THE GET READY SERIES

A BIBLICAL OUTLOOK ON CURRENT EVENTS

LAST WEEEK, WE LOOKED AT

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

A CHALLENGE TO CONSIDER THE BIBLICAL RELEVANCE OF CURRENT EVENTS IN THE LIGHT OF BIBLE PROPHECY

In Last Weeks Part 1

Luke 21:25

"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with **perplexity**, the sea and the waves roaring;

Perplexity

to be left without resources, to be left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt and fear, to not know what to do nor which way to turn.

WE LOOKED AT THE CURRENT "GLOBAL STABILITY FACTOR" OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD RIGHT NOW...

and now all of sudden, outta no where, Thailand now joins the ranks of

"Nations Gone Wide"

"it looks like the end is in sight for Greece, is the world coming to an end"

- david letterman

Next Sunday, May 23rd. Part 3

"who will be left behind when Jesus comes again?"

hey - If I'm not here next week then ... "tag" you're it ...

2Tim. 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am **persuaded** (fully convinced, confident, assured of) that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Part 2

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT'S A CHRISTIAN TO BE DOING AT A TIME LIKE THESE?

A CHALLENGE TO CONSIDER THE BIBLICAL RELEVANCE OF CURRENT EVENTS IN THE LIGHT OF BIBLE PROPHECY

Intro to the Text; Titus 2:13 / Ephesians 6:10-18

Titus 2:13

looking (to be in a state of waiting, to be expectant, to be on an eager search for) the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, (henceforth, forever more, until the end, continue on) my brethren, (1) be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. :11 (2) Put on the whole armor of God, (3) that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. :12 (4) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. :13 Therefore (5) take up the whole armor of God, that you may (6) be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. :14 Stand therefore, (7) having girded your waist with truth, (8) having put on the breastplate of righteousness, :15 and (9) having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; :16 above all, (10) taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. :17 And (11) take the helmet of salvation, and (12) the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; :18 (the application) praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Holy Spirit, and being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

1.) Make sure that your faith is valid

A Capable, Convincing, And Compelling Faith

2Tim. 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am **persuaded** that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Allow Yourself to be "Led by the Lord" into those Areas of Your Faith Being Tested.

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

2.) Make sure that your faith is informed

A Conversant, Well-Versed, Relevant Faith

2Pet. 1:10-11

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and **election sure**, for if you do these things you will never stumble; **:11** for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2Tim. 3:14-17

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them,* :15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to **make you wise** for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. :16 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, :17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

3.) Make sure that your faith is living

An Active, Moving, Breathing, Vitality

The Amplified Hebrews 11:1

NOW FAITH is the **assurance** (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the **proof** of things [we] do not see *and* the **conviction** of their **reality** [faith perceiving as fact what is not clearly revealed to the senses].

Faith Causes You to **Do** Things.
Faith Causes You to **Amazing** Things.
Faith Causes You to **Impossible** Things.

It's a **Saving** Faith – Yes, but its more than that; It's a Dynamic Faith – A willing to Obey

At the Sight of Living Faith... The Empire was Shaken

"Acts 4:12-13

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." :13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

4.) Make sure that your faith is identifiable

A Particular, Exclusive, Certain Faith

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

4.) Make sure that your faith is identifiable

Church, be very careful to avoid the "manipulation & redefinition of words" (it's the redefining of words)

"what does "IS" mean?

"I would like to thank Jesus for this award...."

(Hollywood)

false faith and fake religion has to be exposed against the true. You've got to hold the false up to the examination of the true...

Do You What The Word - "Sincere" Means? - without wax

Phil. 1:9-11

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, :10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be **sincere** and without offense till the day of Christ, :11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

As Christians, our faith should "stand out" in a crowd"

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one** another; **as** I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Jesus **Never lied** to you, He never **tricked** you, **Gossiped** about you, Never Faked you out or **ripped you off** or tried to **manipulate** you

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

5.) Make sure that your faith is working

A Functioning, Operational, Effective Faith "am I saved by works or faith, - works or faith?"

Gal. 2:16

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

But Wait - How Can I Know If You're a Christian? How Can You Know If I'm a Christian?

James 2:18

But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

True biblical faith first comes from within – then it "comes out" and continues to develop and envelope the life you're living.

Faith & Works:

It's seen by others in your **lifestyle** / and in your **language** / It's seen by others by your **choices** / and in your **passions**

Matt. 7:16-21

You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? :17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. :18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. :19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. :20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them. :21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

6.) Make sure that your faith is increasing

A Rising, Growing, Escalating, Faith

1John 3:16-18

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. :17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? :18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

2Tim. 2:15-16

Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth. :16 But avoid all empty (vain, useless, idle) talk, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness.

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

7.) Make sure that your faith is militant

A Revolutionary, Confrontational, Radical, Faith

1Pet. 3:15

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

But do this with gentleness and respect,

Search the Bible / Read the Bible / Know the Bible

Acts 26:27-28

King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe." :28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian."

"Satan is a Gradualist"

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

8.) Make sure that your faith is enduring

A Lasting, On-Going, Able To Finish Faith

Mark 13:13

And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

Jude 20-21

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your **most holy faith**, praying in the Holy Spirit, **21** keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jude 24

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present *you* faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, - so live like it!

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

9.) Make sure that your faith is sufficient

A Full, Adequate, Enough Faith

"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

9.) Make sure that your faith is sufficient

2Pet. 1:5-8

But also for this very reason, *giving all diligence*, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, :6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, :7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. :8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will never be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This can only happen if you decide to get ACTIVATED!

Every Christian should take advantage of the opportunities at hand.

Learn how to share your faith / learn how to help others / learn how to support the ministry / learn how to feed the needy / or save a life

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"What's A Christian To Be Doing At A Time Like This?"

10.) Make sure that your faith is expectant

Eager, Hopeful, Suspenseful, A Waiting Faith

there is no greater a faith than an expectant faith. expectancy is the motivation to what we do and why we do it.

An expectant faith is a real-believing faith

how can you trust Him for Heaven if you don't rust Him for today?

1John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. :3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Are you "Expecting"? - - It's Going to Obvious to Everybody Are you "Saying" you're Expecting - - We'll Have to Watch and See

1John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. :3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

a young man came to church here recently and met with me and I were talking about issues in his life – and the topic of personal purity came up and pornography and he said "I'm doing o.k. in that area"

"o.k." in that area can destroy your life!

a woman "just chatting with some guy" on facebook or myspace or myface or spacebook can kill your marriage and family...

you're sinning against God and Others....

Don't tell me that you believe that Jesus Christ is coming soon - you're actions betray your words

You Need Jesus Christ Today – Right Now

The End