not, this is what is going to happen; and, He proceeded to tell them, in no uncertain terms, that the Canaanites would become thorns and thistles in their sides. There are a number of scriptures that support this. *Numbers 3 3:55: But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall come about that those whom you let remain of them will become as pricks in your eyes and as thorns in your sides, and they will trouble you in the land in which you live.*

*Joshua 23:13: know with certainty that the Lord your God will not continue to drive these nations out from before you; but they will be a snare and a trap to you, and a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land which the Lord your God has given you.*

*Judges 2:3: Therefore I also said, “I will not drive them out before you; but they will become as thorns in your sides and their gods will be a snare to you.”*

They did not do what God told them to do. And God said, “Fine. If you will not take my instruction concerning the removal of these people then these people are going to be thorns in your sides and a snare to you.” So it is today as the Israelites live in their land called, in scripture, the New Jerusalem. The land has become overgrown with thorns and thistles and is close, now, to being cursed and burned with fire as the *Book of Hebrews* indicates. As for being snares and their gods becoming our gods, they have lifted up idols – everything from teenage idols to movie idols, and sports idols. They have choked the Word of God. We are told this in *Mark 4:18-19*, which deals with the parable of the sower: *And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.*

When God took the children of Israel from the House of Israel and disbursed them, He said, in *Hosea 9:6: Weeds will take over their treasures of silver.*

Someone has taken over our gold and silver. The weeds that are talked about in *Hosea 9:6* have done this. Continu-

ing with *Hosea 9:6: Thorns will be in their tents.*

What does “*Thorns will be in their tents*” mean? It means that Canaanites are in their tents – because the Canaanites were the “thorns” of the scriptures. The prophecy concerning the bride of Christ, the New Jerusalem, says “there will be no unclean in her” lines up with the prophecy in *Zechariah* that says “*there will be no Canaanite*” which concerns the removing of those thorns from their tents.

I want you to understand what Jesus said in *Matthew Chapter 7*. Most people fail to grasp the full teaching of this passage because they do not let the Bible define its terms such as thorns, thistle, grapes, figs, good tree, and bad tree. Begin in *Matthew 7:15: Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.*

Most think that He is only talking about people who disguise themselves religiously as being Christians when in reality they are not Christians but are false teachers. This whole passage needs to be read in its entirety. *Matthew 7:15-19: Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

That passage in *Matthew 7:19* could be cross-referenced with a prophetic passage that we have already read found in the *Book of Jude*. Jude is describing a people and they are a people that operate by instinct. These men reviled things that they did not understand. *Jude Verse 10: But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.*

You need to understand that there are things that Canaanites just do instinctively, just like a wolf will instinctively go to the throat of the lamb. In Verse 12: *These are the men who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, . . .*

They are described as trees that cannot produce good fruit. Verse 14-15: *It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment upon all . . .”*

The judgment is going to be on all but the tares will all be removed and all of the evil seed will be removed. Read

*Matthew Chapter 7:19 again: Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire*

Let's talk about the trees in light of sheep's clothing and ravenous wolves. I believe that he is talking about Canaanites. The term sheep in scripture always meant God's people, Israel; that white race (the Septuagint uses the word race) the group of people from that race were the only people called His sheep. When Isaiah said in *Isaiah 53:6* "All of us like sheep have gone astray. . ." and in Verse 8 "He took the stroke for My people to whom it was due," he was talking about God's people – Israelites. The point is, only Israel is described by the Bible as being His sheep. These people that disguise themselves as sheep but are something else can do so because they look like the same people. Because our forefathers did not do what they were told to do, you and I do not really know how to distinguish them anymore. They are thorns in our tents and thus God is going to have to do, in a great way, now, what our forefathers did not do then. He goes on to say: *You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes. . .*

Who are the grapes? Go to *Isaiah 5:7* for the answer: *For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel*

You see, the vineyard is the house of Israel. Grapes are a fruit that comes from the vine – Israel. In this passage of *Isaiah Chapter 5*, God said of His vineyard in Verse 6: *I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned or hoed, But briars and thorns will come up.*

You have seen that the Canaanites were the thorns and that God said "Grapes are not gathered from thorns nor figs from thistles." *Jeremiah 24:5* shows that Judah represents the fig: *Thus says the Lord God of Israel, "Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the captives of Judah . . ."*

He is saying that these wolves in sheep's clothing, these false prophets who appear like us are not us – they are not grapes or figs. They cannot produce that fruit because they are not Israel. They disguise themselves as Israel but in reality they are thorns and thistles – in reality they are Canaanites. In *Zechariah* the prophecy says that the day is coming when there will be no more Canaanites in our midst. Along this line of the trees producing fruit, go to the *Book of Judges* that talks about trees. This will help you get a better idea of how the Canaanite is a wolf in sheep's clothing. The wolves kill the sheep. There is an illustration of that and terminology that will help you to understand about trees. *Judges 8:30-32: Now Gideon had seventy sons who were his direct descendants, for he had many wives. His concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, and he named him Abimelech. And Gideon the son of Joash died at a ripe old age and was buried. . .*

You need to take the time to read *Judges Chapter 9* thor-

oughly. The concubine of Gideon was a Canaanite. I will share a quotation from the Pulpit Commentary regarding *Judges: Who is Abimelech and who is Shechem that we should serve him makes it clear that Shechem is just another name Abimelech and it is easy to see why. Abimelech's mother was a Canaanite bond woman – A Shechemite.*

Gideon had a thorn in the tent. As you read the story, this man, Abimelech, killed all but one of his seventy brothers thus He had them slaughtered because he wanted to be the king. The one brother, the one son out of the seventy that survived, was Jotham. *Judges 9:5: Then he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one stone. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself.*

In *Judges 9:7-9*, Jotham makes a prophesy: . . . "Listen to me, O men of Shechem, that God may listen to you. Once the trees went forth to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us!' But the olive tree said to them, 'Shall I leave my fatness with which God and men are honored, and go to wave over the trees?'"

The olive tree represented Israel and the olive tree wouldn't take that position of ruling over them. Reading on in Verses 10-11: *Then the trees said to the fig tree, "You come, reign over us!" But the fig tree said to them, "Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit, and go to wave over the trees?"*

The fig tree represented Judah. Continuing with Verses 12-13: *Then the trees said to the vine, "You come, reign over us!" But the vine said to them, "Shall I leave my new wine, which cheers God and men, and go to wave over the trees?"*

The vine, as already shown in *Isaiah 5:7*, represents Israel. Reading on in Verses 14-15: *Finally all the trees said to the bramble, "You come, reign over us!" The bramble said to the trees, "If in truth you are anointing me as king over you, come and take refuge in my shade; but if not, may fire come out from the bramble and consume the cedars of Lebanon."*

The bramble which is the same as a thorn bush (some translations say thorn bush) does not give shade. You have to understand what the Bible means concerning the thorn, the thistle, the fig tree, and the grapes on the vine to understand properly that Jesus was talking about in *Matthew Chapter 7*. *Matthew Chapter 7* says that "a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then you will know them by their fruits." When you study the scriptures you will see the fruit of the Canaanites – all throughout scripture you will see it. Herod, for example, was a Canaanite. The Bible says he was a Jew; he was in Judah and from that stand-

point, he was a Jew. But, he was not an Israelite of Judah or Judea. (He as an Edomite. Remember Esau took Canaanite wives and that was the origin of the Edomites.) He had no problem killing all of those little male babies in the Bethlehem area – no problem at all. Just as a wolf has no problem going into a herd of sheep and, just for the sake of killing, begins slitting the throats of the sheep. Ravenous wolves. Just as Abimelech had no problem killing seventy brothers.

There are many family problems today in America. I am convinced that many of them can be solved simply by conversion to Christ. Many of them cannot be solved. There is a reality here that we have not fully grasped; in many of these homes there are Canaanites. We do not fully understand the words of Jesus when he said “the bad tree cannot produce good fruit.” When we think about the fruits of the spirit – love, joy, peace – do we know that there are some who cannot love? They can lust, they can write about falling in and out of love, but they cannot love like an Israelite. When I think about the fruit of the spirit, joy, I think about a passage from the Septuagint in the *Book of Isaiah*, Chapter 32:13: *In this land of My people shall spring up the thorn and the briar and joy shall be taken from every dwelling.*

If you have a thorn in your tent, there is not going to be any joy there. I think of the story of Delilah – she had convinced Sampson that she loved him, but she never loved him. She was an agent on assignment. I am sure that she had no feelings at all when Sampson’s eyes were put out – she was counting her money. The sheep just cannot grasp that mentality because there are not grasping the truth of God’s word when He said, “a bad tree cannot produce good fruit.” A good tree cannot produce bad fruit but, a good tree can produce no fruit at all. If a good tree produces no fruit it becomes cursed just like the cursed Canaanite. That illustration can be found in the story of the fig tree that had no fruit on it and Jesus cursed it; and in the scripture that I cited from the *Book of Jude* about the autumn trees without fruit that were rooted up. Jesus says, “Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

I have covered this much of the Canaanite connection so that you could see why the fire is coming. God now has to do what our forefathers did not do and fire is the only thing that is going to take care of that. John the Baptist said, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee the wrath of God? Bring forth fruits in keeping with repentance.” Repentance, according to the words of John the Baptist is fruit. Did you ever think that there are just some people that just cannot repent? They cannot see that they have ever done anything wrong. It says in *Hebrews 6:4-7*: *For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away,*

*it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame. For ground that drinks the rain which often falls on it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from God;*

If the vineyard is tended and brings forth grapes, it is blessed by God. Or, if you plant a shoot of a fig tree and it brings forth fruit, it is blessed by God. But, read Verse 8: *but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.*

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

I had to share these things concerning the cursed Canaanite connection. There is much more that needs to be taught on this subject but this is enough on it for now and for this series of messages. Canaanites cannot produce the fruits of the spirit nor can they produce the fruits of repentance and if God’s people refuse to repent, they become spiritual Canaanites and will perish in the fire as well. Next, as we go further we will get to the most important part of this series.

**“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming  
and What To Do.” Part IX**  
*“Two Things To Do”*

Our Father in Heaven, I ask for Your blessings, for your guidance, and for the anointing of Your Holy Spirit upon this message and on the hearts and minds of the readers. Guide and direct us through the working of Your Holy Spirit, not only into truth, knowledge, and understanding but for a conviction from the heart; to stir, to awaken and to become serious about the Word of God. Heavenly Father I pray that you would give me wisdom as a teacher to make known the general principles of what needs to be done at this time. I pray in Jesus name, Amen.

This is Part IX of this series and probably the most important part – what to do. There is a great change coming and you need to be preparing for it. Read in *II Peter 3:9-18*: *The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens*

*and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

You cannot or you better not ignore these words from *II Peter* 3:9-18. What should you be doing to be part of that fifty percent that got into the marriage supper; to be among that number known as the wise virgins? I don't want to be the one to give you a list of "do's" and "don'ts" for you to follow. You have the book that gives you these. It is my job to give you understanding from that book and to assist and help you to use that book and apply it to your life. *Matthew* 25:2 says: *Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.*

This is talking about the wise virgins or the wise Christians and the foolish Christians. First of all, I need to point out the general teaching of scripture concerning what you must do to be wise because it is the wise virgins or Christians that, according to the Word, make it into the marriage supper of the Lamb. What do we need to do, according to the Word of God to become wise, and what must we not do, according to the Word of God that would make us foolish. The answer is found in *Matthew* 7:24-27. This begins the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount: *Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell — and great was its fall.*

Both men had storms and you will have storms in your life. Some have more than others and some have more than they care to have – but have them you will. Which one was wise and which one was foolish? *Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man.*

According to the Word of God, wisdom is hearing the Word of God and acting on it. James puts it this way, "*Be not hearers only, but doers of the Word.*" There are many

people in the category of just being hearers of the Word. There are people that read the Word and have read it over and over, but they really never **do** the Word. There are people that make it a point to really get into the Word and study it but they do not do the simple things of the Word of God. The wise man is the one who hears the Word and does it. The foolish is the one that hears the Word and doesn't do it.

It has to do with repentance. Repentance is "thy will not my will be done." Repentance is a change of heart that leads to a change of action; before we did it our way, but when we have repented and surrendered to Christ we do it His way. Christianity was called The Way in the first century. It was a way of life; a way to live; a way to behave; a way to think; a way to act. But today, many do it their way, and that is not repentance. Repentance is to become a doer of the Word. "You command, I obey, Lord" is the motto of a Christian; one who has repented. That is what Christianity is all about. Do you walk a perfect life? No, unfortunately, it doesn't work like that. As my old Bible college instructor taught us, "A Christian is a sinner running away from sin and a non-Christian is a sinner running after it." But the key to it all is repentance. So, hear the Word and do it. Read the Word from *II Peter* 3:9-15 again in light of this wisdom: *The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! , in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you.*

In this section of scripture there are five things that you are told to do. You read them but are you going to do them? Number one is found in Verse 11 where it says "*Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.*" There you are commanded indirectly to be a people of holy conduct and godliness. That is something that you need to do. Number two, from Verse 12, which says, "*looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God.*" Number three can be found in Verse 13, ". . . *are looking for new heavens and a new earth.*" That's what we are told to do.

Number four, from Verse 14, is that we should “*be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.*” Number five can be found in Verse 15 where it says, “*regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.*” This passage has been read many times during this series, but how many of you have taken seriously to doing just these five points. That would be wisdom – to hear and to do.

Read Verse 15 again: “*and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.*” Quite often we read something like this and do not stop to really think about it – and don’t do it. That passage from [The New Jerusalem Bible](#) puts it this way: *Think of our Lord’s patience as your opportunity to be saved.*

That is the advantage of using more than one translation. The Lord has been patient with us, more than we deserve. So we have, according to the story in *Matthew 20:1-16* a chance in this eleventh hour to receive the full rewards with minimal service. That is what it means to, “*regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.*” In other words, the Lord has been patient with us; many have waited until the eleventh hour before becoming serious while others have labored from the beginning. But remember, the last will be first, and that means that the person that has labored and fought the good fight of faith for, say, the last thirty to fifty years, and you, Johnny-Come-Lately come along and start to labor right now, you get the same rewards. Don’t beat yourself up and believe that satanic lie that you don’t deserve it and it’s too late for you. First of all, no one deserves it. Jesus didn’t deserve the beatings that he received, but he took them so that you and I, who do not deserve any rewards from our Lord, can receive them. He is still patient. The day of the Lord has not come yet. You still have that opportunity.

It said, in Verse 14 “*Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.*” How many times will someone read “*to be found by Him in peace*” and not stop to do the Word? We want, according to this passage, to be found by Him in peace. Your enemy wants Him to find you in anxiety, turmoil, fear and worry for the things of the world. That is what the thorns and thistles do. They create these concerns and always give you something to worry about. “*Be found by Him in peace.*” That word peace is the same Greek word used by Peter in *II Peter 1:2-3: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*

Notice in this passage that grace and peace is multiplied in you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus. That, no doubt, is one of the reasons Peter said in *II Peter 3:18: but grow*

*in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

When we grow in the grace and the knowledge, we have peace. The word peace means tranquility; well-being; and it means, just as it is translated, peace. In *Galatians 5:22* the fruits of the spirit are listed as love, joy, peace, long suffering, and gentleness. Many have read this many times, but fail to do it; it says to “*be found by Him in peace.*” It is the opposite of anxiety and cares of the world. *Luke 12:25-26* says: *And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life’s span? If then you cannot do even a very little thing, why do you worry about other matters?*

Sometimes we do have a tendency to get quite anxious about the things that the new world is doing, but it does not add a single hour to our lifespan. As Jesus said if we can’t do anything about little matters, why worry about other matters. It doesn’t mean that we are to be ostriches with our heads buried in the sand. It doesn’t mean that we are not to be the salt of the earth. It just means that we have to guard ourselves against being caught up in great anxiety; this is not always easy to do when you listen to some people tell you what they can do to you, what they are going to do to you, and what they have been doing to you. I have found a great peace reading the prophets and reading what God is going to do to them. If you think you have worries, think about the worries that the wicked have. I was reading *II Esdras* Chapter 13 of the Apocrypha as another witness to the prophets on the Word of God about the great fiery wrath that God is going to bring on the wicked – the tares, the thorns, the thistles, and even on His own people who have themselves become spiritual Canaanites. Read this from *II Esdras 13:8-11: And after this I beheld, and lo, all they which were gathered together to subdue Him were sore afraid, and yet durst fight. And, lo, as He saw the violence of the multitude that came, He neither lifted up His hand, no held sword, nor any instrument of war. But only I saw that He sent out of His mouth as it had been a blast of fire, and out of His lips a flaming breath, and out of His tongue he cast out sparks and tempests. And they were all mixed together; the blast of fire, the flaming breath, and the great tempest; and fell with violence upon the multitude which was prepared to fight, and burned them up every one, so that upon a sudden of an innumerable multitude nothing was to be perceived, but only dust and smell of smoke; when I saw this I was afraid.*

It is wrong when the wicked seem to have more peace than do those who have been given the great promises that their King will tend to the wicked.

One of my favorite scriptures is found in *Philippians*. For faith to work you have to have this be part of your life. *Philippians 4:6-7: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your*

*requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

In Verses 12, 13 of *II Peter* Chapter 3 it says: *looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God . . . . . looking for new heavens and a new earth*

That word “looking” according to Strong’s means to anticipate in thought, hope, fear, or reverence. To anticipate we need to be looking for something. Sometimes we read and wonder just how to do it. For example, in Verse 12 it says “*looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God.*” If I am truly a repentant believer, one that wants to be not just a hearer but a doer of the word and I read this passage, I would understand the “looking for” but I would wonder how one hastens the day of the Lord. Sometimes, you just have to ask the question, “Lord, how do I do that?” In *I Corinthians* 1:7 it says, “. . . awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Frankly, I think that we can hasten the day of the Lord; that is why we are told to do so. One way to do this is to do what it says in *Revelation* and ask “*even so Lord come quickly.*” Ask yourself how many times that you have asked God to do that. If you call your children and you want them to hasten you say, “Hurry up,” but have you ever asked the Lord to do this? The Bible has much to say about Israel crying out and when they did He would hasten to that cry and come to their aid. That is in the Bible over and over again. But, the point is, as a repentant person we should be looking for new heavens and a new earth, looking for the coming of the day of the Lord; that is anticipating it; not like others who never give it a second thought. They just live like their life is going to go on, from day to day as usual, forever. We should not be caught in that number.

Verse 11 says: *Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness*

I want to tie that verse together with Verse 14 where it says to be found by him “*spotless and blameless.*” Being “spotless and blameless” and “in holy conduct and godliness” go together and tie in with the story of the wise and foolish virgins. These verses have to do with adornment. That is my second point in this message. The first point is that wisdom is simply a repentant person who is attentive to not only hearing the Word but doing it. So, if you want to be in that wise number, that has to be your way in life.

Now, let’s go to the subject of adornment. That is what being “spotless and blameless” and “in holy conduct and godliness” is all about – adornment. An illustration would be found in *Revelation* Chapter 3. This passage talks about the church in Sardis. *Revelation* 3:2-5: *Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of*

*My God. So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.*

The wise virgins were ones that were properly dressed because they woke up, they had not soiled their garments, and they had over come and were thus clothed in white. *Revelation* 3:4 again: *But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy*

In other words they are found spotless and blameless. Along this same line read *Jude* 22-23: *And have mercy on some, who are doubting; save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.*

Many have soiled their garments; their garments have become polluted by the flesh. Wake up and get those garments clean because adornment has every thing to do with the marriage supper and preparing for the marriage. Read *Matthew* 22:11 to prove this point. This is about a king that gives a wedding supper for his son. *But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes,*

In other words, he was not properly adorned. He did not have proper apparel. Continuing with Verses 12-14: *and he said to him, “Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?” And the man was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.”*

You see, adornment had every thing to do with being able to attend the marriage supper. *Matthew* Chapter 25 is the story of the wise virgins and Verse 7 says: *Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.*

What does it mean to trim their lamps? At first I thought that in the old days trimming the lamp meant taking the wick and cutting off some of the carbon crust; but, I went to the Webster’s 1828 Dictionary and looked up the word trim. One of the definitions for trim that I found is to “supply with oil as to trim a lamp.” But the word trim is “cosmeo” in the Greek and the Greek word means “to put in order, to prepare, **to adorn.**” As I was reading the list of Webster’s definitions for the word trim, it also says “to dress, to put the body in a proper state, to decorate.” If you want to be part of the wise virgins, you must have the right adornment. It is

the exact same Greek word that Peter uses in *I Peter 3:5*: *For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands;*

This has to do with adornment. They didn't take their lamps, adorn them, and make them look like nice lamps. That is not what it means; it means much more than that. Read the full context of this passage in *I Peter 3:3-5*: *Your adornment must not be merely external — braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands;*

The point is that the word “trim” in trimming their lamps means to adorn, to put in order, and to prepare. It is the same word found in *I Timothy 2:9-10*: *Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly . . . but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.*

That is what the wise virgins did; they made sure that they were properly adorned. This ties in with the admonitions to be found spotless and blameless and to be found in holy conduct and godliness. It is the same word as found in *Revelation Chapter 21* that describes the bride of Christ. *Revelation 21:2, 9-10*: *And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. . . . Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,*

The Word of God says in *Mark 4:11*: . . . *To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God*

There are some mysteries here. The bride has to do with the twelve tribes of Israel – that is who He married before. It has the names of the twelve tribes of Israel on its twelve gates; it involves the church as well because it has twelve foundation stones upon which are written the names of the apostles.

To summarize, there are two general principles to help you understand what to do. One, be wise. The wise was the repentant one who heard the Word and did it. Whatever you hear in the Word, do it. The second principle is adornment. Understand that you have to be properly adorned and there are many scriptures that point this out; *Revelation 1:5* is not the least of those: . . . *he washed us from our sins in His blood.*

*Revelation 7:14*: . . . *and they have washed their robes*

*and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*

Some of you haven't even begun to put on the proper adornment and that is why you need to read the continuation of this series.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bless you, make His face to shine upon you, be gracious to you, lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

### **“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part X**

*Don't Reject the Royal Garments*

*You Must Be Chosen, So Choose To Wear The Royal Robe*

Our Father in Heaven, grant us Your Help and assistance through the anointing of Your Holy Spirit on this teacher and upon the hearts and minds of those who will read this message. Make it understandable that it takes more than being called – one must be chosen. If we choose to reject the royal robes that You have given us, purchased with such a great cost, then You will reject us. Make that truth known in this message. In Jesus' name, Amen.

This is probably the most important part of this series because it has to do with what you must do to be in that number – the five out of the ten virgins that make it into the marriage supper. First, we should briefly review Part IX. To be part of the wise virgins, there are two major things that you have to do. One, you must be wise, and that wisdom according to *Matthew 7:24* is to hear the Word of God and do it. James says in this way in *James 1:22*: *But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.*

That requires repentance. A repentant person is one who wants to do God's will over his own will. One who prays, and means what he says when he prays “Thy will, not my will, be done,” just as Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. Although I did not mention it before, quite often our pride keeps us from true repentance.

Second, in review from Part IX, pertains to what it says in *Matthew 25:7*: *Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.*

The word trim means to adorn, to put in order, and it is the very same word that is used in *I Peter 3:5*, *I Timothy 2:9*, and *Revelation 21:2,19*. To review those scriptures first read *I Peter 3:3-5*: *Your adornment must not be merely external — braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God. For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their*

own husbands

There is the word adorn translated in *Matthew 25:7* as trim. The adornment was not the outward adornment, but the “*hidden person of the heart*” as Peter said in Verse 4, “*with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.*” We must remember that in God’s sight it is our hearts and He looks upon our hearts. There should be this type of adornment in our hearts. Another passage, *I Timothy 2:9: Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly*

There again is the same word, adorn. Not being familiar with oil lamps, I did not know what the word trim meant or what you do when you trim a lamp. I looked up the word in Webster’s 1828 Dictionary because I knew that he used that type of lamp when he wrote the dictionary. There is quite a list of meanings for the word trim. Meanings from “trimming the sails of a boat” to “trimming the branches of the tree.” But, the first meaning in the list of eleven definitions is “*in a general sense to make right; that is, to put in due order for any purpose.*” So there are things that we need to make right in our lives to have that proper heart adornment. The second definition from Webster’s is “*to put the body in a proper state.*” You must do that to be invited into the marriage supper. The Bible says in *Matthew 5:14: You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden*

You see that we are a light to the world and it makes me think about the song that I taught to my children when they were little – “*This little light of mine; I’m going to let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. Don’t you try to put it out; I’m going to let it shine.*” That song is based on *Matthew 5:14-16*. In verses 15-16: *nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

When the virgins, that is the Christians, trimmed their lamps or adorned themselves properly, it was done so that they could radiate more light; they were to radiate Christ. In light of that we should review Verses 4 and 7 of *Matthew Chapter 25: but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.*

We need to also look at *II Peter 3:11, 14* because this ties in with the adornment process: *Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless*

This spotlessness and blamelessness, the holy conduct and

godliness that is spoken of has to do with our adornment. It has to do with trimming the lamp. Webster said that putting oil in the lamp was to trim the lamp – you put oil in the lamp to make it burn and continue to burn; I believe that the way that we do that is to adorn ourselves as the scripture says for us to do – so that we are spotless and blameless. Jesus told the church in Sardis in *Revelation 3:2* to wake up and in Verse 4 he said: *But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.*

The point is that once you have on that royal garment, you want to keep it spotless and blameless. One more review passage can be found in *Jude 23: save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.*

There are three things that must be in your life for you to be with Jesus Christ in the marriage feast. *Revelation 17:14* tells you those three things: *These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.*

Emphasis should be put on the last part of this verse: . . . *and those who are with Him are the **called and chosen and faithful***

Many, unfortunately, only have one – a calling. Many mistake a calling and a conversion that often comes with that calling as salvation. This is a bad mistake. You must be more than called. This is the same mistake as the man in the parable in *Matthew 22:2-14* made: *The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. And he sent out his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they were unwilling to come. Again he sent out other slaves saying, “Tell those who have been invited, ‘Behold, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and my fattened livestock are all butchered and everything is ready; come to the wedding feast.’” But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them. But the king was enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find there, invite to the wedding feast.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests. But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?” And the man was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and*

*gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen."*

The purpose of this parable is to teach us that you must be properly adorned; you must have the proper clothing to be chosen – which is a step beyond being called. In the book [Light Through an Eastern Window](#) the customs in the East are described. In part of that book the author addressed the story from Matthew 22:2-14: *In addition, each guest receives a special wedding robe from the king to wear for the occasion, a robe with the royal seal which is sent to the home of the guest a day or two in advance of the wedding so that he may be properly attired. It would be an unpardonable breach of etiquette to appear in one's own wedding garment after having received the royal robe. Think how worse it would be for the guest to appear, as in the parable, with no garment at all!*

*How did the guest get into the wedding without the robe in the first place? This is a question which is sometimes asked me. Well, when the guests arrive for the wedding, they come first to a sort of porch where there is a tub of water and a servant is in attendance so the guests may wash their feet after having walked in the dusty pathways. The guests fling off their sandals in the direction of this servant, and he is expected to catch them. He holds a very humble and lowly position in the household which he serves. A reference to the contempt with which this task is held is expressed in Psalm 108:9 "Moab is my washpot, over Edom will I cast out my shoe...". (this should be sandal; shoes were not worn in those days). This lowly servant, the one who has sandals flung at him, then, would have no authority in the household to challenge a guest who might come without a robe. After washing the feet, the guests pass into a room of the house in which another servant awaits. The task of this servant is to sprinkle rose water on the head and body of the guests. He, like the first servant, has no authority to challenge a guest which might not be properly attired. It would not be until the guests had gone into another room to be greeted by the host with "an holy kiss" that the guest without a wedding robe would be discovered. The scripture says the guest was speechless, and well he might be, since he had been given every chance to be attired in the acceptable raiment for the wedding, but he deliberately refused to put on the royal robe. He was no foreigner; he knew the custom, therefore the king gave him no second chance and had him cast out.*

*God, in like manner, sent us a Robe of Righteousness in His Son. If we accept the robe; if our heart puts on the robe, then we wear the garment of salvation. We must put on Christ in order to appear blameless before God.. Many people today have been sent the robe of righteousness but refused to put it on.*

There are a couple of things from this parable that I want you to keep in mind. When the king said "*Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes*" the man was speechless; and, "*For many are called, but few are cho-*

*sen."* We carry a history book called [The Light and The Glory](#) by Peter Marshall and David Manuel. One story in it is about Christopher Columbus being given an invitation from the Queen of Spain to go to court. From page 35: *The Queen's answer came soon enough. Columbus was to return immediately to Sante Fe, the city of the holy faith. In a singularly thoughtful gesture, the monarchs included a draft for funds with the letter. This meant that Columbus would be able to replace his worn attire and tattered cloak.*

You see, it was understood one had to be specially clothed when in the presence of the king. The king provided the royal robe to wear, but if the called refused to put it on then that called one would not be chosen to be with him. Let me expound on the error that many make concerning the calling and even the conversion that often comes with it. There are people that have felt the Holy Spirit of God moving in their lives and calling them; and, they have answered that call to one extent or another and often with conversion – that is, they completely changed their lives around. Unfortunately, this is mistaken for salvation. If you have been called and even if you have answered and changed your life, that is wonderful; but, you still have to get rid of your filthy rags. *Isaiah 64:6 says: But we are all like an unclean thing And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags*

That means that we must be washed and there is only one thing that washes away our sins according to the Holy Scriptures. Read in *Revelation 1:5 KJV: And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood*

A parallel scripture is found in *Matthew 26:28: for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins*

This is the point – many who are called become puffed up or arrogant in their calling and quite often their pride keeps them from doing what needs to be done to contact the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ. Others are so locked into traditions of men that makes the Word of God void that they will not or do not act upon the Word; they may hear the Word but do not act on it. Therefore, they are not wise. They do not repent, that is their problem. If they were repentant people they could go from being called to being chosen.

I want to share with you two Bible witnesses; two simple Bible passages to show you that one contacts the blood by proper Bible baptism. Also, since I will find myself opposed by almost all preachers that are preaching to you the tradition of man known as the "faith only" doctrine – telling you to accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior

– I will ask you some simple yes or no questions. You can use these questions on those hoards of preachers out there who oppose the Bible teachings concerning Baptism and who like to attack me by accusing me of “salvation by works” or of being a water regenerationist. Sometimes it is almost comical because, you see, this is the best they can do in way of refuting the truth. They can’t use the Bible to refute the truth because the Bible **is** the truth. First read *Acts 22:16* in light of *Revelation 1:5* where we read that the blood of Jesus washes us from our sins. This is the story of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus and then, after he had been called, he did what he was told to do. He fits the category of not only the called but the chosen because he did what he was told to do. *Acts 22:16 And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*

In *Revelation* Chapter 1 the last part of Verse 5 says: *To him who loves us, and washed us from our sins in his blood*

According to *Revelation 1:5*, the blood of Jesus Christ washes our sins from us – yes or no? An honest person would have to say yes. Most preachers will say yes. Next question. According to *Revelation 1:5*, can we be washed from our sins without the blood of Christ? An honest person would say no and most preachers would also say no. Then you proceed from there to *Acts 22:16* where it says, “*And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord*” and ask this question – according to *Acts 22:16* does baptism wash away our sins? This is where the dishonest preachers, finding themselves in a predicament, will say no. Then you ask: can we have our sins washed away without baptism according to *Acts 22:16* and they will answer, yes. The double mindedness, the inconsistency, and the arrogant hypocrisy are evident when they answer in such a way. According to *Matthew* Chapter 26, Jesus said, “*This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins*” and you ask this question - according to *Matthew 26:28*, is the blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and they will answer, yes. Then ask the question, can we have our sins forgiven without the blood and they will say, no. Then refer them to *Acts 2:38*, where, on the day of Pentecost, Peter, who had been given the keys of the kingdom, said when asked what they should do: *Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

Ask this question: according to *Acts 2:38*, is baptism for the forgiveness of sins and they will say no. Then ask: can we have the forgiveness of sins without being baptized, and they will answer yes. Again, the hypocrisy and the lying inconsistency are self evident. This is the exact same phrase - baptism **for** the remission of sins – as found in *Matthew 26:8* – blood for the forgiveness of sins. Quite often preachers are assuring their people of their salvation, and at the

same time telling them that baptism has nothing to do with salvation. The reason for that is that they don’t have their salvation. They might have had their prayers answered – that happens to people who are called. They might have had their lives changed - that happens to people who are called. They might feel God leading in their lives – that, too, happens to people who are called. But, you must also be chosen. I remember once studying with a religious church leader on this subject. I said to him, “Look, if I can show you in the Bible that baptism saves you, will you believe it?” And, he answered, “No.” So, I didn’t show him. But, I will show you; it is in *I Peter 3:21: Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you — not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience — through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*

Notice that it says that it an appeal to God for a clear conscience. Many people still have an unclear conscience and they have to hear their preacher’s assurance of salvation. Why? Because they have been lied to that they need not be baptized to for the remission of their sins. So, according to *I Peter 3:21* that says “*baptism now saves you*” and “*an appeal to God for a good conscience*”, we could ask another question: Do we appeal to God for a good conscience through the act of baptism? And the answer would be, yes. Now go to *Hebrews 9:14: how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

From this passage we can ask this question: According to *Hebrews 9:14*, does the blood of Christ help us to have a clear conscience? The answer would be yes. There is more to this subject – such as faith and repentance, both of which must proceed baptism. In fact, to have proper Bible baptism, that is immersion, one must have faith and repentance preceding the immersion in order to have the forgiveness of sins. It is very obvious, from the reasoning that I have given you, that one contacts the blood of Jesus Christ when one is baptized for the remission of sins. For more on this proper Bible baptism, order our tape or our booklet called “How to Become a Christian”; it is free of charge. You can request one or the other (or both) by writing to Scriptures for America, P.O. Box 766, LaPorte, CO 80535 or call (307) 745-5913. In *Galatians 3:27* read these words: *For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

When you are baptized into Christ you cloth yourself with Christ. That is when you put on the royal robe – the righteousness of Jesus Christ. That is when His righteousness, through your act of faith, repentance, and baptism for the remission of sins is imputed to you. I want to cross-reference this with the scripture in *Zechariah 3:3-4*. This is about Joshua, who actually, in this prophesy, is Jesus Christ: *Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments and standing before the angel. He spoke and said to those who were*

*standing before him, saying, "Remove the filthy garments from him." Again he said to him, "See, I have taken your iniquity away from you and will clothe you with festal robes."*

Let me explain something. Jesus Christ took our sins upon Himself. That is, he took our filthy rags and placed them upon Himself. He took our iniquities in order that we could have the royal robe placed upon us. All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. This means that when you follow this Bible plan of salvation you will stand before God and He will not see your filthy rags of sin, but rather the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

I once read a true story that took place in China. There was a Chinaman who had committed some crime and was being chased by the authorities and a mob of men. He ran into his house and his brother was there. He told his brother that they were after his life, and his brother grabbed him, jerked off his coat and cap and put them on himself. He then went running out of the house. The crowd ran after him, caught him, beat him, and executed him. That was an act of love and the one brother allowed his own life to be taken for his brother's; he did this by taking on his brother's clothes. That is exactly what our Lord Jesus Christ did.

So, if you are to be with him you must be both called and chosen. If you choose not to be baptized the Bible way, you too will be as speechless as the man in the parable. What can you say when you have heard the truth, but done nothing. The wise man hears and does; the foolish hears and does nothing. What must be done? You must become a Christian. That is done by faith, repentance, confession, and baptism for the remission of your sins. Preachers today are not telling you that. They are promoting a doctrine called "The Faith Only Doctrine", which says accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior; yet, there is nowhere in the scriptures where anyone was ever told to do such a thing. I think of the scripture found in *Matthew 15:6*: . . . *And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.*

Think about that. You will be speechless. Don't try saying, "Well what about all of those other people?" You don't fall into that category, now, because you have heard the story. You know too much. Why would you try to invalidate the Word of God for the sake of tradition? Since "accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior" is not in the Bible, it is obviously tradition. The answer to that question is pride and other things. You must also remember the Canaanite connection that was discussed in Part IX. I showed in that part of this series that some labor to keep you out of the kingdom. In *Matthew 23:13* Jesus is speaking to those snakes, that "brood of vipers" and He said to them: *But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in*

*yourself, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.*

Why did God have Peter stand on the day of Pentecost and speak in *Acts 2:38* to be baptized for the remission of sins? Because Peter was given the keys to the kingdom and that kingdom key of baptism for the remission of your sins they take away from you. They don't enter in as Jesus said of themselves and they work to keep you from entering in.

Pride allows us to believe a lie. In *I Kings* Chapter 13 there is a story that is analogous to what we are talking about. It is a story of a lying preacher; he flat-out lied – they do that, you know. *I Kings 13:18: He said to him, "I also am a prophet like you, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the Lord, saying, 'Bring him back with you to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water.'" But he lied to him.*

They lie when they tell you that you do not need to be baptized for the remission of sins. Why? They are either a cursed Canaanite doing their job, or their pride has locked them into their tradition and they do not want to admit that they have been wrong all of these years. *Revelation 17:14* says that you must be called and you must be chosen. There are those who have labored very hard to keep you from being chosen. I want to insert something from Earl Jones' newsletter from a few years back. *Another heresy centers on the act of baptism which is cardinal to the Christian faith. There was a famous Roman historian named Fernando Gregorovius who wrote on the relationships between the nobility of Rome, the Jewish community, and the church. Gregorovius is noted for his fondness for the Jews of Rome, so we can see that in no way could he be called anti-Semite. Gregorovius writes of a particular Jewish family who had become extremely wealthy through the loaning of money to the families of nobility as well as leaders of the church, including the Popes. Through the years, this family became loved by the Roman nobility for their kindness in helping in their times of financial distress. They became pillars of society, but ordinary Christian citizens hated them because they practiced usury. In time, this Jewish family further improved their relationship with the nobility and Christians alike by allowing their sons to be baptized by the Christian Church. Their Christian name became Benedictus Christianus. It then became the proper thing to allow the sons and daughters of nobility to marry into this family. One of the sons named Peter Leo was the first to be surnamed Perileoni. The name Perileoni then becomes most important in a heresy of massive importance that has penetrated the Christian body of Christ. The Perileoni family became the most respected, princely family in Rome; they bore the title "Council of Rome." The historian, Fernando Gregorovius, wrote that the Perileoni family was also known as Welsh, which means that they were on the side of the popes. So, this Perileoni family was playing both ends against the middle, so to speak. They*

were masters of dialects. They became bishops and cardinals in the church. The first Perileoni to become a pope was Anaclet II in 1130 A.D. What makes this pope so important to Christianity? The early Christians knew what baptism meant and they baptized by full immersion just as John the Baptist did. The early churches were most always built like amphitheaters with the pulpit down in the center. The baptistery was built into the floor behind the pulpit. Archeologists find this configuration over and over again. It was Anaclet II who modified the method used for baptism by announcing that sprinkling or pouring of water on the head was sufficient. The significant of this change is obvious. Baptism by immersion signifies the death, burial, and resurrection to a new life with all sins washed away from the person who is baptized. One becomes a part of the body of Christ at this time.

That gives you some idea of what has gone on to keep you out of the kingdom of God. And, it will keep you out of the marriage supper of the Lamb if you refuse the royal garments. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ. Revelation 17:14 says: . . . those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.

Many are called but few are chosen because many choose not to be baptized. In the next part of this series we will deal with the third part of the equation – the faithful. You must be faithful not to get your garments soiled. You must have your lamp trimmed - that is, properly adorned. And then you will be the light of the world, radiant and chosen for that marriage supper of the Lamb.

**“Urgent, Eleventh Hour Message; What is Coming and What To Do.” Part XI**  
*“Be Faithful”*

I want to begin this eleventh and last part of this series with Revelation 17:14: *These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.*

If you want to be with Him at the marriage supper of the Lamb, you must be called, chosen, and faithful. We have, so far, covered the “called” and the “chosen”. Now we will cover the “faithful.” Being faithful has to do with keeping your garments continually clean by the blood of the Lamb. We must be, as Peter admonished us in II Peter 3:14: *Be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.*

Being found spotless and blameless has to do with Verse 11 of II Peter Chapter 3: *Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in “holy conduct and godliness*

Spotless and blameless; holy conduct and godliness – these pertain to overcoming, bearing fruit, working in the vineyard, and being properly adorned. Trying to sum up and tie it all together, being found faithful, spotless and blameless, in godliness and holy conduct, overcoming, bearing fruit, and being properly adorned with white robes that are kept clean by the blood of Jesus Christ equals letting your light shine. These are all tied together in scripture. In this message, with the Lord’s help, I will try to tie it all together in your minds.

Our heavenly Father, help me to do this with the workings of Your Holy Spirit, so that this message is understood by Your remnant – those who truly want to enter into that marriage supper and truly want to please You. I pray in Jesus Name, Amen.

To review, turn to the marriage supper parable found in Matthew 25:1-13: *Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, “Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the prudent, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the prudent answered, “No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. Later the other virgins also came, saying, “Lord, lord, open up for us.” But he answered, “Truly I say to you, I do not know you.” Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.*

The foolish made no provisions to keep their lamps burning. The oil represents, among other things, the oil of understanding. But, most importantly, we must understand that the oil keeps the lamp burning; that is, the light shining. The Bible teaches clearly that the Christian is the light of the world. It says in Matthew 5:13-16: *You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

To put this in simple terms, make sure that your light is shining. I think of that song that I taught to my children and

grandchildren, *“This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. Don’t you try to put it out; I’m going to let it shine.”* In this passage from *Matthew*, it says *“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your ‘good works.’”* I gave you the story of the eleventh hour call from *Matthew* Chapter 20 about working in the vineyard. You have a chance to be first for *“the last shall be first,”*. You work in the vineyard to bear fruit – that is the “good work” - bearing fruit. Another Bible term for “good works” is good fruit. For you to bear good fruit is for you to be a shining light. That is, a shining example; to let your light shine – that, my friends, is to be found faithful. The Bible calls it *“the fruit of light.”* Read it in *Ephesians* 5:8-9: *for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth)*

You see, the fruit of light consists of goodness and righteousness and truth. I believe that *Galatians* 5:22-26 also fits in the same category: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.*

Make sure that that fruit of the light, that “good works”, is yours and you will have your light shining. *“Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”* Make all of these things part of your life and you will be a shining example. Bearing fruit was the purpose of the eleventh hour call to work in the vineyard. You need to bear fruit. *Philippians* 1:9-11 calls it the fruit of righteousness: *And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

There is a reason that we are told to grow in grace and knowledge – it is that oil of understanding. *“That your love may abound still more”*; it is so important that you understand this if you don’t want to be found in that number where Jesus says, *“I do not know you.”* Make sure that your love *“abounds still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment.”*

The job of the thorns and the thistles, which we covered some in the message on the “Canaanite Connection”, is to keep you from bearing such fruit. Read in *Luke* 8:14-15: *The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life,*

*and bring no fruit to maturity. But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.*

In other words, the fruitful seed in the good soil were the faithful. You must be called, chosen, and **faithful** if you are going to be with Him in the marriage supper. No fruit means being cut down and being thrown into the fire, just like the bad tree that cannot bear good fruit is cut down. A bad tree cannot bear good fruit and a good tree cannot bear bad fruit. But remember, a good tree can bear no fruit and a tree that bears no fruit is also cut down and thrown into the fire. *Luke* 13:6-9: *And He began telling this parable: “A man had a fig tree which had been planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any. And he said to the vineyard-keeper, ‘Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?’ And he answered and said to him, ‘Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down.’”*

Don’t think that because you know the Anglo-Israel truth or because you are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham, and Jacob that this in any way is going help you if you do not have the fruit of the light. If you have not been faithful you are in the same category as the snakes that were spoken to in *Luke* 3:7-9: *So he began saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham for our father,’ for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”*

Wake up; repent if you do not have the fruit of godliness and holy conduct. In the parable of the virgins all of the virgins began to sleep, but they woke up. When they woke, they saw that they needed to trim their lamps and to make them shine. Perhaps you need to wake up and realize that you are not a shining example of Christianity in certain ways. Then you need to trim the lamp and let your lamp shine; that is, go to work in those areas of your life that need to bear the fruit of light. We all have those areas. This is a wake up call. I have tried to stir you up in these messages. The purpose of this eleventh hour urgent message is not just to let you know what is coming but what you must do to get in and be with Him at the marriage supper of the Lamb. Wake up! The wise and the foolish had to wake up in the parable of the virgins. The wise woke up and had made provisions to keep their lamps burning. I think of the scripture in *Ephesians* 5:14: *Awake, sleeper; And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you.*

The Bible says if you have gotten caught up in sin again that you are “*made dead in your trespasses.*” That is what it means in *Ephesians 5:14* when it says “*from the dead.*” The whole context is to be found in *Ephesians 5:3-15*: *But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. “The sons of disobedience” are those who are not faithful. When you are not faithful you are disobedient and you will receive the wrath of God. God does not lie. Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. For this reason it says, “Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise*

I hope you can see how this ties in with what we have been covering. Notice as he admonishes us to walk as children of light and talks about the fruit of light consisting of all goodness, righteousness, and truth, that in Verse 10 he says “*trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*” If you are “in love” with someone you want to be with that person; you want to wear what is pleasing to them so that you will appear attractive to them. I believe that the wise virgins had learned “*what is pleasing to the Lord.*” I think that the wise had invested the time and the study or they had made the investment to know what pleased the Lord, and the foolish had not. When the bridegroom was coming towards the end of the eleventh hour, the wise attended to their own adornment or to their appearance; that is, they used the oil of understanding that they had purchased to make their light shine bright. Right now many need to repent and do what the Bible says - walk in a manner worthy of the Lord to please Him in all respects so you can, as the Bible says, share in the inheritance of the saints in light. This is what it says in regards to sharing in the inheritance in *Colossians 1:9-12*: *For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and pa-*

*ience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.*

This pertains to overcoming and keeping your garments or adornment clean and white. Remember, being faithful has to do with overcoming. The parable of the wise virgins pertains to adornment and repentance where we hear the Word and we do it. We hear the simple things of the Word such as love, joy, peace, patience - the fruits of the spirit. Quite often we simply read about such things but we don't put them on and make them part of our lives as the Bible tells us to do. This is what the wise virgins did. When they adorned themselves they became radiant with beauty; they became Christ-like. Our God still looks upon the hearts of men and women wherein radiates the inner beauty, which radiates to the outer beauty. These things must be attended to. Many simply have not done it. How important it is in making ready for the bridegroom's coming. “*Walk as children of Light, (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*”

In the area of love this is a continuation of the “Greatest Love Story Never Told.” In romantic love, you try to learn what is pleasing to the one that you are in love with and whose love you want to win. Love is so important in this whole equation. “*Trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.*” I believe that the wise had learned and the foolish had not. Therefore, the foolish were told to “buy your own oil – make your own investment. We have to attend to what we are doing; there is not oil for all of us – get your own.” We find these words in *Revelation 3:1-6*: *To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: “I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God.”*

They were alive, but barely; they needed to wake up and to complete their deeds. There were areas that they needed to work on. That is why the parable of the eleventh hour call to the vineyard in *Matthew Chapter 20* applies and why I have been giving you the encouraging words from that parable – so you can go to work in the vineyard in this eleventh hour. The vineyard is to bear fruit – the fruit of light. And you can complete what is not completed in the sight of God. *So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.’ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”*

What have you read? *“So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent.”* They were about to lose it and they needed to repent and become “on fire for God”, instead of lukewarm. He said if you do not wake up you are going to pay. Those people had not been faithful – they were called, chosen, and they had their garments washed in the blood of Christ by baptism but they had not been faithful; they are the ones who had their garments soiled. But, he said, *“you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”* Overcoming has to do with being faithful. Some who are overcome by sin rather than overcoming the sin have their garments stained. If you are one who has been overcome by sin and thus have sin stained garments and are not a shining light and an example as you should be, according to the passage that you just read, you need to repent. Repentance is to be sorry for your sins; to turn away from your sins; to confess your sins. Yea may the Holy Spirit so convict you that you would bring forth even tears of repentance. When you do this, repent and confess your sins, the blood of Jesus Christ can again cleanse your garments and you can walk in the light. In other words, it is not too late. The Bible teaches this. *I John 1:5-10: This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.*

If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. That cleansing blood of Christ that washed our garments clean to begin with continues to flow as we are faithful, and it keeps us clean. It is not to say that we never sin. In fact, it says *“If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.”* But, as we strive to be faithful, and we do stumble at times, we confess our sins and according to Verse 9, *“He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* Isn’t that a wonderful promise? Don’t we have a wonderful God? And, you have a wonderful opportunity, right now, to make ready to be with Him in the marriage supper of the Lamb; to go to work and bring forth fruit in that area where you need to have the fruit of light.

I hope that this is tying together in your minds and will help

you to awaken to the seriousness of the hour; to trim your lamps or to get properly adorned. The Lord still looks upon the heart. He still delights in that inner adornment, that inner beauty that causes the radiant light to shine as the outer beauty. In the parable of the virgins, Jesus said to the foolish virgins in *Matthew 25:12: “Truly I say to you, I do not know you.”*

They were pounding on the door, crying “Let us in.” But, He said to them, *“Truly I say to you, I do not know you.”* I want to tie that passage in with *Colossians 3:5-6: Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,*

The wrath of God will come; the fire of God will come. I almost laugh although I really want to cry at the damnable doctrine that has permeated some of the ranks of the saints called “universalism.” This doctrine actually has the saints looking at the fire of God as something blessed, because “everybody gets saved; if nothing else you get thrown into the fire and refined and then you come out. Everybody is saved.” This doctrine has people looking forward to the fire. You don’t want the fiery wrath of God. The fiery wrath of God will come and you will be consumed by it if you are not ready. Verses 7-8: *and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.*

Do you know what that word “malice” means? When you see something bad happening or what appears to be bad happening to someone else and you feel good about it, that is malice in your heart. I have seen such slander, malice, anger and wrath from those who should be shining lights. Verses 9-11 *Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him — a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.*

Notice in Verse 10 it says *“have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.”* That is, become Christ like; get properly adorned. Verses 12: *So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;*

These are things that you need to put on. This is the adornment that you need to make ready for the Lamb of God; the bridegroom that is coming. Verses 13-15: *bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. beyond all these things put on love, which*

*is the perfect bond of unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.*

In this quote I want to emphasize the words from Verse 14, “*Beyond all these things put on love.*” When the foolish virgins heard the words, “*Truly, I say to you, I do not know you,*” they had foolishly forgotten to properly adorn themselves with the most important thing there was – love. For so many, love has become the least important thing. The Bible says in *I Corinthians 8:3: but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.* Jesus said to the foolish virgins, “*Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.*” But, the Bible says “*if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.*” Peter, in *II Peter 1:1-8: Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

You do not want to be unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. He said if you have these things listed in *II Peter 1:1-8* you will not be. But, he goes on to say in Verses 9-13: *For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins. Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you. Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you. I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling, to stir you up by way of reminder*

“*Stir you up*” means to awaken you fully, to arouse, and I pray that this series of eleven messages has helped to awaken you. Notice that the last thing that Peter listed in his list of virtuous things was love. So, above all, put on love. If you know that God loves you, you need to also know that you need to love God. You need to love God, so that you are

not found in the number of those who said open the door and he replied, “*I do not know you.*” *I Corinthians 8:5: But if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.*

If you love Him you will keep His commandments. He has commanded us to be found faithful, fruitful, spotless, blameless, with godliness and holy conduct, overcoming, bearing fruit, keeping your robes clean and white by the blood of the Lamb, and letting your light shine. Wake up. I say, to the elect, those who have been called and chosen, be faithful; wake up, clean up, put on, overcome, bear fruit, and let your light shine. May God bless you and His Holy Spirit assist you to that end so that you may enter in and be With Him.

For those of you who are His may He make His face shine upon you, be gracious unto you, lift His countenance upon you, bless you and keep you and grant you peace. In Jesus name, Amen.

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