



“DON’T FALL ASLEEP” PART 8

THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT & THE TARES

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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.

In part 7 we read in God’s Word, His command to go be a witness, we have been created for such a time as this. We weren’t created to hide, to be naive to the signs of His return but stay alert, know the signs and sound the alarm.

Our character and integrity, who we are habitually, is what develops in us when we are obedient to God's Word and what needs to be more and more like the person of Jesus Christ. In order to be that witness, to be the ones who other's can ask, what is the hope that you have in the midst of the chaos? Why aren't you freaking out?

You and I, followers of Christ need to act, speak according to God's Word. We need to be obedient to what He is telling us and His Word tells us what is coming and how to be prepared.

Remember...

Colossians 3:17 AMPC

*17 And whatever you do [no matter what it is] in word or deed, do **everything** in the name of the Lord Jesus*

John 14:15 AMPC

15 If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands.

So, who we are, people who call ourselves followers of Jesus Christ or imitators of Jesus Christ or the Word, it is important who are close associations are. The friends that we keep have a great influence on us and where we will spend eternity.

Jesus said to His disciples regarding the time of the end, "remember Lot's wife"...

Luke 17:26-36 AMPC

26 And [just] as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the time of the Son of Man.

27 [People] ate, they drank, they married, they were given in marriage, right up to the day when Noah went into the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

28 So also [it was the same] as it was in the days of Lot. [People] ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

29 But on the [very] day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed [them] all.

30 That is the way it will be on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

31 On that day let him who is on the housetop, with his belongings in the house, not come down [and go inside] to carry them away; and likewise let him who is in the field not turn back.

32 Remember Lot's wife!

33 Whoever tries to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will preserve and [a]quicken it.

34 I tell you, in that night there will be two men in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left.

35 There will be two women grinding together; one will be taken and the other will be left.

36 [Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left.

We need to be alert as Jesus said, to be on guard and take heed or examine ourselves who we are close friends are.

Why?

2 Timothy 3:1-5 AMPC

*1 But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) **perilous times** of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].*

2 For people will be lovers of self and [utterly] self-centered, lovers of money and aroused by an inordinate [greedy] desire for wealth, proud and arrogant and contemptuous boasters. They will be abusive (blasphemous, scoffing), disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy and profane.

3 [They will be] without natural [human] affection (callous and inhuman), relentless (admitting of no truce or appeasement); [they will be] slanderers (false accusers, troublemakers), intemperate and loose in morals and conduct, uncontrolled and fierce, haters of good.

4 [They will be] treacherous [betrayers], rash, [and] inflated with self-conceit. [They will be] lovers of sensual pleasures and vain amusements more than and rather than lovers of God.

5 For [although] they hold a form of piety (true religion), they deny and reject and are strangers to the power of it [their conduct belies the genuineness of their profession]. Avoid [all] such people [turn away from them].

Perilous times in the greek here is translated as: **Spiritually difficult times...** We need to be on guard, to eventuate who are friends or close associations are as the Bible commands us to do.

1 Corinthians 15:33 AMPC

33 Do not be so deceived and misled! Evil companionships (communion, associations) corrupt and deprave good manners and morals and character.

The law of association says: – if you associate too closely with a long relationship with small minded people what are you going to be thinking like? Small minded. What's another word for small minded? – **Stupid** and....

Proverbs 13:20 GNT

*20 Keep company with the wise and you will become wise. If you make **friends with stupid people**, you will be ruined.*

We finished part 7 with looking at what happened to Moses and the impact of who was surrounding him. God's people were freed from wicked Egypt, they were under captivity, told what they could and could not do but still longed for it.

They were fed by God from the sky, a fire ball guided them by night and clouds gave them cover during the day from the hot sun yet.... They still complained.

Remember, this entire time, from the miraculous plagues that set them free, the parting of the Red Sea to escape harm, free food, protection from the weather they knew they were going the the Promised Land or the Land that was Promised to them.

Moses was supposed to speak to the Rock but was so tired of all the voices and deeds around him they were continuously complaining about what they had to endure in order to get the Promise that He no longer believed that He had to be obedient to God's Word.

Numbers 20:12

*12 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, **Because ye believed me not,** believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.*

Wow – He said, “**you believed me not**”. Now this is interesting – we need to turn to **Hebrews 4:6** and find out some more information of about this.

Hebrews 4:6 KJV

*6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached **entered not in because of unbelief:***

Hebrews 4:6 AMPC

*6 Seeing then that the promise remains over [from past times] for some to enter that rest, and that those who formerly were given the good news about it and the opportunity, failed to appropriate it and **did not enter because of disobedience,***

They didn't enter in because of unbelief or as the amplified says **because of disobedience**. And here's God saying to Moses you believed me not. That sounds like unbelief to me. So notice what happened, **the unbelief of this bunch starts spreading to the leadership**.

This happened subtly, in other words, he wasn't aware this was happening to him. If this could happen to Moses...we need to stay alert and awake so it doesn't happen to us.

So, we have examples of Lot's wife and Moses but there's a very famous man in the Old Testament who we should learn from, what happened to Samson ? how did it happen to this righteous man that he lost his way.

God kept telling him no, stop what you're doing but Samson went through all the stop signs...

Hebrews 12:1 AMPC

I Therefore then, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us

Proverbs 13:20 GNT

20 *Keep company with the wise and you will become wise. If you make **friends with stupid people**, you will be ruined.*

So what was Paul's instruction to the church about how to get ready for the rapture of the church?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 AMPC

14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers [do not make mismated alliances with them or come under a different yoke with them, inconsistent with your faith]. For what partnership have right living and right standing with God with iniquity and lawlessness? Or how can light have fellowship with darkness?

15 What harmony can there be between Christ and Belial [the devil]? Or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

16 *What agreement [can there be between] a temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them and will walk in and with and among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

17 **So, come out from among [unbelievers], and separate (sever) yourselves from them**, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; **then I will receive you** kindly and treat you with favor,

18 *And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.*

He's not saying come out of your job, no, you have to be around them, he saying come out of those close relations, business partnerships, come out of that way of thinking, come out of that type of participation where you have to compromise all the time. Come out from them and be obedient to God's Word.

Now lets' go to Psalms chapter 1

Remember we are talking about the law of association...

Psalms 1:1-6 KJV

1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, (now He's saying don't get counsel from someone who doesn't know God nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Before we read this story of Samson, I want to make sure you understand what God's Word is saying about those who call themselves Christians and those who don't and how we are to interact.

1 Corinthians 5:1-13 AMPC

1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, impurity of a sort that is condemned and does not occur even among the heathen; for a man has [his own] father's wife.

2 And you are proud and arrogant! And you ought rather to mourn (bow in sorrow and in shame) until the person who has done this [shameful] thing is removed from your fellowship and your midst!

3 As for my attitude, though I am absent [from you] in body, I am present in spirit, and I have already decided and passed judgment, as if actually present,

4 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, on the man who has committed such a deed. When you and my own spirit are met together with the power of our Lord Jesus,

5 You are to deliver this man over to Satan [a]for physical discipline [to destroy carnal lusts which prompted him to incest], that [his] spirit may [yet] be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

6 [About the condition of your church] your boasting is not good [indeed, it is most unseemly and entirely out of place]. Do you not know that [just] a little leaven will ferment the whole lump [of dough]?

7 Purge (clean out) the old leaven that you may be fresh (new) dough, still uncontaminated [as you are], for Christ, our Passover [Lamb], has been sacrificed.

8 Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with leaven of vice and malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened [bread] of purity (nobility, honor) and sincerity and [unadulterated] truth.

9 I wrote you in my [previous] **letter not to associate [closely and habitually] with unchaste (impure) people**

10 **Not [meaning of course that you must]** altogether shun the immoral people of this world, or the greedy graspers and cheats and thieves or idolaters, since otherwise you would need to get out of the world and human society altogether!

11 But now **I write to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of [Christian] brother** if he is known to be guilty of immorality or greed, or is an idolater [whose soul is devoted to any object that usurps the place of God], or is a person with a **foul tongue** [railing, abusing, reviling, slandering], or is a **drunkard** or a swindler or a robber. [No] **you must not so much as eat with such a person.**

12 **What [business] of mine is it and what right have I to judge outsiders?** Is it not those inside [the church] upon whom you are to pass disciplinary judgment [passing censuring sentence on them as the facts require]?

13 God alone sits in judgment on those who are outside. Drive out that wicked one from among you [expel him from your church].

Remember we got something to do and God wants us ready to do it...

Judges 14:1-2 KJV

*1 And Samson went down to **Timnath**, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the **Philistines**.*

2 And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.

Ok – now didn't the Word just say don't be unequally yoked?

So here's Samson he's a nazirite – nazirite was separate from this world **no alcohol** and other things. So God had set him apart as a Judge, He had given him an anointing, wisdom and strength - he is walking in the blessing of God.

But Samson had a desire for someone that he shouldn't have the desire for. **See God didn't give him that desire** – so desire can come from somewhere else other than God—are you following me? It must be God (not if it's contrary to His Word - He is the Word).

Now here's some information for you: Timnath means: **'check point'** in the Hebrew. See Samson was called to be in the world but not of it. But he's about to yoke himself to a person of this world and God gives him a **check**.

Every one of us God gives a check to – for some of us he gives a check through other people, but let me tell you what HE won't do – HE won't take away your free will. Don't you forget it – it's ultimately up to you.

So what did Samson do? He went past his check point and now he comes to the next place...

Judges 16:1 KJV

*1 Then went Samson to **Gaza**, and saw there a harlot, and went in unto her.*

Now the word Gaza means: stronghold. So he went past his check point and now he's in a stronghold.

A stronghold is a system of thinking that is contrary to the word of God.

Judges 16:4-5 KJV

4 And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

*5 And the **lords of the Philistines (modern day Palestine)** the world came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.*

They are going to give her money to trick him. Now some people marry for money or security...Let's keep going...

So let's get the picture here. Here he is – **past the check point and in a stronghold** and getting acquainted with Delilah (become closely associated with her). She's coming to bind him and afflict him. She pressed him – what do I mean pressed him. **She pressured him** everyday to get this truth out of him. **Every day.**

One thing about the Holy Spirit, he doesn't press you, He reminds you of things you've heard and read. When you experience his presence upon you and you don't want to do what He's leading you to do he goes away. But not the devil – he will press you. Delilah pressed him and Samson finally told her all his heart.

Judges 16:19-21 KJV

19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; (so Sampson is lying in the lap of the world) 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.***

See, she had tied him up before with rope and he always freed himself – why? because his strength was still with him. But now something has changed. **The law of association says, that you are either becoming like them or they are becoming like you.** This association transfer if both subtle and powerful – remember.

So here's Delilah in verse 20

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 (didn't know or realize) **that the LORD was departed from him. (anointing or blessing)***

*21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him **down to Gaza**, and bound him with fetters (ankle cuffs) of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.*

So here he is grinding, that was the ox's job. So the one that was called to rule – the Philistines were ruling over him and they were making money off of him.

Notice his strength left him and he didn't even know it – the transfer took place and it was subtle. **Sin and anointing don't go together.** Now don't get under condemnation now this is a place of refuge and deliverance. This is where we learn and get back where we need to be. **Everyone has been tricked at some point.**

See when your eyes have been put out and your revelation is gone – you can't see that you're getting sucked in and the anointing is gone. That's one of the biggest ways that the devil is taking advantage of the church – that's you and me, **because we don't have revelation. WHY? because we have been walking too close to the world and our eyes have been taken out.**

We've been trying to get the world to accept us on their level – that's where we need to stop and say no more it's time for them to accept us on HIS level and that's when the revelation will come back.

Remember, For such a time as this you and I have been created. Paul told the followers of Christ right before the rapture of the church to make sure we cut off that or who is entangling us and the sin. He separates the 2, relationships or external “things” and the sin that we commit.

The wisest man ever, King Solomon said...

Prov 13:20 GNT

20 Keep company with the wise and you will become wise. If you make friends with stupid people, you will be ruined.

The people we hang out with, can cause us to go to sleep to the Promises in God's Word. From their unbelief, disobedience to God's commands and we can be duped into acting just like them...the Bible says so.

Be careful who you call friend(s), you are becoming like them or they are becoming like you... which one is it? Don't fall asleep to the impact that your close associations will have on your eternity - this is a command from God's Word.

Joshua 1:8 AMPC

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success.

James 1:5 KJV

5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.