

Luke 21:34-36 AMPC

34 But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the giddiness and headache and nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to [the business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose;

- 35 For it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth.
- 36 Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

Jesus is speaking to you and I, regarding the Time Of The End or the days prior to the rapture and the events after during the tribulation that we see forming now.

These signs are to tip us off, not to cause anxiety but to excite us, to remind us of the rapture of the church, for it is our reward for our obedience. It was through Enoch's habitual righteousness or his habit or being obediento God's commands that he was raptured in Genesis 5.

So, I want to address and come against the spirit of heaviness, oppression and hopelessness that is in the church and in God's people - and you and I are the church.

This is what the bible says in Proverbs 13... wisest man ever - Solomon

Proverbs 13:12 KJV

12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick:

What is causing you and I to feel this way, it says hope deferred. People are concerned about things that the Bible tells us must happen, but you and I will be spared from them. The current "things" from the economy, covid, one world economy, one world religion, churches going woke, not long preaching against sin but siding with the government on what to say and do. Israel is being surrounded, wickedness in high places, Christians and Jews re hated and yes, it can make the heart sick.

Ephesians 5:6-17 AMPC

6 Let no one delude and deceive you with empty excuses and groundless arguments [for these sins], for through these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of rebellion and disobedience.

- 7 So do not associate or be sharers with them.
- 8 For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of Light [lead the lives of those native-born to the Light].
- 9 For the fruit (the effect, the product) of the Light or [a]the Spirit [consists] in every form of kindly goodness, uprightness of heart, and trueness of life.
- 10 And try to learn [in your experience] what is pleasing to the Lord [let your lives be constant proofs of what is most acceptable to Him].
- 11 Take no part in and have no fellowship with the fruitless deeds and enterprises of darkness, but instead [let your lives be so in contrast as to] [b]expose and reprove and convict them.
- 12 For it is a shame even to speak of or mention the things that [such people] practice in secret.
- 13 But when anything is exposed and reproved by the light, it is made visible and clear; and where everything is visible and clear there is light.
- 14 Therefore He says, Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall shine (make day dawn) upon you and give you light.
- 15 Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people),
- 16 Making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil.
- 17 Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is.

In order to understand and firmly grasp what is the will of the Lord, we need to read His Word - Jesus is the Word - John 1:1. So, let's go through what the Bible says and see what God is doing and will do...HE is our HOPE!

The Bible tells us at the time of the end or "The End Times", we are going to come into a time called the harvest or harvest time.

Revelation 14:15 KJV

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

Sickle defined:

a short-handled farming tool with a semicircular blade, used for cutting grain, lopping, or trimming.

Revelation 14:15 AMPC

15 And another angel came out of the temple sanctuary, calling with a mighty voice to Him Who was sitting upon the cloud, Put in Your scythe and reap, for the hour has arrived to gather the harvest, for the earth's crop is fully ripened.

James tells us...

<u>James 5:7-8 KJV</u>

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

James 5:7-8 AMPC

- 7 So be patient, brethren, [as you wait] till the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land. [See how] he keeps up his patient [vigil] over it until it receives the early and late rains.
- 8 So you also must be patient. Establish your hearts [strengthen and confirm them in the final certainty], for the coming of the Lord is very near.

In studying the gospels regarding this "end time harvest" especially the parables in the book of Matthew about the harvest, we are going to study and learn about the *wheat and the tares*.

<u>Matthew 13:24-30 KJV</u>

- 24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:
- 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.
- 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.
- 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

- 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?
- 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.
- 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:24-30 AMPC

- 24 Another parable He set forth before them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.
- 25 But while he was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed also darnel (weeds resembling wheat) among the wheat, and went on his way.
- 26 So when the plants sprouted and formed grain, the darnel (weeds) appeared also.
- 27 And the servants of the owner came to him and said, Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Then how does it have darnel shoots in it?
- 28 He replied to them, An enemy has done this. The servants said to him, Then do you want us to go and weed them out?
- 29 But he said, No, lest in gathering the wild wheat (weeds resembling wheat), you root up the [true] wheat along with it.
- 30 Let them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will say to the reapers, Gather the darnel first and bind it in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my granary.

This is what is going to happen....

Hebrews 12:25-28 KJV

- 25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:
- 26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.
- 27 And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.
- 28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

This is important, God is telling you and I that there will be a shaking that is going to occur again at the time of the end on earth and also in heaven.

Is the devil doing the shaking? NO, is the world doing the shaking? **NO, it is God doing the shaking**. So, why is God going to allow there to be this heavy shaking to take place at the time of the end *especially* right before His return.

<u>Matthew 13:24-26 KJV</u>

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- 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.
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- 26 So when the plants sprouted and formed grain, the darnel (weeds) appeared also.

In this parable, you find that the good seed is the Word of God and the field represents the world. In this passage you can also say the the good seed is the church itself, we (you and I, mimickers of Christ) are the good seed in the church with the good word of God.

Notice, it said that men slept "25 But while men slept".

Why are we studying End Times prophecy? - you don't want to get caught sleeping. There are times in the past that have caused the church to be extra awake - y2k, 9/11 and middle east wars, covid, rationing of food - tp, RFID chips, but then it fades away or we go "back to sleep".

For many, if it's not a Presidential election year - we don't even watch the news or global news. But, we are commanded to know (Matthew 24:33), especially the news about Israel - that's what we are supposed to be watching.

Remember from our previous studies that in Matthew 24 the disciples asked Jesus about the signs of His return. Jesus didn't tell them "it's none of your business" or that it was not for them to know, no! He gave them a very detailed answer; He gave them and us a command

Matthew 24:33

33 so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.

The word "recognize" used in Matthew 24:33 in the original Greek is in the imperative mode (a form of a verb) which means it is a command! We are commanded by Jesus to know when His return is near.

So, what happens when you sleep in the Biblical sense...Let's learn from Sampson, when he slept.

Judges 16:19-20 KJV

19 And she **made him sleep** upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she **began to afflict him**, and his **strength went from him**.

20 And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the Lord was departed from him.

Judges 16:19-20 AMPC

19 And she made Samson sleep upon her knees, and she called a man and caused him to shave off the seven braids of his head. Then she began to torment [Samson], and his strength went from him.

20 She said, The Philistines are upon you, Samson! And he awoke out of his sleep and said, I will go out as I have time after time and shake myself free. For Samson did not know that the Lord had departed from him.

While he slept, the anointing was severed - no more power. He was left unaware. Jesus, over and over again said "watch and pray" or watch as well as pray. He says this in dealing with temptation and the rapture.

Mark 14:38 KJV

38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

<u>Mark 14:38 AMPC</u>

38 Keep awake and watch and pray [constantly], that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Luke 21:36 KJV

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Luke 21:36 AMPC

36 Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

Why does Jesus say watch? Because, He knows that there will be a tendency at the "End Times" for men to lose faith and be weary in well doing. We will get sick of listening to or reading social media and the news... People will be projecting dates and times and when it doesn't happen people will go back into their complacent state. Don't you do that!

The Bible says that while *good men slept* or while the church has been sleeping (they are the ones sewing good seed) the enemy has come in and sown a tare.

<u>Matthew 13:24-30 KJV</u>

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

What is a tare? a tare is one of four types of wheat translated in many translations as *darnel*. It grows in grain fields and grows the same height as the wheat and even looks like wheat till harvest time comes. The rabbi's called it degenerate wheat and in their writings they called it bastard or illegitimate wheat.

It changes colors near harvest time, it looks like everything else around it except when it comes to harvest time, then it begins to change it's appearance.

This is what happens: the head of it begins to turn dark and there are small seeds in the tare that end up getting a fungus in the seed that is poisonous if it gets ground up with the wheat and made into dough or made into flour. The seed from this tare causes sleepiness, convulsions, nausea and death.

In the Bible, the tare represents someone who is not real (bad fruit) not walking with Christ, someone who claims to know the Lord but, words and deeds don't line up and it also includes false teaching (half truths).

1 John 2:15-28 GNT

15 Do not love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you do not love the Father.

16 Everything that belongs to the world—what the sinful self desires, what people see and want, and everything in this world that people are so proud of—none of this comes from the Father; it all comes from the world.

17 The world and everything in it that people desire is passing away; but those who do the will of God live forever.

- 18 My children, the end is near! You were told that the Enemy of Christ would come; and now many enemies of Christ have already appeared, and so we know that the end is near.
- 19 These people really did not belong to our fellowship, and that is why they left us; if they had belonged to our fellowship, they would have stayed with us. But they left so that it might be clear that none of them really belonged to us.
- 20 But you have had the Holy Spirit poured out on you by Christ, and so all of you know the truth.
- 21 I write you, then, not because you do not know the truth; instead, it is because you do know it, and you also know that no lie ever comes from the truth.
- 22 Who, then, is the liar? It is those who say that Jesus is not the Messiah. Such people are the Enemy of Christ—they reject both the Father and the Son.
- 23 For those who reject the Son reject also the Father; those who accept the Son have the Father also.
- 24 Be sure, then, to keep in your hearts the message you heard from the beginning. If you keep that message, then you will always live in union with the Son and the Father.
- 25 And this is what Christ himself promised to give us—eternal life.
- 26 I am writing this to you about those who are trying to deceive you.
- 27 But as for you, Christ has poured out his Spirit on you. As long as his Spirit remains in you, you do not need anyone to teach you. For his Spirit teaches you about everything, and what he teaches is true, not false. Obey the Spirit's teaching, then, and remain in union with Christ.

28 Yes, my children, remain in union with him, so that when he appears we may be full of courage and need not hide in shame from him on the Day he comes.