



CRYOUT

SPIRITUAL PURITY MANUAL 2025

How to Prepare

for Jesus' Return

DAVID MYATT

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Author, David Myatt



David is the Author and President of CRYOUT and the Host of CRYOUT TV with weekly broadcasts that can be viewed on YouTube and other audio and video platforms.

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CRYOUT is a nonprofit prayer movement that exists to inspire people to seek personal intimacy with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and to spiritually prepare the bride of Christ for Jesus' promised return.

CRYOUT, INC.
PO Box 696
Eagle, ID 83616 USA
Email: info@cryout.tv
Website: www.cryout.tv
Federal Charity ID 39-2879344

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How to Prepare for Jesus' Return

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3 P A G E

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Author's Note

In 2003, I was visiting a church ministry service in California, where a guest evangelist was speaking. This evangelist has now gone on to be with the Lord, however, as I was standing in the back holding our six-month-old daughter, Tiarra Jolie, the Holy Spirit said to my spirit; *"This man speaking, is going to call on you and give you a prophetic message from Me."* I immediately responded, "Lord, you don't need to do that, I already know what you have spoken to me regarding my future." The Lord continued and said, *"No. It's going to happen in 3, 2, 1"* Immediately, the evangelist said, "Hey, you standing in the back! God has a word for you!" The evangelist continued, "I see you in ministry but not as a pastor. You have a Joseph anointing and you will bring two worlds together as one and I see a spiritual picture of a movie that describes your future ministry. The movie I see is with Kurt Russel and Goldie Hawn called Overboard."

Now as we fast forward to 2023, the Lord said to my spirit, *"It is time! Your assignment starts now."* So, I asked the Holy Spirit to reveal to me what was meant by the previous movie reference of 2003 in connection with the ministry that I am to do? The Holy Spirit revealed, *"Just as Kurt Russel was the carpenter that took his bride (to be) and struggled, yet in the end, loved her deeply. And as Goldie Hawn struggled, yet in the end adored her groom, so too, you will bring two worlds together as one."* The two worlds being that of the bride of Christ, joined together with Jesus, our bridegroom at the Wedding Banquet of the Messiah (rapture event).

The purpose of this book is to provide a wakeup call and urgently warn Christians from around the world to spiritually wake up and prepare for Jesus' soon return. The current condition of *'the church'* is in a state of spiritual crisis and most are unaware of the fact that Jesus' visitation is upon us. Many are not spiritually prepared for the rapture event and are considered by Jesus as being lukewarm. This lukewarmness is unacceptable to Jesus.

As you read this spiritual purity manual, 'How to Prepare for Jesus' Return,' it's my prayer that you receive supernatural revelation by the power of the Holy Spirit and become spiritually prepared as the purified bride of Christ for His return.

In His service,

David Myatt, President, CRYOUT

1

Are You Awake?

This question is a theme throughout scripture and is asked to identify the spiritual condition of the people before God. It is meant to draw attention to the need for repentance and spiritual purity.

Jesus makes the statement to us as a form of self-evaluation. Just before His return for His pure bride He prompts the church to consider their own personal spiritual condition as He instructs us to spiritually wake up in Revelation 3:1-3, 5.

"I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent."

...But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

...The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white (spiritual purity). I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels." Revelation 3:1-3, 5

This is a stern warning that Jesus gives the last day church (of today) as He commands us to avoid a dead lukewarm spiritual life.

We must wake up from our spiritual slumber and recognize the urgent need to repent and prepare for Jesus "our bridegroom's" soon return for His bride. We are commanded by Jesus to consider the consequence if we do not wake up.

"But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you." Revelation 3:3

This seemingly unexpected visit of Christ in the air, will only be unexpected to those who are asleep. This terminology is repeated; “those who are asleep” or “wake up” or “if you do not wake up” and so on.

So, what is meant by “those who are asleep?”

As we read Revelation 3:1-6, we can see that Jesus is saying, in other words;

For those who are asleep, you must wake up and repent from being spiritually dead.

Jesus continues saying that... You must do so, prior to His return for His church, for if you do not spiritually wake up, you may be caught off guard and be left behind when He comes for His bride dressed in white. (*Paraphrased*)

Notice what Jesus says here:

“But if you do not wake up, (spiritually prepared for Jesus’ return) I will come like a thief, (for you will not expect it) and you will not know at what time I will come to you (for you will not know the season of my return).” Revelation 3:3

We should **not** be asleep (lukewarm).

We should **not** be spiritually dead.

We should be **fully alive** in the Holy Spirit and prepared for His soon return.

Jesus is encouraging us to be spiritually prepared for His coming rapture event, because He loves us and wants us to be delivered from the tribulation judgement that will follow the deliverance of His pure bride.

We used to say; “Accept Christ as your Savior and walk in the process of sanctification by His grace.”

But now, because we have little time left before Christ’s return and we must be found without sin or sin practice of any kind, we say;

“Accept Christ as your Savior now! Hurry up and fall on your face before God! Repent with all your heart! Purify yourselves and establish true intimacy with Christ right now! Don’t wait! Hurry while little time is left, *“that you may be found worthy to escape all these things that will come on the face of the earth.” Luke 21:36*

Notice the urgency of the plea to those coming to Christ in these last days. We must be very serious about our spiritual condition before God.

Spiritual Purity is Required

"Wake up from your stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God, I say this to your shame." I Corinthians 15:34

"For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins." Hebrews 10:26

The lukewarm church lives a compromised lifestyle and does not discern the time of Jesus coming.

Many will not be spiritually prepared for the Rapture event and will be left behind because they did not purify their heart before God. The Lukewarm church is spiritually asleep.

Some will fall away from faith just before the Rapture event occurs by compromise or the distractions of this world. Many throughout the world attend our churches on a regular basis, yet have little to no knowledge of the season of His coming that is upon us. As well, many church leaders worldwide struggle to understand the signs of the times in which we live.

The power of the Holy Spirit is urgently warning people to wake up from spiritual sleep and slumber as the Spirit of God is shouting, "Wake Up! Wake Up!" We must spiritually wake-up and purify ourselves to therefore, be acceptable to God the Father on behalf of His Son Jesus.

"Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation (immortal glorification) is nearer to us now than when we first believed." Romans 13:11

A personal individual and intimate spiritual awakening must take place within our born again spirit as this urgent wake-up call is being sounded.

"Therefore he says, "Awake, you who sleep, and rise from the dead (spiritual death) and Christ will shine on you." Ephesians 5:14

- Pray that you spiritually discern the season of His coming and the signs of the times.
 - Pray that you recognize the opportunity at hand to be the chosen bride of God's only Son.
 - Pray that you may live a Godly lifestyle of true repentance and righteousness as you purposefully shake yourself awake by removing the carnal flesh from your life.
 - Pray that your spiritual eyes are open to see that the wedding banquet for the bride of Christ has been made ready and the invitations have been sent out.
-

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen (immortal glorification) upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you (immortal glorification) and his glory will be seen upon you." Isaiah 60:1-2

We must spiritually wake up to begin to prepare for Jesus' return.

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

2

Must be Born Again to Enter the Kingdom of God

If I were to ask you what it means to be born again, what would you say?

Would you say?

It's praying a sinner's prayer and asking Jesus to forgive your sins.

It's accepting Jesus as your personal Savior.

It's being baptized in water.

It's being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

I tell you that according to Jesus, it is all of the above. Furthermore, according to this statement commanded by Jesus, it is nothing less than all the above.

Let's look at John 3:3-6.

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." John 3:3, 5-6

We are told in scripture by Jesus, *"You must be born again to enter the kingdom of God."* And that, *"The Spirit (the Holy Spirit) gives birth to spirit."* (the human spirit).

So, what does it mean to be Born Again?

Being born again signifies more than just a declaration of faith in Christ; it's a transformative spiritual experience where a person receives a new regenerated spirit through the Holy Spirit.

Let's look at the Three Stages of a Born Again Life:

- **Born of Revelation** – A personal relationship with Jesus leads to a new spiritual identification that begins with revelation by repentance unto salvation. *“No one comes to the Father unless the Holy Spirit draws them.” (John 6:44).*
- **Born of Water** – Upon repentance unto salvation, water baptism is the outer demonstration of a person's public confession, just as the word of God is the inner demonstration of washing our heart clean and pure. *(Ephesians 5:26)* *“The word of God is like water that washes you daily.” (Luke 3:3 7, 10-14), (John 17:17) “You are sanctified by the word of God.” (John 14:21, 23).*
- **Born of Spirit** – The spirit of man is corrupt and must be reborn, renewed and regenerated by the power of the Holy Spirit. *“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5), “He that is joined with the Holy Spirit is one with the Lord.” (I Corinthians 6:17), “Washing of the Holy Spirit.” (Rom. 12:2), “**Unless a man is born of water and spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**” (John 15:3), and (Galatians 5:16-17).*

*“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. **He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit**” Titus 3:5*

This new spirit is the infilling and sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit that empowers believers to live a life transformed by the renewing of our regenerated spirit.

This is a supernatural act of God where a person is spiritually regenerated, receiving a new heart and a new spirit and is not merely a one-time decision to pray and ask Jesus to forgive our sins. It can be, but not likely according to Jesus.

The Holy Spirit empowers the believer to live a life pleasing to God, guiding them towards righteousness and helping them grow in their faith.

“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.” Galatians 5:16-17

This new identity leads to a desire to turn away from sin and live according to God's will for our lives.

*“The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. **Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.**” Galatians 5:19-25*

By the conviction of the Holy Spirit, nothing in one's heart that is considered corrupt, disobedient or unrighteous can remain.

When the Holy Spirit convicts areas of sin and is not immediately dealt with, the Holy Spirit will be grieved and we will no longer be in perfect unity with the Spirit of God.

“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” Ephesians 4:30

Being in unity with the Holy Spirit is the same as a covenant relationship. It is no different from being in unity with your spouse. If you're not in agreement with your spouse, you will not have peace. We must remain in unity with the Holy Spirit.

The goal of the born again believer is to always be in “unity” and “perfect peace” with the Holy Spirit of God.

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” Ephesians 4:3-6

Being in disunity with the Holy Spirit could produce a lukewarm believer that is operating in disobedience to God by rejecting the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture tells us that this spiritual condition, if not dealt with, will cause God to reject us. Oh, that we would stop everything and prioritize immediate repentance. God is faithful to forgive.

Jesus said, “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth” Revelation 3:15-16

New Spiritual Identity

With the new spirit, believers receive a new identity as being in unity with God, and unity with the Holy Spirit. Being born again is about a spiritual change of nature, a new life in Christ.

Three stages of the Born Again life:

- **Repentance** – Born again, renewed spirit, dead to former life.
- **Separate from the world** – Set apart unto God; separated unto God only.
- **Washed from Sins** – Are you really born again? Lukewarm or purified? You can’t be both!

New spiritual birth is not a ‘one time’ singular event that entitles us to an eternal guarantee that we will enter the kingdom of God.

Even after being born again, believers may still struggle with the effects of a sin nature; however, the Holy Spirit within the heart of the born again believer bears witness of spiritual dangers, disobedience, sinful thoughts, wrong actions and the

like. They no longer find the same joy in sin that they once did and are empowered to resist it.

A born again believer avoids areas of compromise and appeals to the Holy Spirit to monitor the ongoing spiritual condition of the heart. Someone who no longer avoids areas of compromise, though once born again, are in jeopardy of lukewarmness.

It is important to understand that the Holy Spirit bears witness to the born again spirit by way of spiritual confirmation within our heart or spirit.

Repentance

True repentance is confessing and renouncing all past and present sin, sin practice and disobedience of any kind, as well as, vowing to commit one's life completely to Jesus allowing Him to be your Lord and Savior.

Generally speaking, true repentance is completed when all areas of the heart are brought to God and forgiveness is granted by the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is not a 'one size' fits all casual approach to be born again. It is ONE SPIRIT *the Holy Spirit* that has standards that must be met in order for us to be identified as belonging to a Holy God. The ultimate goal is spiritual transformation.

To be born again is to be completely and fully surrendered in ALL areas of our heart and life.

On a scale of 1-10 (10 being total surrendered) we must be a 10.

We must be totally surrendered to the unity of the Holy Spirit. This may seem like a high standard; however, this is the standard required.

Look again at what Jesus says,

*Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, **but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.**" John 3:3, 5-6*

Notice the phrase... *“The Spirit gives birth to spirit.”*

It is the Holy Spirit that regenerates our spirit by the inward confirmation of the Spirit of God, *the Holy Spirit*. The *born again* experience is one of complete and total surrender. If you're not completely surrendered to God by the conviction of the Holy Spirit, then you're not completely born again.

The spiritual condition of the heart must *always* be in a position of completely pleasing God. Nothing in one's heart that is considered corrupt, disobedient or unrighteous can remain and not be flagged by the conviction of the Holy Spirit.

Pleasing the Lord by following the leading of the Holy Spirit is an indication that one is meeting the requirements set by God. Let's look at what Jesus said about the virgin brides, which is the condition of the church just before He returns.

The Parable of the Foolish and Wise Virgins

Jesus gives us insight into the spiritual condition of the church just before He returns.

The rapture is described here as a wedding event that included invited guests, of which not all would meet the requirements given to enter the wedding banquet.

We will, in the next chapter explain the parallel of the Ancient Wedding traditions and how it relates to Jesus as the bridegroom, and the church as the bride of Christ.

Let's look at this warning that Jesus gives to the church in the last day,

*“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. **The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.**”*

Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour." Matthew 25:1-13 NIV

There are two groups of virgin brides (Christian believers)

One group of virgin brides were prepared for the wedding banquet (worthy), and the other group of the virgin brides were not (unworthy).

Notice what occurs when the bridegroom (Christ the Messiah) arrives:

- When the bridegroom arrived the **wise virgin bride(s)** approached the wedding banquet doors, and they were open. They went in with Him to the wedding banquet, **for the Lord knew them.**
- But, when the bridegroom arrived the **foolish virgin bride(s)** approached the wedding banquet doors, and they were shut. They were not allowed in the wedding banquet, **for the Lord declared, He did not know them.**

What determines the virgin bride to be wise or foolish, known or unknown?

It is of the greatest importance that we understand what Jesus was telling us so that we can position ourselves to be found wise and not foolish. So, as we go deeper in the scripture, we see that it is the bride's level of preparedness that was the final determining factor considered.

The foolish did not prepare in advance, nor take extra oil in addition to their lamps. The wise prepared in advance and took extra oil in addition to their lamps.

So we must know what the oil represents!

Let's discuss the symbolic parallels in this prophetic parable.

- Then (*at that time – the rapture event*) the kingdom of heaven will be like un-prepared and prepared brides waiting for the bridegroom (*Jesus*).
- The virgin is a bride that is waiting for the return of her bridegroom to come and take her to the wedding progression, just as born again Christians are the bride of Christ waiting for Him to return at the rapture resurrection event.

- The virgins are considered to be either foolish or wise Christian believers.
- That lamp is a vessel that is meant to contain oil, just as we are a vessel meant to contain the Holy Spirit.
- The oil represents the Holy Spirit, which is the ingredient used to produce fire in the lamp.
- Just as Christ is the light of the world, we as Christians are to be vessels of honor and containers of the Holy Spirit that produces a fire and light that others will see.
- Extra oil was needed due to the bridegroom's delay of arrival. Likewise, we must prepare to be diligently pursuing an intimate relationship with our bridegroom while waiting for His return through the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our relationship with the bridegroom should in no way be "to just to get by" (being lukewarm) but rather, to produce a fire within us that illuminates to everyone around us as well as sustaining us personally.
- The function of the oil in this parable is representative of the Holy Spirit being activated in our lives that guides us to truth, convicts us of sin, tells us what is to come, is our advocate and glorifies the Lord through us.
- Additionally, we live in a world of uncertain times and are subject to various spiritual attacks. However, an intimate relationship with our bridegroom can be produced through the power of the Holy Spirit. This relationship gives us a greater degree of protection and endurance as we await His soon return and as we build up the spirit within us and tear down the carnal mind with its thoughts and actions. We can overcome our flesh and be holy as God has called us to be holy. Hebrews 12:14 says, *"Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."*

The Lord must know us as His precious bride!

Our personal relationship with Him must be declared, by the way we think, by our actions, by our motives, by our never-ending love for Him that is forged in deep intimacy with Him and longing to spend time with the Holy Spirit in pursuit of Him. To know Him is to identify ourselves as only and exclusively belonging to Him, and Him alone.

This is why Jesus pleads with us to be ready, to be prepared, to know Him, to make preparation our top priority, to get our affairs in order and to make the necessary arrangements.

It is our responsibility, as the bride, to seek to know the time and season of the bridegroom's return, to set everything else aside and to focus all our attention on His return. It's our responsibility as the bride to detach from this world and everything in it, prioritizing our intimacy with Him over every earthly thing and relationship.

Please, let this sink in... We are in the season of His return! Do you perceive it?

It is vitally important in this season of His return, to be spiritually ready and to be "maritally prepared" as a pure virgin bride would; likewise, prepare herself prior to her bridegroom's arrival.

We must be free from sin, free from sin practice, free from sin participation or even its association. Spiritual purity is a mandate.

The oil of intimacy through the power of the Holy Spirit is recognized by the Lord to be an important characteristic of the wise virgin.

Jesus is not coming for a lukewarm bride.

No, the lukewarm bride will not be considered worthy of the bridegroom. The lukewarm Christian is unacceptable to Jesus. He is coming for a bride on fire, evidenced by the presents of the Holy Spirit. A bride who is passionately serving her king as her vessel is filled with oil of the Holy Spirit and her light is shining for others to see.

This spiritual picture given to us by Jesus as he describes the acceptable and unacceptable awaiting bride(s).

Jesus said in this parable of the wise and foolish virgins, ¹¹ *"Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!'"* ¹² *"But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'"*

Reality Check

The question is not just, “Do we know the Lord?”
But rather, “Does the Lord know us?”

- Does the Lord know us?
- Does the Lord know you?
- Does He recognize that you belong to Him?
- The lukewarm bride (foolish virgin) does not hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.
- The purified bride (wise virgin) does hear the voice of the Holy Spirit because of the intimacy (oil) spent with Him.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" John 10:27

Unfortunately, I think many Christians today may take their relationship with Christ for granted.

We may see Christ as our Savior, our Lord, our personal Redeemer; however, the face of the savior may look different than the face of the coming Messiah, our Lord and our King. We may underestimate who Christ really is, and the importance of this relationship!

Personal Experience with Jesus

During a time of personal prayer with the Lord, my spiritual eyes were opened! In my spirit, I saw the face of Jesus. This was not physical, it was spiritual. I saw His face clearly in my spirit. Some may call this a vision.

While in prayer and with the eyes of my spirit, I immediately recognized that I was looking at the face of Jesus. However, as I looked into His face, the face of my Savior was changing in appearance.

The face of the Savior, the Redeemer, the humble and compassionate face that bore the sins of the world on the cross, had now become the face of mighty prince or king.

I was taken aback, I was uncomposed in my spirit. I was shocked. I was not prepared for what I was seeing... His face had changed, right before me.

Now, as I looked, I became humbly fearful in the way of reverent fear, as the countenance of His face was serious, determined, unwavering, resolute and that of a warrior or king.

He was princely, kingly, His face was chiseled and fierce. His eyes and cheekbones were dominant. His appearance was strong beyond comprehension. He was a mighty warrior above all warriors with great authority.

I knew that this was the Messiah, the soon-coming King. I felt unworthy in His presence, as if, in my spirit to bow in submission.

This is the Messiah.

This is who we will see coming in the clouds on that day when He arrives for His prepared bride as the last trumpet warning is blown, as described in I Thessalonians 4:14-18.

- This is who escorts us to the wedding banquet.
- This is the bridegroom that we have the privilege of being united with in marriage.
- This is who we will have the opportunity to spend all of eternity with, side by side.

“For many are called, (by invitation to the wedding banquet) but few are chosen (to attend the wedding banquet).” Matthew 22:14

Make every effort to be found worthy of the bridegroom.

Extra Time is Required

Often, I pray that the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit will reveal to me revelation as it concerns His people in preparation for His return.

In the middle of the night on April 13th, 2025, I woke up as the Holy Spirit declared to my spirit, “Extra time is required!”

As I received this word into my spirit, “Extra time is required.” I immediately acknowledged receipt of the word given and inquired of the Holy Spirit with a question.

I asked, “What is this ‘extra time’ that you are requiring?”

Immediately, I received the answer, in my spirit, as the Holy Spirit revealed to me. He said, “This extra time, is the extra oil that is required of my bride.”

I then knew exactly what He meant and had the complete understanding of the revelation when He said, “Extra time is required.”

As we read the words of Jesus as He describes the foolish and wise virgin brides, we think of the extra oil required of the virgin bride to be the ingredient of the Holy Spirit that produces a constant flame burning within our spirit as we pray & remain in His word.

This is true; however, the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, revealed a deeper meaning that I had not previously considered.

The Spirit of the Lord said, “The extra time is required for the bride who is patiently waiting for her bridegroom’s arrival. The extra time is above time normally given.”

Let me give you an example.

I am married to a beautiful bride and her name is Melanie. We spend as much time as we can together from day to day while balancing responsibilities. However, when there is a special occasion such as Mother’s Day, Birthday, or even a vacation get-away, I make it a point to spend extra time with her and her alone.

This is extra time that I spend with her that demonstrates the level of value that I give to our relationship! This is the same priority we need to give to Jesus Christ.

This extra time (extra oil) is what’s required by the Lord “our bridegroom” as the Father selects an adequate and compatible bride for His Son.

As we prioritize extra time with Him above normal time. This demonstrates our level of His importance to us.

Spend time with Jesus in intimacy and demonstrate to our bridegroom the level of value that you give to your relationship with Him. We must value this relationship more than anything else in this world!

The extra time that we spend with Him is required to demonstrate this.

This is why Jesus said, *“The foolish virgins took their lamps but did not take any extra oil with them. The wise virgins, however, took extra oil in jars along with their lamps.”*

I urge you to demonstrate to the bridegroom the level of value that you give to your relationship with Him as you spend extra, over and above time, with the Messiah as He soon comes for His prepared bride.

The Spirit of God is Holy

To be born again, is to fully abide in unity with the Holy Spirit. Just as the Holy Spirit is holy, so too, our born again spirit must be holy.

One main way the Holy Spirit directs us to remain in unity with the Holy Spirit is by conviction.

Conviction of the Holy Spirit is precious and should never be dealt with in opposition. It is our responsibility to obey the inner voice of the Holy Spirit when conviction comes and says,

“No! That thought, that action or that decision (you fill in the blank), does not belong or abide in unity with my Holy Spirit.”

We must be Holy, to be considered in proper unity with His, Holy Spirit.

If our spirit is not *holy*, we will not please God.

If our spirit is not *holy*, we will not have spiritual purity.

If our spirit is not *holy*, we will be considered lukewarm.

If our spirit is not *holy*, we will be left behind at the time of the rapture.

The manifestation of the Holy Spirit is a form of confirmation that we are in unity with the Holy Spirit, as we abide in Him.

Spiritual Manifestation(s) of the Holy Spirit

The following manifestations of the Holy Spirit become evident in a born again spirit. Repentance brings and maintains the manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

Manifestations of the Holy Spirit include:

- Overwhelming Joy
- Laughter
- Overwhelming desire to please God
- Overwhelming love for everyone
- Conviction of sin boundaries
- Intercessory prayer burden
- Hearing God's voice within one's own born again spirit
- Giving testimony or sharing one's personal faith
- Leading of the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual discernment
- Protection by the power of the Holy Spirit
- Supernatural peace
- Prompting by the Holy Spirit to complete an assignment
- Spiritual knowledge and revelation
- Spiritual authority
- Prophetic declarations given by God by the power of the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit such as personal prayer language, divine healing, deliverance, words of knowledge, evangelism, supernatural power, miracles, sign and wonders, and the like.

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you." John 16:13-15

How to be Born Again, by the Power of the Holy Spirit

Confess Sin

- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit, by invitation, to bring conviction of all sin, past or present or sin practice.
- Pray and ask God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to expose all areas hidden on our heart.
- Confess sin and disobedience.

Repent of Sin

- Pray and ask God to forgive sin, sin practice, disobedience, unforgiveness, offence, greed, ego, pride, lust, addiction, walking in the flesh, fits of rage, sexual sin, unrighteous thoughts and actions.
- Seek spiritual purity in every area of the heart.
- Repent of these areas.

Renounce Sin

- Renounce (*refuse to accept or participate any further*) these areas of repentance by name.

Seek Forgiveness by the Power of the Holy Spirit

- Seek the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit as a confirmation of an inner relationship = *Born-again* spirit renewed.
- Spiritual identification will be confirmed by the Holy Spirit.
- Seek the Holy Spirit with all your heart. Do not relent.

Born Again by the Confirmation of the Holy Spirit

Someone may say...

- *I prayed the sinner's prayer...*
- *It's the finished work of the cross...*
- *Jesus paid the price for my sin."*

The fact of the matter is...

- *Jesus did His part... It's time for us to do our part!*
- *Jesus gave His life... It's time for us to give our life!*

Be Filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit

I would encourage you, if you haven't already, to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the most important aspect of the sanctified life unto Christ. Our spirit must be submitted to God. The only way to truly accomplish this is by the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Pray diligently and ask the Holy Spirit to baptize you in His wonderful cleansing presence.

Ask the Lord, for your prayer language. Not only is this a wonderful gift, but it also serves as a confirmation in your spirit that you are truly born again.

Steps to be Filled with the Holy Spirit

1. Accept Jesus as Savior & believe He is the Son of God.
2. Confess your sin to the Lord.
3. Repent of all sin that has separated you from a holy God.
4. Renounce all sin and disobedience to God.
5. Receive forgiveness (Lord) as you forgive those who have wronged you.
6. Seek a heart of repentance as you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (no sin).
7. Pray and invite the Holy Spirit into your heart.
8. Pray and receive the presence of the Holy Spirit.
9. Pray and thank God for giving you His precious presence.
10. Pray and ask the Lord for your prayer language (gift).

The initial manifestations of the Holy Spirit will be joy, peace, love, an overwhelming desire to please the Lord with your whole heart and being.

Spend time in intimacy with Jesus daily and establish a personal intimate relationship with Him.

Allow me to pray with you!

If you have not yet given your life to Christ and received the Holy Spirit into your heart, please pray with me.

*“Father, I confess all my sin to you...
I ask that you forgive me.
I pray that you cleanse me from all
unrighteous acts of disobedience to you
God...
I am truly sorry.
I hereby renounce sin, sin practice,
participation and association to sin.
I repent of all the wrong I have done and ask
you to forgive me.
I accept your Son Jesus as my Lord and
Savior...
And invite Jesus into my heart.
I invite the Holy Spirit to empower me to live
a holy life that pleases you.
I pray this now in the mighty name of
Jesus...
-Amen*

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

3

The Wedding Day of the Messiah

As discussed in the previous chapter, we see in God's word a **mystery language** spoken and coded to the Jewish wedding imagery in symbolism and terminology as it applies to the ancient Jewish wedding of Jesus' day, *"For those that have an ear, let them hear what the Spirit of God is saying."*

Jesus spoke in parables using this same wedding terminology as He identified himself as the bridegroom that returns for His prepared bride. Apostle Paul uses this same terminology to emphasize our relationship to Christ as the bride to her bridegroom.

Let's look at examples found in scripture that utilize this imagery of the ancient Jewish wedding to describe future prophetic messianic events that will soon unfold.

The Ancient Jewish Wedding of Jesus' Day

*"Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. **This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church (bride).**" Ephesians 5:31-32*

The Father Chose the Bride

As a formal act in Jewish tradition, the father of the bridegroom would give the bride a gift of value such as a piece of money or an object of monetary value, declaring that through the gift, she was betrothed to him.

At this time a legal document or contract, called a *Ketubah* which included the amount of the dowry and mutual obligations was negotiated.

The *Ketubah* was written and signed at the betrothal for the purpose of assuring that a bride would be provided for. It stated both the groom's promises and the rights of the bride.

It was signed and witnessed by two people and it was a binding contract. We see this again in Hebrews 6:13 when Paul speaks of God witnessing the covenant with

Abraham. *“For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself.”*

Once the *Ketubah* was signed, the couple were legally married, or betrothed, though they each remained living with their parents until the wedding ceremony.

The Bride Price and Betrothal

In Jewish tradition, the groom's father would pay a "bride price" to, in essence, buy a bride for his son. The servant of Abraham gave gifts of silver and gold and gave garments to Rebekah. Jacob worked a total of fourteen years for Leah and Rachel to pay the bride price and we see Boaz the kinsman redeemer who paid the bride price for Ruth.

Similarly, God the Father will choose a bride for His Son and a people for His own possession. Jesus paid the bride price as we will see.

“For you were bought at a price, therefore, glorify God with your body.”
1 Corinthians 6:20

It is God the Father's betrothal arrangement for His Son that was the ultimate bride price paid through the redemptive act of offering His own life as 'He freely gave it'.

Jesus paid the bride price for us with His own life on the cross.

*“...Christ loved the church and gave himself up for **her** to make **her** holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.”* Ephesians 5:25-27,32

The Promise of His Return with a Toast

Traditionally, it was the custom to have a glass of wine and for the future groom to commune (fellowship, eat a meal) with the family and friends of whom he was marrying into.

The Hebrew word for communion is *dabar* and it means “to speak” or “to promise,” or “pronounce.”

This wedding imagery speaks of the cup that is shared together at the marriage ceremony between the bridegroom and the bride, in His Fathers Kingdom.

“Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.” Mathew 26:27-29

We see Jesus lifting the cup of wine and telling His disciples that the cup represented His blood which was shed for us and that it was the blood to ratify the New Covenant for the remission of sins.

Jesus points to the future, the wedding, when He says;

“But I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in the Father’s Kingdom.” Matthew 26:29

He speaks here of His communal promise to His bride that He will wait for the day of their marriage to enjoy once again a toast with His bride at the Wedding Banquet of the Messiah. This is the communion cup that the church shares as a remembrance of the bridegrooms promise to return for her.

*“Is not the cup of blessing that we bless a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one loaf..”
I Corinthians 10:16-17*

And, in the new kingdom we will share and participate with Christ as He said,

*“Until that day when I drink it new with you (bride of Christ) in the Father’s Kingdom.”
Matthew 26:29*

This *matzah* bread that we break, is it not the communion of the body of Messiah? The unleavened bread was without leaven (sin) and symbolized a representation of Jesus’ sinless body that was broken on the cross.

When we participate in communion we are purifying ourselves in remembrance of what Jesus’ blood represents and acknowledging the promise of His return for those who are His bride.

The Bridegroom’s Promise to Provide

So in Jewish tradition, once the bride was selected and the bride had said, “Yes, I Do” to her future husband and agreed to the bridal price and the gifts had been received. Then, the two legally become betrothed. You could say without a doubt, the two were married.

The son would go to his father’s house and the bride would remain in her father’s house. The wedding could be a year or two later depending upon how long it took the father of the groom to make all the preparations for the wedding and of course, the completion of their dwelling place.

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.” John 14:3

He will provide for everything both now and when He comes again. He is our lawfully wedded Husband who takes good care of His Bride.

*“For this reason (you can only serve one husband), I say to you, ‘Do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing?’”
Matthew 6:25-34*

Our Groom Jesus, who has bought us and paid for our sins with His shed blood, is coming again to receive us unto Himself, but for now has given us the Holy Spirit as His pledge and the promise of His return!

*“And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, **you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.**” Ephesians 1:13-14*

The Betrothal Engagement

As previously stated, once the betrothal was secured with a binding agreement, a covenant contract called the *Ketubah*, a promise to marriage that was not yet consummated, yet nevertheless legal.

Betrothed to Christ is found in covenant relationship through the witness of the Holy Spirit, as Paul writes,

“I am jealous for you with a Godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.” 2 Corinthians 11:2

Apostle Paul uses this Wedding terminology to convey the importance of being and remaining in covenant relationship and maintaining spiritual purity through the washing and sanctification of our heart and life.

The Preparations of the Bridegroom

In Jewish tradition, the groom would prepare living arrangements for the bride by leaving for a period of time, usually one year, as he would then return to his father's estate to build an addition onto the father's home in which he and his bride and groom would later live.

So too, Christ after paying the bride price, returned to his Father's estate to prepare an eternal home for His bride. Jesus said,

"In my Father's house are many rooms (mansions). If it were not so I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you (bride). And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again (rapture resurrection) and will take you to myself, that where I am, you may be also." John 14:2-3

The Preparations of the Bride

In tradition, after the groom went to prepare a place for her. She began her preparation. The first part of the preparation for the bride (sanctification) would be a bath, perfume, anoint herself, and put on fine clothing and adornment (Isaiah 61:10). Bathing includes much more than simply washing to be physically clean; it also implied spiritual cleanliness by immersion in a *mikveh*—the custom of Jewish brides immersing in a *mikveh* before the wedding is still observed today.

As the bride eagerly awaited the bridegroom's return, she would prepare by way of ritual cleansing, remaining faithful as a chaste virgin to one husband and the safekeeping of a pure white wedding garment. Can you see the parallel?

Likewise, spiritual preparation before God, is required for us! As He examines our heart, we must be spiritually clean from sin. *"Not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish."* Ephesians 5:27.

Jesus is Coming for a Spiritually Pure Bride

Now that we have an understanding of ancient Jewish tradition, we can see how God uses it as a parallel to us today.

Just as the virgin bride was free from sexual intimacy until after her wedding day, likewise; the virgin bride of Christ must be spiritually prepared as a pure bride unto Christ, free from sin or sin practice.

"... for I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." 2 Cor. 11:2

The Greek word translated "chaste" is the word "*hagnos*", or root word "*hagios*", which is the usual word for "holiness." The thought of the word is "sacred, morally blameless, ceremonially consecrated, untouched, undefiled, spiritually pure, (most) holy."

Though Jesus did His part by paying the price, of the penalty of our sin through His blood, we have the spiritual obligation to do our part to long for His return and have no other idols in our heart that defile us.

The more time we spend with Him, the more we fall in love with Him, the less we want of sin.

Our spiritual intimacy with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit is our most important priority of this last hour.

We must be consecrated, washed clean, wearing spiritually clean clothing, holy, as a prepared people in order to enter the presence of a holy God.

"Then the Lord told Moses to go down and prepare the people for my arrival. Consecrate them today, tomorrow & have them wash their clothing. Be sure they are ready on the third day, for on that day, the Lord will come down on Mt. Sinai as all the people watch." Exodus 19:11

God instructed his people (the bride) to be holy to enter the wedding chamber.

For God will only select a holy bride. The wedding banquet can only receive and hold a holy, consecrated, sinless, virgin bride.

Likewise, as stated earlier, the bridegroom can only marry a bride wearing a pure white wedding garment, the bride must be free from ego, pride, offence, unforgiveness, bitterness, hurt, competition, rage, lust, jealousy, envy, gossip, hatred, sexual sin, lying and the like.

The white garment represents the righteousness of the heart before God.

God the Father is looking for a heart of purity that is free from the contamination of sin; a heart of a virgin bride.

This purity preparation is a major theme in the Jewish wedding ceremony and a central theme to Jesus's requirement for His bride to be spiritually pure *"without spot or wrinkle or any such thing"* prior to His coming.

"...that he might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that he might present her to himself a glorious church (bride), not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."
Ephesians 5:26-27

Over again we see the Wedding imagery as the bride is to be dressed in a white garment which represents the righteousness of the bride that testifies of her spiritual purity.

Time for Purification

In the story of Esther, we see that she prepared one year before she met the king. Esther had to learn how to be a queen and she had to look like a queen. Esther 2:12-13 tells us:

"The end of the twelve month's under the regulations for the women for the days of their beautification were completed as follows: six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and the cosmetics for women – the young lady would go in to the king in this way." Esther 2:12-13

So how do we prepare for our soon coming King and bridegroom? Paul tells us that whoever has this hope will purify himself.

"And every man that hath this hope (Jesus' return) in him purifies himself, even as He is pure." 1 John 3:3

We are required to be spiritually pure before God just as the bride is to the bridegroom. So while the bride waits for the coming of her bridegroom, she takes this time to prepare for him.

“And to her (bride of Christ) was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” Revelation 19:8

“He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.” Revelation 3:5

The Groom Returns for His Bride

In the Jewish custom, as the day came when the groom would receive final approval from his father, to go and take his bride to their new home, together, they would then begin the seven-day wedding ceremony as the bride & groom would become acquainted.

Jesus said, “And If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you unto myself, that where I am you may be also.” John 14:3

This is where we’re at now, on the prophetic timetable as Jesus returns for His bride.

Our groom (Jesus) has gone back to live with His Father (God) in heaven while the wedding banquet is being prepared for Jesus the bridegroom and the purified bride of Christ. Every detail must be taken care of for the great marriage supper. A suitable dwelling must be prepared for the Bride and the Groom. Soon, Father God will give approval to His Son Jesus to go and take His bride.

The rapture will be the bride taking event that receives the invited guests that are chosen to attend the wedding banquet of the Messiah.

The Father (God) selects the purified bride for His Son. Spiritual purity is the requirement.

Also, just as the Jewish son didn't know when the father would approve of the preparations on the family estate and allow him to return for his bride, so too, only

Father God knows the exact day and hour when He will tell His Son, Jesus our bridegroom, to go get His bride as Jesus returns for us.

The Mystery Wedding Day ‘that day’

*“But about **that day** or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father... Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” Mathew 24:36, 42*

This is a mystery, as for the Feast of Trumpets holds Jewish idiom sayings that include; *“the day no man knows”* or *“the hidden day”* or *“the day and hour no man knows”*.

Also, the Wedding terminology used by Jesus here references the Jewish wedding as He says, *“but only the Father.”*

Both expressions were widely known in Jesus’ day to the Jewish community whom He was speaking, as a reference to *“the day that no man knows”* as being Yom Teruah, the Feast of Trumpets, as well the phrase, *“only the Father”* that references the Jewish wedding to say, only the father chooses the bride for the son, not the son, nor the angels.

As in tradition, once the bride’s preparations were completed, she was led to the groom’s house accompanied by family and friends, and great excitement, song, dance, and musical instruments (Jerimiah 16:9), as torches illuminated the way. The bridegroom would first proceed to the wedding canopy and the bridegroom would be crowned like a king. Then he would go get his bride.

This is the same, at the time of the fall feasts or more specifically, the Feast of Trumpets.

Jesus tells His listeners, *“Be dressed in readiness and keep your lamps lit.”* The parable of the Ten Virgins, as previously discussed, gives a good account of what takes place when the bridegroom comes for his bride. It was usually at midnight when the groom came. (See Matthew 25:1-10)

The procession began with the shout or trumpet shofar blast. One would go before the bridegroom and shout, "Blessed is he who comes!" as a wedding announcing the bridegroom of honor.

This is what Jesus meant when He said,

"For I say to you, from now on you shall not see Me until you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

Then, the shofar trumpet will be blown, as the resurrection begins as the bridegroom comes in the clouds (wedding canopy).

"According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep (died in Christ). For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." I Thessalonians 4:15-17

The shout will be like a military command, and the trumpet will sound to give the orders to arise. Those from the dead will arise from the grave and those who are alive will rise together with them and meet Jesus our Bridegroom under the canopy.

Those who did not adequately prepare would not be allowed to enter the wedding banquet.

In other words, Jesus is saying to us, the last day church, to adequately prepare for His return! Don't be distracted with less important things for He is coming for a bride that is spiritually prepared for her bridegroom.

Jesus addresses His concerns to the churches in Revelation as he describes their spiritual condition in the last day and refers to them as being lukewarm.

“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.” Revelation 3:15-16

Please understand that Jesus is speaking to us. We are the church in the last day. Jesus is not coming for a lukewarm compromised bride that is not 100% surrendered to Jesus the bridegroom.

Jesus is coming for a purified bride that has been selected by His Father to be found perfectly united “as one” in the Spirit (Holy Spirit). We are now ever so close to the season of Christ’s return. Do you have eyes to see it? Do you have spiritual ears to hear what the Spirit is saying?

The Wedding Banquet

In tradition, the wedding would last up to seven-days as family and friends joined in the celebration.

Just as the wedding banquet would last seven-days as the couple would officially become acquainted with each other and consummate the marriage contract, so it will be with Christ.

The bride of the Messiah will be caught up and spend seven-years in the Bridal Chamber with Jesus, while those who were not found worthy to wed will be left behind and during the same time, those not taken will be caught in the dreadful days known as the great tribulation, that will come upon those who are not selected as worthy to escape.

The Wedding Banquet will begin at the time of the rapture resurrection event and will take place as the great tribulation judgement that occurs on earth.

Revelation 19 describes a great feast, a Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Jesus) to celebrate the happy occasion as the bride of Christ comes together with the bridegroom dressed in garments of righteousness.

“Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.” Revelation 19:6

The chosen bride will celebrate at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and upon the conclusion of the seven-years and will join at the time of the Second Coming of Christ when He sets His foot on the Mount of Olives.

*“Let us rejoice and be glad and give glory to Him, for the Marriage of the Lamb has come and **His bride has made herself ready** . . . And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. And He said to me, ‘Write, blessed are those who are invited to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb,’ and He said to me, ‘These are true words of God.’”
Revelation 19:6-8*

The Wedding Garment of Purity

“And His bride has made herself ready.”

This is a very important point to highlight! It is clearly the responsibility of the bride to make herself ready. For it is the responsibility of the born again believer to do everything possible to spiritually ready oneself for the return of Christ.

It is our responsibility, as the bride of Christ, to be fully surrendered in all areas of our life. I cannot emphasize enough... We must yield everything to Him! We must be 100% surrendered! Not even a hint of compromise, or improper thought! No areas of unresolved conflict, offense, unforgiveness, or the like! Nothing should corrupt our born again spirit! We should be pure, a chaste virgin unto Christ.

Jesus tells of another parable about a king who puts on a wedding banquet for his son.

As the father looks at the invited guests and he sees a man without a proper wedding garment and he says to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a proper wedding garment?” Sound familiar? Do you have eyes to see?

The church has been invited to the wedding banquet, but it is her responsibility to make herself ready as, the bride of Christ, with the proper wedding garment (purity), for she knows not when her groom will call for her.

*“And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king (God the Father) who gave a wedding feast for his son (Jesus the bridegroom), and sent his servants to call those who were invited (the church) to the wedding feast (rapture), but they would not come (unprepared/lukewarm). Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited (the church), See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, (any other interests) while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them (slander/scoff). The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city (tribulation judgment). Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast (rapture) is ready, but those invited were **not worthy**. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ‘But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment (representing spiritual purity). And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ **For many are called, but few are chosen.**” Matthew 22:1-14 ESV*

Jesus says to us:

There will be and are two groups of Christians at the time of the rapture/wedding banquet.

Notice that both groups are called by invitation to the wedding banquet. One group is chosen to attend, while a second group is not originally chosen to attend.

Why is this the case?

Because Jesus is giving us a clear indication that there is a high standard, a prerequisite or qualification that is required in the bridal selection process handled by His father, the king.

The king is Father God, who will choose or select a bride worthy of his Son, the bridegroom.

The key here is a “worthy” bride is selected for the bridegroom.

The Invited Wedding Guests Not Chosen

- The invited guests (not chosen) approached the banquet doors but they are shut and the invitation originally given is rejected, because they were not found worthy of entry into the wedding banquet (they were distracted with other priorities).
- They did not have a wedding garment which represents spiritual purity.
- The lukewarm bride will not be chosen to enter the wedding banquet/rapture event and will be left behind to face the great tribulation.

The Invited Wedding Guests Chosen

- The invited guests chosen approached the banquet doors as they were open, and the invitation is accepted.
- They were chosen because they accepted the invitation and had a wedding garment of spiritual purity.
- The purified bride will be chosen to enter the wedding banquet rapture event.

The wedding invitation is issued to those that obtain spiritual unification with the Holy Spirit, where the two become one in spirit. Again I urge you prior to the wedding event and rapture, the bride must be spiritually prepared in order to attend the wedding and become united as one with the bridegroom *“for many are called but few are chosen”* Mathew 22:14.

“For many are called, but few are chosen.” (KJV) Mathew 22:14

“For many are invited, but few are chosen.” (NIV) Mathew 22:14

“That's what I mean when I say, 'Many get invited; only a few make it.'”(TMB) Mt.22:14

Many in the church today have been invited to the wedding banquet of the Messiah; however, they have not valued their invitation. Their seat is open because they are asleep, focusing on other things they have viewed as more important and unaware of their need to repent and establish an intimate relationship with Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because of this, others will be chosen to fill their open seat at the wedding banquet that will soon be upon us. We must make every effort to be counted worthy!

Spiritual Purity is a Requirement Not a Recommendation

Again, spiritual preparation is the exclusive responsibility of the bride to get her arrangements in order prior to the bridegroom's arrival.

Let me say again, the bride **must detach** from prioritizing all other forms of affection, desire or interests above Jesus. She must prepare herself to spend the rest of her life with the love of her life. Everything and everyone must now take a second position and this new relationship must take first position above all else.

Why is this the case? Because Jesus, here in this parable, is giving us another clear indication that there is a high standard, prerequisite or qualification that is required in the bridal selection process handled by His father the king. The king, God the Father, will choose or select only a worthy bride for his Son the bridegroom. We must choose to be a worthy bride for our bridegroom, holy and acceptable!

Soon the trumpet will sound, and a shout will be heard, "The bridegroom is coming! The bridegroom is coming!" and the King, the Messiah, our Bridegroom will appear in the air, and we shall be changed, transformed, glorified and eternally made new. For me there is nothing more valuable than this, do you sense the urgency?

"The Spirit and the bride (purified church) say, 'Come!' And let the one who hears say, 'Come!' Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life . . . Come Lord Yeshua come!" Revelation 22:17

Lastly, we will most certainly witness the final events of the last day in prophetic succession. Imminent Prophetic Events of Our Day in Succession:

The Great Catching Away Rapture – *His Bride is Removed (Feast of Trumpets)*

The Great Tribulation Judgement – *World judgement on earth lasting seven-years*

The Second Coming of Messiah – *Jesus sets foot in Jerusalem (Day of Atonement)*

The New Kingdom of Messiah – *an everlasting Kingdom (Feast of Tabernacles)*

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

4

Make Jesus Your First Love

"But I have this against you, that you have abandoned your first love". Revelation 2:4

The spiritual condition of the heart of the 'last day church' is pictured in the church of Ephesus as it was found to have declined in passion and devotion to Christ.

Despite past spiritual characteristics and qualities that were admired, they had become complacent and lukewarm in their initial genuine love for Jesus.

This is largely the condition of the hearts in the 'last day church' of today.

Because of this spiritual decline in love, the lukewarm followers of Christ will need to heed this warning to repent and return to their first love by making Jesus the number one priority of our life.

When Our First Love is Abandoned

- Jesus finds fault with our diminished love for Him.
- Jesus calls us to return to Him with true repentance, forsaking all else and making Him our top priority.
- Jesus will judge our lack of love for Him by removing our lampstand (our place in His presence) if we do not repent.
- Jesus will not be able to take the lukewarm bride to the wedding banquet (rapture). He will only take the purified bride.
- Jesus calls us to be His "first love," as He is the bridegroom who comes for a radiant chaste virgin bride who has made herself ready *"without spot of wrinkle or any such thing (without sin, sin practice or even a hint)."* Ephesians 5:27

Seeking a Personal and Intimate Relationship with Jesus

He is wanting us to spend more time with Him. It may be that you will need to schedule specific and prioritized time to get away for 10-15-30-45 minutes to seek Him with all your heart. Remove all distractions, turn off your devices and pledge uninterrupted time to Him.

Spending quality time in intimacy with Jesus is when we abandon all. All the cares of this world are set aside; we don't ask Him for needs or wants. We simply seek to know Him personally as we worship Him for being our Lord, our personal Savior and our soon coming King.

I encourage you to speak from your heart and pledge your love to Him and Him alone. We are to lay everything at the foot of the cross. Every concern, offence, fear, anxiety, disappointment, as well as achievements.

Our only desire is to know Him, and more importantly for Him to know us.

- Be honest with Him
- Be vulnerable with Him
- Be broken and contrite (yielded and surrendered)
- Be eager to repent for all wrongdoing and past disobedience
- Be consecrated and set apart unto Him & Him alone
- Be diligent in prayer & spiritual intimacy
- Be faithful in true obedience to the Holy Spirit
- Be willing to give everything, and then give everything
- Be the bride of Christ who places Jesus as first love
- Pray that you spiritually discern the season of His coming
- Pray that you are spiritually prepared as the chosen bride of God's only Son

Personal Payer and Daily Devotion

Prayer is the form of communication that God created for us to spend time with Him. In fact, we cannot have a deep personal relationship with Jesus without meaningful concentrated time in prayer. As sons and daughters of God the Father, the Holy Spirit bears witness in our spirit and draws us to Him.

"Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Galations 4:6

Set Aside Time with Jesus

- Focus your attention on intimacy with Jesus
- Make room for Him as your top priority
- Reposition everything in your life and prioritize your bridegroom

- Identify distractions and eliminate them
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you prioritize your time

As we endeavor to make Jesus our first love we also need to self-evaluate our spiritual condition each day during our prayer and intimacy time.

Self-Evaluate Your Spiritual Condition

Daily monitor your own spiritual condition through the leading of the Holy Spirit and by identifying and closing all access points to satan. Ask for forgiveness, repent, die to the carnal flesh, be holy, be a living sacrifice.

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.” Psalms 66:18

For many years I have trained intercessors and people called into prayer ministry to approach people in need, as an agent of the Holy Spirit, with the exclusive opportunity to bring them to a place of right standing with God before praying for their specific needs.

The primary way we do this is by asking them a diagnostic question.

We assure the person that is asking for prayer, that we will indeed pray for them. However, please allow us to ask this question.

Question: *“On a scale of 1-10, (10) being total surrendered to Christ, where are you?”*

Answer: Many times, they will answer, *“I’m about a, 7-8, or 9, or 5, and so on.”*

We then thank them for being honest and acknowledge that they have things they need to get right before God to be totally surrendered to Him.

We then ask them if they are willing to confess these things to God, repent, forgive others and so on. We finish this prayer by empowering them with the Holy Spirit and then, we pray with them for the needs they originally came for.

This illustration leads me to the importance of the need to self-evaluate our own personal spiritual condition daily.

Self-Evaluation of our spiritual condition is a daily responsibility of the bride of Christ.

King David prayed... "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

It is our personal responsibility to be totally surrendered to God every single day.

It is our ongoing responsibility to self-evaluate our spiritual walk.

Every day it is of paramount importance that we need to get away with just us and Jesus and ask the Holy Spirit to search our heart and identify any iniquity, wrong motives, thoughts, actions or disobedience on all and any level.

As you pray, cry out to the Lord from heart of surrender and repentance. Lay everything down. Seek Him with your whole being and I promise you that you will find Him.

Cry out to God and ask, "Father, Is there any wicked way in me?"

Just as it is our personal responsibility to personally evaluate the spiritual condition of our heart before God, it is the responsibility of the Holy Spirit to show us areas of the heart that we may need to fully surrender over to Him.

As we walk in obedience to the leading and conviction of the Holy Spirit, maintaining a heart of repentance before God, He will in no way reject this type of heart posture.

As we see in scripture King David prayed,

"A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." Psalm 51:17

A sincere heart of repentance that is fully surrendered and yielded to God is received by God, for He will in no way despise this type of prayer.

As we monitor our own spiritual condition through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we in fact position ourselves to be the beneficiary of spiritual protection, blessing and most importantly, spiritual purity.

Close All Open Doors to the Enemy

Closing all access points and open doors to satan is our personal responsibility. We must be the door keeper of our heart and mind.

Any area of compromise is an access point. Access points are areas such as compromise and disobedience to the Holy Spirit, sin, sin practice, any form of participation or association to sin. Lukewarmness can be an access point the devil can exploit. Being religious but not maintaining a Spirit led lifestyle can wreck your unity with the Holy Spirit and cause an open-door policy with the enemy.

God is faithful to forgive when we ask for forgiveness and renounce all participation or association to areas of compromise.

Our goal is to be in a spiritual position to pray with power and authority. However, if we allow sin or compromise, we negate our position of spiritual power and authority in Christ.

"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16

The scripture says, the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective, not the prayer of the unrighteous.

"Without holiness no one will see God." Hebrews 12:14

It is important to remain in constant connection to the Holy Spirit, anticipating your spiritually transformation, a living sacrifice, there is no time to play around, or waste time! The trumpet is about to sound, the invitation to the wedding banquet has been sent out, the door to the wedding banquet will soon be closed, prepare now to meet your bridegroom.

“Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.”
Daniel 12:10

Choosing Jesus as Our Highest Priority

- Repent and put away sin.
- Return to your first love.
- Do not sin against your body for it is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Put away sexual compromise or sexual sin of any kind, not even a hint.
- Put away alcohol, drugs, addictions of any kind.
- Speak a language that edifies and does not tear down.
- Repent and be holy as God is holy.
- No one will see God, unless they are holy.
- Die to the carnal flesh.
- Be a living sacrifice.
- Be baptized in water.
- Be baptized with the infilling of the Holy Spirit.
- Spend time with the Holy Spirit, maintain intimacy, now before it's too late.
- Spiritually evaluate your own spiritual condition through the leading of the Holy Spirit unto sanctification, consecration and spiritual purification.
- Jesus comes first.
- Do not focus on this world, or prioritize activities, worldly possessions, accomplishments, financial gain, career or people.
- His coming must occupy our mind from now on.
- Nothing else matters now, there is no time for anything else.
- The only time left is for preparation only.
- Make use of the time you have left.
- Focus your attention on intimacy with Jesus.
- Make room for Him as your top priority.
- Reposition everything in your life and prioritize your bridegroom.
- Identify distractions and eliminate them.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you prioritize your time.
- Spiritually prepare for the Wedding banquet invitations have been sent out but not everyone invited is prepared for the event (many are called but few are chosen), do not be too comfortable or caught up in this world or what it offers.

- Prepare a pure white wedding garment without spot or wrinkle, sin or imperfections of any kind.
- Realize that there is nothing this world can offer.
- Look up to heaven for He is returning to take his prepared bride home.
- Express to Jesus, your love, affection, adoration, anticipation, and excitement.
- Anticipation for His return.
- Proclaim His soon arrival.

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

5

Detach from this World

Our Detachment – Detaching from the things of this world – Being a lover of God, rather than lover of the things of this world. Avoid Distraction and Prioritize Jesus.

“Then I heard a voice from heaven say: ‘Come out of her (world) my people so that you won’t share in her sins, so that you will not share in any of her plagues’”.
Revelation 18:4

This is God’s instruction of protection for His bride to escape judgement. We are to come out of the world’s temporal pleasures, areas of unrighteous practices and compromise. We are to replace this world’s societal norms with a mindset of eternity.

Detachment may look different to each person for the fact that each of us have our own personal preferences, interests and individual priorities. However, the Holy Spirit knows very well the areas that we have given a place of priority to in this world. It is our responsibility to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to evaluate our heart and convict us of areas that are pulling our attention away from an intimate relationship with Jesus.

For some of us, detaching from this world may mean giving up pleasures here on earth.

For some it may be a relationship, for some it may be our security. Maybe it’s the things that we have worked so hard to accomplish: a house, a career, a business, our investment accounts, possibly our retirement goals. It could even be our ministry.

Yes, even good things, our family, our children, our spouse or even our ministry can take the place of our affection for Jesus and distract us from placing Jesus as our first love and the highest priority in our heart and life.

This detachment involves resisting worldly temptations, focusing on heavenly things, and living a life that reflects the love of God above everything else.

What Detachment Looks Like

- This world is not our home, detach from it.
- Prepare to go home.
- Our new home awaits.
- No compromise, no looking back. Lot's wife looked back and died.
- No sin, no other idol, nothing valued above Jesus.
- Detach from investments, house, car, friends, and family pets.
- Nothing is as important as Jesus, our bridegroom.
- Our time here in this world is expiring; it's time to detach.
- We must be caught up and removed before the tribulation judgement begins.

We must detach from everything that occupies our heart, our affection, our interest, our purpose and our time above Jesus. There is nothing more important than an intimate personal relationship with Jesus. It should be our top priority. In comparison, nothing else matters!

"The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!" "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "No one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life." Mark 10:26-30

- Pray that the Holy Spirit shows you areas that distract from your relationship with Jesus.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit shows you areas to detach from.
- Pray that your heart is spiritually pure before God and maintain that spiritual purity as the bride of Christ.

Guard Against Falling Away

There are now and will come, spiritual leaders who are false teachers and false prophets that will deceive many, as we approach the season of Jesus coming.

“God's Spirit specifically tells us that in later days there will be men who abandon the true faith and allow themselves to be spiritually seduced by teachings of the devil, teachings given by men who are lying hypocrites, whose consciences are as dead as seared flesh.” 1 Timothy 4:1-2

Sadly, some church leaders disregard the imminent return of Jesus and are seemingly unaware of the season of Jesus' coming. This is very concerning and breaks the heart of God.

Spiritual apathy is a direct disregard of the Holy Spirit's warning to repent and prepare. Further, it is outward evidence to an inward spiritual condition of those “spiritual leaders” that are not listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

I can assure you that the Spirit of God is speaking to those who are listening.

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.” Revelation 2:11

When the Spirit of God says, “He that has an ear, let him hear.”

God is saying to us today, “I will speak to those of you that have drawn close to Me with spiritual ears of the Spirit, to hear what My Spirit (Holy Spirit) is speaking.”

Here and now as we are in this last hour before Jesus comes to take His prepared bride. The Holy Spirit is warning His people to repent and prepare for the catching away of His purified bride.

We must be willing to set time aside to seek a personal relationship with Jesus.

As we invite the Holy Spirit to spend time with us in prayer, and as we seek personal intimacy with Jesus, His Spirit begins to echo a central message to those that belong to Him on behalf of the Kingdom.

He begins to reveal His heart throughout all of heaven and earth. This is heard in our 'spirit man' and is discerned as the voice of the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit speaks utterances to our born again spirit, and says:

- *I am coming for my pure and prepared bride.*
- *Preparation (spiritual purity) is required. -Be holy as I am holy.*
- *Spend extra time (extra oil) in intimacy with me.*
- *I am coming soon!*
- *Disconnect from the things of this world and be separate and set apart unto Me.*

The Spirit of God is speaking and we must position ourselves to be hearing what the Spirit of God is saying. I cannot emphasis enough:

- Pray that you spiritually discern the voice of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that you recognize the Holy Spirit's leading and guidance towards Him.
- Pray that you obey His voice and His voice only.
- Pray that you are faithful to personal intimacy with Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

"Be dressed for service & keep your lamps burning as if you were waiting for the master to return to the wedding feast, then you will be able to open the door & let him in the moment he arrives & knocks." Luke 12:35-36

"I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown". Revelation 3:11

"Watch out, stay alert; for you do not know when the appointed time is." Mark 13:33

"The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, be earnest and disciplined in your prayers." I Peter 4:7 New Living Translation

"The end of all things is near. You must be self-controlled and alert, to be able to pray." I Peter 4:7 Good News Translation

“Be always on the watch (stay spiritually awake) and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.” Luke 21:36

Our eyes must be open to see that we are at the last moments on God’s prophetic timeline.

After spending time to reflect on what the Spirit of God is saying to you to detach from, we will then discuss the season of Jesus’ return in the next chapter.

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

6

Season of Jesus' Return

Is it possible for us to know the season of Jesus' return?

Jesus used the parable of the fig tree to illustrate how one can know when a season is near by observing the signs, such as the green leaves appearing.

Similarly, seeing various signs in the world, could indicate His return is approaching.

*²⁹ He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, **you can see for yourselves and know** that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.*

³² "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

*³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing (entertainment, pleasure, time killer, binge, escape), drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and **that day** will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth.*

*³⁶ **Be always on the watch and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.**"
Luke 21:29-36*

The fig tree is a representation of the Nation of Israel. So, as you see these things happening with the Nation of Israel, you know that the kingdom of God is near (Jesus' return is near).

Let's look at the previous verses of Luke 21:25-28, to understand what is meant by; "As you see these things happening..."

As you see these things:

Signs given prior to Jesus' coming rapture/resurrection/wedding event:

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world..."

After these signs, Jesus will come to rapture/resurrect His purified bride:

²⁶ "...for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory..."

When you see the signs of Jesus' coming, prepare to leave earth:

²⁸ "...When these signs begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Signs and Events Indicating His Coming

- The gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world, and then the end will come. (the end is the Second Coming of Christ, after the tribulation)
- Jesus foretold times of trouble, war, rumors of war, shaking on the earth, as well as increased earthquakes and natural disasters.
- A rise in false teachers, deception and a great falling away (lukewarm Christians) is also mentioned as a sign.
- The Bible suggests a period of claiming "peace and safety" that will precede sudden destruction.

Discerning the Season of Jesus' Return

Do you spiritually discern the season of His return? Do you recognize it? It is our born again spirit that should always be in unity with the Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) to 'ever be' discerning the season and the time.

When reading the parables of Jesus, and in the book of Revelation you will see a common phrase, *"To those that have an ear let him hear what the Spirit of God is saying."* or *"To those that have an ear let him hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the churches."*

The Spirit of God is speaking a mystery language to His bride; to His born again purified church. A language that is heard only when we are diligently seeking and spending personal intimate time with Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

If you have not yet acquired this type of spiritual communication from the Holy Spirit, I want to encourage you to spend time praying and inquiring of the Holy Spirit.

Ask for confirmation in your spirit. You may need to fast, but nothing less than seeking Him with all your heart to hear His voice. *“God promises to reward those who diligently seek Him,”* Hebrews 11:6.

The invitation to the Holy Spirit needs to be given by you, as you invite the Holy Spirit to indwell and occupy your heart. As I said in the previous chapter, the heart must be clean for the Holy Spirit to occupy that space.

The Spirit of God is speaking to His people in this last hour.

Just a few months ago the Holy Spirit said to me, in my spirit, three words.

“Warn My People”

This was very clear to my spirit and I knew that God was communicating to me. When I heard the words, *“Warn My People”* I knew exactly what the Holy Spirit was saying to my spirit;

“My church is in crisis, and they don’t even realize it. They go about their day dealing with the cares of the world, attending church, living life, but they are in great danger. Warn them. Tell them that they cannot enter the kingdom of God unless they are born again. Tell them to repent, to turn to me with all their heart. To surrender everything at the foot of the cross. Their spirit must be in unity with My Spirit (born again). Tell them that I’m coming for a bride without spot or wrinkle, without sin. Tell them I love them and they must WAKE UP! Warn My People before it’s too late! I am coming for a purified church. The lukewarm church needs to wake up and purify themselves. The lukewarm church will not be acceptable.” Warn them that I am coming soon.”

It was just three words that I heard in my spirit; however, because of the time that I had spent in communion with Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I fully recognized His heart and knew from those three words, exactly what He intended the words to mean.

Jesus is clearly coming for a bride “without spot or wrinkle... not even a blemish.” The standard is high. The standard is holiness. The word of God says,

“Without holiness, no one we see God.” Hebrews 12:14

He is requiring us to be presentable to Him as a pure virgin bride without sin or sin practice ...not even a hint of disobedience of any kind.

We must be children of the day and not of darkness so that Jesus’ coming should not surprise us like a thief, and we do not find ourselves in the time of immediate destruction.

*“Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² **For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.** ³ While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ **But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.** ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. **We are not of the night or of the darkness.** ⁶ **So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.** ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ **For God has not destined us for wrath** (the great tribulation judgement), **but to obtain salvation** (eternal deliverance) **through our Lord Jesus Christ,** ¹⁰ **who died for us so that whether we are awake** (spiritually alive and fully prepared for His return) **or asleep** (those that have died in Christ) **we might live with him.** ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” I Thessalonians 5:1-10*

We are to not be caught unaware of Jesus return but rather, should have a confirmation in our spirit in the knowledge of the season of His return.

Sudden destruction will follow the rapture/resurrection event. This should be a motivating factor for us to do everything in our power to adequately prepare ourselves to be able to escape the wrath (tribulation judgement) that follows as previously noted.

***“For God has not destined us for wrath (the great tribulation judgement),”
1 Thessalonians 5:9***

God loves the world and does not want to bring judgement; however, He is holy and just and a just God must bring judgment at it's appointed time. We are entering the appointed time of world judgement.

We must be in a continual place of repentance and self-evaluation making certain that we are in complete unity with the Holy Spirit that dwells inside of us.

Warning of World Judgement

We see throughout biblical history, that before God brought judgment on the people of this earth, because of the severity of their sin, He first warned His people, specifically, through His servants the prophets.

- God revealed His plan and warned Noah, (providing deliverance) before the destruction by flood. God removed the righteous.
- God revealed His plan and warned Abraham, (providing deliverance) before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. God removed the righteous.
- God revealed His plan and instructed Jonah to issue a warning to the people of Nineveh to repent (providing deliverance) or God would bring complete destruction upon Nineveh. The entire city repented (delivered), and God did not destroy the city of Nineveh.

“If he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)-- if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue Godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment.” 2 Peter 2:5-9

The bride of Christ will be delivered from the hour of trial that will come upon the whole earth. Just as God delivered the righteous prior to the appointed destruction, so also God will deliver the righteous prior to the great tribulation.

For God does nothing without revealing His plans to his servants the prophets.

“When a trumpet sounds in a city, do not the people tremble? When disaster comes to a city, has not the Lord caused it? Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.” Amos 3:6-7

We are in the time of the final warning and final revealing.

However, it must be said that this “great tribulation” destruction that immediately follows the rapture deliverance will be magnitudes greater than anything the earth has ever witnessed. After the rapture deliverance the world will become unrecognizable.

When it is said that sudden destruction, comes upon the earth, this is destruction that we have little vocabulary for. The devastation will be horrific!

“A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.” Zephaniah 1:15-16

Additional names associated with the “great tribulation”:

- *The day of the Lord*
- *The great and dreadful day of the Lord*
- *The time of Jacob’s (Israel’s) trouble*
- *Tribulation in the latter days*
- *The time of distress*
- *Day of wrath*
- *The days of awe*
- *The day of wrath*
- *A day of visitation*

- *That day*
- *The great day of God Almighty*
- *Wail, for the day of the Lord is near!*

The Old Testament passages dealing with the day of the Lord often convey a sense of imminence, nearness, expectation and a day of judgement destruction:

“Wail, for the day of the Lord is near!” Isaiah 13:6

“For the day is near, even the day of the Lord is near.” Ezekiel 30:3

“Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming. It is close at hand.” Joel 2:1

“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.” Joel 3:14

“Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near.” Zephaniah 1:7

The New Testament calls it *a day of “wrath,” a day of “visitation,” and the “great day of God Almighty”* (Revelation 16:14) and refers to a still future fulfillment when God’s wrath is poured out on unbelieving Israel (Isaiah 22; Jeremiah 30:1-17; Joel 1-2; Amos 5; Zephaniah 1) and on the unbelieving world (Ezekiel 38–39; Zechariah 14).

The Scriptures indicate that *“the day of the Lord”* will come quickly, like a thief in the night (Zephaniah 1:14-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:2) and; therefore, born again Christians must be watchful and spiritually ready for the coming of Christ at any moment.

The tribulation will be marked by various divine judgments, celestial disturbances, natural disasters, and terrible plagues (Revelation 6:16). In His mercy, God sets a limit on the duration of the tribulation.

The “great tribulation” will last a total of seven-years. It will be perilous times.

- There will be world shortage of food, starvation
- Worldwide famine and pestilence
- Natural disasters, catastrophic occurrences, earthquakes, scorching heat, etc.
- Nuclear war, nations destroyed, uninhabitable regions
- One-third of the earth destroyed by fire from the sky

- Meteor to earth destruction
- There will be little to no water
- Worldwide religious war against followers of Jesus
- World control over all financial and social services without mark
- Universal identification mark of the beast system control
- Mandatory brain-computer-interface mark system for all people worldwide
- No one will buy or sell without this mark system, (Revelation 13:16-17)
- Demonic entities released upon earth
- If a person takes the mark they will be tormented with fire for eternity, (Revelation 14:9-11)
- Death for one's faith in Jesus will be the only way to opt out of this worldwide control (martyred saint) during the tribulation, (Revelation 20:4)

“And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” Revelation 20:4

*As Jesus said, “**Those will be days of distress unequalled from the beginning, when God created the world, until now—and never to be equaled again. If the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would survive.**” Mark 13:19–20*

According to the book of Revelation, one-third of the earth will be burned in the “great tribulation” (Revelation 8:7), hail and fire mixed with blood are cast upon the earth, burning up a third of the trees and all the green grass.

Other judgments include a third of the sea becoming blood, a third of creatures in the sea dying, a third of the ships being destroyed, and a third of the fresh water sources being corrupted.

“...and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.” Revelation 8:7

The Wise Servant and the Wicked Servant

It is important to understand that this parable Jesus is giving us, highlights the fact that there are two distinct descriptions given as a comparison to the wise servant and the wicked servant.

Both are considered by Jesus, to be servants that professed to be followers of Christ.

*“As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. “Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. “Who then is the faithful and **wise servant**, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But suppose that **servant is wicked** and says to himself, ‘My master is staying away a long time,’ and he then begins to beat (cause injury by neglecting his spiritual duties) his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. **The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of.** He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 24:37-51*

When Jesus returns for His purified bride it will be an ordinary day to the world, for the world will not recognize the time or season of Jesus’ return. *“Just as it was in the days of Noah.”*

However, we should not be caught unaware of the pending destruction that is coming *“the flood”* but should be fully aware of our deliverance *“the ark”* which is the representation of our rapture deliverance designed exclusively for His bride.

The Wise Servant (Spiritual Leader)

In this parable, Jesus speaks of the servants that have been given leadership position over God's people. Today it would be the pastors, evangelists, church leaders, those placed over the people as their spiritual leaders.

We see that Jesus is communicating to us that there are two groups of these spiritual leaders *"whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time."*

The wise servant is a spiritual leader that provide spiritual food to God's people. As well, *"It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions."*

So we see that the wise servant, as spiritual leader, must keep watch, be spiritually prepared and lead the household of God this same direction, because it will be good, *"for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns."*

"But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, 'My master is staying away a long time,' and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The Wicked Servant (Spiritual Leader)

Today in our churches many of the spiritual leaders are perfectly fine with building programs, church growth programs and message series. However, why is there such a silence placed on the soon coming wedding of the Messiah/rapture event?

Why are too many church leaders avoiding this imminent "deliverance message" to the people?

Why are spiritual leaders not hearing the Spirit of God warning them to fall on their face before Him before it's too late? Because it is spiritual!

Unfortunately, it's because they are not hearing from the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, *"My sheep know My voice."*

The voice of the Holy Spirit is speaking, but many are not positioning themselves to be in a place of intimacy with Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit to hear His voice. Many have shut out the Holy Spirit and replaced the presence of God with the presence of identification, personal branding and relevance.

This is the sad condition of many church leaders in the last day who neglect their spiritual duties to warn God's people about the deliverance prior to the destruction.

Church leaders should fall on their face and repent. They should cry out to God with every ounce of their being. Church leaders must be willing to purge themselves from all worldly influence and the contamination of a lukewarm heart.

Relevance has somehow replaced repentance.

How have we allowed our church leaders to become "so relevant" that the church looks no different than a motivational speaking event, while the person searching for Jesus, sees the church as being "so irrelevant?"

People are Truly Desperate

People want something real, something supernatural, something they can believe in. They want to believe in a God that is far greater than the church of today, represents.

People need Jesus in all His power; for nothing else will satisfy!

The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The wicked servant will not expect Jesus' return. The spiritual leaders that are not watching and waiting for the bridegroom will not be the bride of the bridegroom.

Which servant will you be?

Please spiritually prepare as your life depends on it!

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

7

Last Trumpet

The rapture resurrection is an important event in the redemptive plan of God. It is shrouded in mystery.

Many believers are curious about the coming of our Lord Jesus to “catch up” or “snatch away” the faithful born again believers to the clouds and then take them to heaven. That is the meaning of the “rapture.” It is a resurrection, deliverance and wedding event for the bride of Christ.

*“I tell you this brother’s and sister’s, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, **Oh, I tell you a mystery.** We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.”*

1 Corinthians 15:50-53

You cannot find the actual word “rapture” in the Bible, just as you cannot find the word “trinity” in the Bible, it’s a descriptive term of meaning.

The word “rapture” comes from the Latin word *rapio* which is the Greek equivalent of *hapazo* meaning catch up or snatch or take away or to take by force.

“Then we who are alive who are left will be caught up (hapazo) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord.”

1 Thessalonians 4:17

The world will be caught by surprise when millions of born again Christians suddenly vanish without a trace at the same time all over the world.

However, true born again Christians should not be surprised by the rapture. This event should not bring trepidation or anxiety of any kind. This is the blessed hope that we are anticipating.

"When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28

The dead in Christ will be resurrected and believers who are alive will be clothed with a new and imperishable body and taken up to be with Jesus.

When will the rapture occur?

Many believers are curious to know the timing of the rapture. But Jesus says specifically,

"But concerning that day and hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but Only the Heavenly Father." Matthew 24:36

However, the apostle Paul says something that appears to be contrary but it's not.

*"Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, **for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.** While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. **But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.** You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. **So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.**" I Thessalonians 5:1-6*

In other words, as previously mentioned, per the Apostle Paul, born again Christians ought to have a sense of when the rapture will occur.

There is no contradiction to what Jesus and Paul say.

Essentially, while we do not know the actual day and hour of the rapture, we ought to have a general sense of the time. We do not know the exact moment, but we should know the season of its occurrence.

When Jesus was teaching on the Mount of Olives about the prophesied destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and events related to his second coming, Jesus revealed when the general season of the rapture will occur.

In the middle of His prophetic discourse, Jesus talked about the rapture, labeling it as “*that day and hour no one knows.*” Then he went on to say,

Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. Matthew 24:40-42

Jesus was talking about the rapture. There is no doubt about it. Just before saying all this, as we have outlined previously, Jesus told his disciples to learn the lesson of the fig tree.

*“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, **this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.** Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” Matthew 24:32-35*

This statement serves as the context for his teaching about the rapture and the events of the tribulation which he taught earlier. The fig tree is a symbol of the nation of Israel.

Jesus statement about the fig tree “*putting out its leaves*” is a prophetic imagery of the regathering of the Jews to the promised land and the rebirth of the nation of Israel. According to Jesus, when these things happen, we will be in the season of His return.

This prophecy has already been fulfilled.

Israel became a sovereign nation on the 14th of May, 1948. Jews from all over the world had been flocking back to the promised land from the turn of the 20th century to the present time. The precondition for the rapture to happen was met in 1948. We are in the generation of this Biblically historic event.

Essentially, we are in the dispensation window of time when Jesus can return to rapture his church. It can happen without any further signs or warnings.

In 1 Corinthians 15:50-53, Paul says specifically that the rapture will take place *“in a moment in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet.”*

At the last trumpet is an important clue to the timing of the rapture.

*“I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.” 1 Corinthians 15:50-53*

Few people take notice. Even fewer people understand the meaning of this hugely significant phrase.

Most people are aware that God will unleash three series of judgments on the world during the seven-year tribulation. These are the sealed judgments, trumpet judgments, and bowl judgments.

This is not to be confused with the last trumpet reference.

Many prophecy scholars and expositors believe that the last trumpet refers to the last of seven trumpets in the second series of judgments. Those who take this position will naturally conclude that the rapture will occur somewhere in the second half of the 7-year tribulation. This is a misinterpretation.

They take this position because the opening of the fifth seal is the midpoint of the tribulation. It follows that the judgment of the sixth seal onward to the trumpet and bowl series of judgments will take place during the second half of the tribulation.

This position that the last trumpet is the seventh trumpet blast during the tribulation sounds logical, but it is fundamentally flawed. Jews living in the first century would have not come to this conclusion. They knew exactly what was meant by ‘the last trumpet.’

So what is the last trumpet?

The last trumpet is the last of the 100th trumpet blasts that are sounded during the celebration of the Feast of Trumpets. We will examine this in more detail later in this chapter

Let me explain.

In the Old Testament of Leviticus chapter 23, God commanded the Israelites to celebrate seven Feasts annually as a remembrance to commemorate God's supernatural deliverance for generations to celebrate them as festivals to the Lord (Exodus 12:14). Besides having historical significance, these biblical feasts/appointed feast days also carry prophetic significance concerning God's redemptive plan.

Four of the seven Feasts are celebrated in the spring season while the remaining three Feasts are celebrated as the fall Feasts. Because of time, I will focus primarily on the prophetic significance. For further study, please see Leviticus chapter 23.

Let's look at the prophetic significance of each of the Spring Feasts.

Feast of Passover

The Passover feast is a prophetic imagery of Christ as the Passover lamb that was used as an image of atoning for sin. Jesus fulfilled the meaning of the Feast by his crucifixion and death on the cross on the day of Passover. Jesus paid the sin debt we owe and became the lamb sacrifice.

Feast of Unleavened Bread

Jesus also fulfilled the prophetic significance of the second Feast, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread. In his burial, Jesus had lived a sinless life, and he was also buried sinless wrapped in grave clothes. Jesus was the unleavened bread without sin and broken for us.

Feast of First Fruits

Three days after his death and burial, Jesus rose from the dead fulfilling the Feast of the First Fruits. In the words of the apostle Paul, Jesus is the first fruits of resurrection. It means that born again believers will also be resurrected when Jesus returns to take His bride at the time of the rapture for we are the second fruits of resurrection.

Feast of Pentecost

The Feast of Pentecost was fulfilled 50 days after the Passover when God sent forth his Holy Spirit as a gift to the church. The Holy Spirit is our promise of what is to come (John 14:15-17).

“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate (Holy Spirit) to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.” John 14:15-17

The prophetic significance of these first four Feasts was fulfilled by “Jesus” at His first coming “on the anniversary dates” of God’s Appointed Feast Days.

We should not be surprised because these biblical Feasts are God's Appointed Times.

The word Feast means in the original Hebrew, *“the appointed meeting”* and *“appointed time”* or *Moedim* *“God’s appointed times.”*

It is important to understand that these Feasts are God's Appointed Times for the fulfillment of significant God ordained redemptive events.

In the same way that the Spring Feasts were fulfilled in Christ's first coming, the remaining three Fall Feasts will also be fulfilled accordingly in Christ's Second Coming and apply to us today.

So, what is the prophetic significance of each of the Fall Feasts?

Feast of Trumpets

The Feast of Trumpets is a prophetic event that points to the rapture of the saints when the trumpet sounds and the dead in Christ rise, and together we meet the Lord in the air. (This Feast will be covered in detail later in this chapter).

Day of Atonement

The Day of Atonement prophetically points to the glorious Second Coming event of Christ appearing with his heavenly host to defeat satan and the antichrist.

Feast of Tabernacles

Finally, the Feast of Tabernacles is a prophetic imagery of God coming to tabernacle or dwell with his people. It marks the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom when Jesus will rule over the nations of the world.

The Feast of Trumpets is also known by many different names.

The Hebrew name is *Yom Teruah*, which means a “*Day of Blowing Trumpets*” or “*Day of Sounding*” or “*Day of Shofar Blasts*” and Rosh Hashanah is the modern day Jewish new year.

There are several relatively obscure names for Feast of Trumpets or *Yom Teruah* which are prophetically significant in its importance.

One of these Hebrew names is *Yom Ha'Keseh* or “*the Hidden Day*” or “*the Day of Hiding*” or “*The Day of Concealment.*” (Psalm 81:3) “*Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the concealed time, on our feast day.*”

“*The hidden day*” is a mystery revelation being unveiled in the very last day and hour just before the bridegroom returns for His bride.

The ancient Jews refer to this festival as “*the feast that no one knows the day or hour*” because its exact start date, based on the sighting of the new moon and was not fixed until the sighting occurred, unlike other festivals with a predetermined date.

Scholars interpret the shofar blasts of *Yom Teruah* and *Yom Ha'Keseh*, as an idiom of Feast of Trumpets, and about that day “*no one knows the day or hour,*” referencing this feast.

Does it sound familiar? Jesus referred to it.

“But concerning the day and hour, no one knows.” Matthew 24:36

When Jesus mentioned this idiom, the Jews in his time immediately understood that he was talking about the Feast of Trumpets. As we have observed earlier, Jesus linked this Feast to the rapture resurrection.

“Then two men will be in a field. One will be taken and one left. Two woman will be grinding at a meal. One will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” Matthew 24:40

Why is the Feast of Trumpets known as,

- *“the hidden day” and*
- *“the day that no man knows” and a Feast that,*
- *“no one knows the day or hour?”*

That is because the feast is celebrated on the new moon. This is the first day of the seventh month Tishri on the Hebrew calendar.

The Feast cannot begin until the thin sliver of the new month is cited. Sometimes the new moon might be hidden from view by the clouds or due to bad weather. So, the Feast could not begin under such circumstances. Truly it is only God who knows the day and time the two-day festival will begin.

The celebration will begin on the following day when the new moon is cited. The Feast is celebrated over two days on the first and second day of Tishri.

Though we can know the Feast Season, no one can be sure when exactly the Feast of Trumpets will be celebrated. Truly it is only God who knows the day and time the two-day festival will begin.

It is the same with the rapture resurrection. We know the Feast Season, but we cannot be certain of the exact day and hour.

The Feast of Trumpets is also known as *“the day of the awakening blast.”* The awakening blast refers to the trumpet blast that awakens the dead.

Ancient Jewish tradition held that the resurrection of the dead would take place on the day of the Feast of Trumpets.

The blowing of the shofar or the ram's horn is to proclaim the resurrection of the dead.

During the Feast of Trumpets, there will be four different types of trumpet blasts.

Tekiah – Shofar Blast

The first type of shofar blast is the *Tekiah*. It is one long blast. The purpose is to awaken the people.

Shevarim – Shofar Blast

The second type of shofar blast is the *Shivarim* which consists of three short blast. It is a call for repentance.

Teruah – Shofar Blast

The third type of shofar blast is a *Teruah*. It consists of nine or more rapid-fire, staccato notes. It is often described as an alarm clock, serving as a wakeup call to repentance.

In Jewish tradition, the blast of the shofar, an ancient musical instrument made from a ram's horn, serves as a powerful symbol of awakening. The symbolism of the shofar, particularly its sounds, represents a call to repentance and to spiritually awake from slumber.

The shofar holds prophetic significance, heralding a future redemption, the ingathering of God's people, and the announcing of the coming Messiah (rapture).

It's a central element of the Feast of Trumpets, where its various shofar blasts - *Tekiah*, *Shevarim*, and *Teruah* - carry symbolic meaning linked to spiritual transformation and *teshuvah*, or repentance in Hebrew.

The sound of the shofar is considered, as previously mentioned, a "spiritual alarm clock" that urges people to examine their deeds, repent and reconnect with God on a deep level of spiritual devotion.

These three types of blast are combined together and sounded three times making a total of nine blasts. This series of nine blasts is repeated 11 times during the day making it a total of 99 trumpet blast. Then comes the final trumpet blast.

Tekiah Gedolah – Shofar Blast

The 100th and final trumpet blast is known as the *Tekiah Gedolah*.

“Gedolah, meaning “great,” “large,” or “important.” It can be used to describe something or someone as big, significant, or of high status. The long final blast of the Tekiah Gedolah, is God’s pure call to us to examine our ways, and to return to God. It’s also a cry that rises from deep within us, expressing the pain of separation and deep longing to return to our rightful place in the presence of God.”

“Happy is the one who knows the shofar’s cry.” Psalms 89:16

The *Tekiah Gedolah*, lasts for as long as the person blowing the trumpet can hold his breath. According to the ancient Jewish tradition, this 100th blast of the trumpet is known as the last trumpet.

Apostle Paul used this term as he speaks of the rapture resurrection event when he says,

*“...The dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed at the **last trumpet**,” I Corinthians 15:52*

Paul was referring to the *Tekiah Gedolah*, (last trumpet) or the 100th and final shofar trumpet blast during the Feast of Trumpets.

In other words, the rapture of the bride of Christ will occur at the last trumpet, at the blowing of the final *Tekiah Gedolah*.

Does it mean that we'll be raptured on the day of the Feast of Trumpets?

The pattern of God speaks for itself: Repent, don’t risk it. Spiritually prepare like your life depends on it!

Just as the first four Spring Feasts were fulfilled on their exact anniversary dates, and prophetically fulfilled on “*God’s appointed feast days*,” there is no reason to doubt that the remaining three Fall Feasts will also be fulfilled on their exact anniversary dates for these are “*God’s appointed and prophetic feast days*”.

For an example, the Fall Feast prophetic events were fulfilled on the exact day of the Feast, demonstrating God's appointed times:

- Jesus' **crucifixion** was on the exact day of the **Feast of Passover**.
- Jesus' **burial** was the exact day of the Feast of **Unleavened Bread**.
- Jesus' **resurrection** was on the exact day of Feast of **First Fruits**.
- Jesus' **promised gift of the comforter** (Holy Spirit) was given 50 days later as Jesus appeared to the disciples and instructed them to wait in the upper room to receive the promised gift of the comforter (Holy Spirit) which was given on the exact day of the Feast of **Pentecost**.

So again, there is no reason to doubt that the remaining three Feast Days will also be fulfilled on the exact anniversary day of "God's appointed and prophetic feast days."

But you might argue that no one knows the day or hour. In a mostly gentile context that would seem to be true and correct. Yet to the Jewish community of Jesus day, it may have meant something entirely different.

While the rapture is a prophetic fulfillment of God's Appointed Times and Feast Days, the Feast of Trumpets will occur on a day and hour we do not know during the two-day Feast of Trumpets anniversary celebration. Only God the Father determines the day and hour during the Appointed Feasts, on the Feast of Trumpets.

Finally, Jesus said, *"But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief and you will not know at what time I will come to you."*

*"Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. **But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.**" Revelation 3:2-3*

Jesus is implying here that we should not be caught off guard, but rather, we should know the Season of His return. This is important!

Just as Noah knew to prepare for deliverance prior to the coming flood destruction, and just as Abraham knew to prepare for deliverance before the day of Sodom and

Gomorrah's day of judgement, so too, we should know and discern the time of our deliverance prior to the coming great tribulation judgement destruction.

As we pray and seek God by the power of the Holy Spirit, our born again spirit will bear witness and know the season of His return. Look up, our redemption is drawing near.

Concluding Remarks

This is my plea to you. Soon the trumpet will sound, and a shout will be heard; The Bridegroom is Coming! The Bridegroom is Coming! And the King, the Messiah, our Bridegroom will appear in the air, and we shall be changed, transformed, glorified and eternally made new.

I urge you to spiritually prepare for this "once in a lifetime event" that is guaranteed, if you are fully born again. For me there is nothing more valuable than this.

It breaks my heart to think of those who will be left behind because they were too busy doing _____. You can fill in the blank.

Let's be ready! I want everyone to know how serious this season is and spiritually prepare accordingly. It's not negotiable. Jesus is coming for His purified church, the bride who has made herself ready. Again, the lukewarm bride will not be acceptable.

Which Would You Choose?

If you were given a choice of only one of the following, which one would you choose? (You can't have both)

- One Billion Dollars (guaranteed) or
- Raptured to Heaven (guaranteed)

Which would you choose? What value do you place on spending eternity with Jesus in heaven? What is it worth to you? What is more important than adverting worldwide destruction and receiving the exclusive opportunity of spending eternity with Him?

My answer is clear:

Spending eternity with Jesus is the most valuable thing I could ever acquire. In fact, its true value is beyond anyone's human comprehension!

I encourage you to humble yourself before the Lord in prayer and submit to the leading of the Holy Spirit. It is our position before God that moves the hand of God. For without faith, we cannot please God. We should purpose to surrender, yield and repent, with a heart posture of being broken and contrite (surrendered and yielded).

I encourage you to set aside everything that takes a dominant role in your life and make it subject to your relationship with Jesus. For nothing is more valuable. Jesus must be our first love and our first priority.

I encourage you to seek a deep personal relationship with the presence of the Holy Spirit that will clean you, empower you, and will confirm to you the personal spiritual relationship that you have in Christ.

Finally, I would encourage you to remember that spiritual purity is not a suggestion but is a requirement. Spiritual purity is our mandate given to us by Jesus. I pray every day that the bride of Christ would be purified and made ready by the help and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Join me as we prepare for Jesus' return.

He is returning for His purified bride. Please make yourself ready and encourage those you know and love to do the same.

*"Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb (rapture) has come, and **his bride has made herself ready.**" Revelation 19:7*

Chapter Reflection Point

List the revelation that has most impacted you:

List the changes you will make to prepare for Jesus' return:

Daily Prayer Points!

- Detach from this world and be separate, come out from among them and be holy; clean, pure, presentable, without spot or wrinkle (sin or sin practice of any kind)!
- Possess OIL intimacy through the submersion and infilling of the Holy Spirit, for the question is not, *Do I know Jesus?* But rather, *Does Jesus know me?* We must truly know Him!
- Embrace the Dispensational change coming as we (the bride) become eternally transformed into the likeness of Christ (Messiah) at the Catching Away Rapture Resurrection event!
- Prepare for the wedding banquet as a bride adorned for her groom. For it is the Father (God) who selects the bride (who is worthy) for His Son (Jesus)!
- Anticipate His return with excitement, expectancy and proclamation, warn others of the opportunity to avoid the Great Tribulation judgment!
- Self-Evaluate and monitor the spiritual condition of your heart and close all open doors (access points) to the enemy and areas of compromise to the carnal flesh!
- Continually be in a spiritual position of repentance and complete obedience to the Holy Spirit!
- Pray and intercede that the church would wake up from spiritual slumber and recognize the day in which we are living. Pray that the church would be spiritually purified and prepared for Jesus imminent return for His prepared bride!
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to those who “you can lead” in a small group study. This resource was created with that very purpose in mind.
- Keep Watch & Pray that you are found worthy to escape all that is coming upon the earth and guard your heart from deception that leads to falling away!

Allow me to pray with you!

***“Lord, I pray that the anointing of the Holy Spirit will empower _____ for kingdom purposes by the supernatural power of God, that _____ will be eternally transformed and spiritually prepared for Jesus’ soon return!
We ask this in the mighty name of Jesus’ we pray!
Amen!”***

Daily Prayer Point Notes:

Concluding Takeaway

Did this book impact you, if so, how?

List the Top 3 Takeaways that have made the greatest impact on you

1.

2.

3.

List the Top 3 Life Changes you plan to make to prepare for Jesus' return

1.

2.

3.

SPIRITUAL PURITY MANUAL 2025

Spiritual Purity Ambassador

Do you know people that could benefit from this resource? If you're a born again believer that wants to be found doing good when Jesus returns, then I would encourage you to become a Spiritual Purity Ambassador.

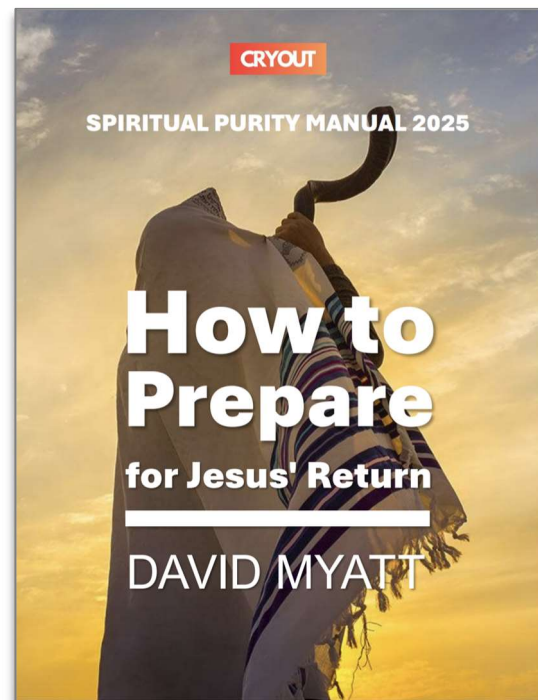
A Spiritual Purity Ambassador

Promotes spiritual purity to everyone they know by providing a FREE Ready-To-Print PDF or eBook.

Our mandate is to help you reach those you love.

We make it easy by providing a link to a FREE download. Simply send the link to your family, friends and local church to participate.

Become a Spiritual Purity Ambassador today
And start sharing the Link



www.cryout.tv/howtoprepare

Promote spiritual purity by sharing this Link for FREE
How to Prepare for Jesus' Return

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