# THE AWAKEN SERIES

PROPHETIC TEACHINGS ON CURRENT EVENTS OF 2013

#### TITUS 2:13

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER JHX350

SEPTEMBER 29, 2013

# THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

# WHILE WE WAIT

developing and maintaining a watchful eye and an expectant heart.

# SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Awaken, Watching, Waiting, Prophecy, Update

# Introduction to the Text; Titus 2:13

# Waiting has got to be one of the most difficult things to do.

And it's not just limited to good things. We're also required to wait for not so good things. Either way – waiting is hard.

Waiting requires certain things from us. Like, what are we waiting for? And how long will we have to wait? And what are we supposed to be doing while we are waiting?

Biblical Waiting is not "Killing Time" We kill time when we're waiting for the show to start or when we've got nothing to do.

# Eph. 5:15-16 ESVBe very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most (redeeming back) of every<br/>opportunity, because<br/>the days are (increasingly) evil.

#### Isaiah 40:31

But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

You cannot embark upon the reading of the Bible without coming to an amazing thread of reality that is repeated over and over again in the Scriptures, That God has called us to an 'Urgent & Passionate Devotion to His Return !

# In Fact throughout the Old and New Testaments

There is a plethora of examples and exhortations challenging us **to be ready at any moment to meet the LORD.** In the beloved Parables of Jesus Christ, Being ready and watching for the sudden return of the Master appears more than any other theme.

Jesus Christ Himself left us with this very warning as He spoke His last words in the book of revelation when He said;

**Rev. 22:20** He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

"How did it get so late so soon?" - Dr. Seuss This Text, Within It's Context - is All Powerful

#### Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared (nothing more needed) to all men, 12 teaching (instructing) us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age (wherever the believer is found), 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, (a one-time offering) that He might redeem us from every lawless deed (total redemption) and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

> That's How You Indentify a Christian - - But as a Christian; What am I supposed to be doing right now and for the rest of my life

> > Titus 2:13 Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

**Looking**  $\pi \rho \sigma \delta \delta \chi o \mu \alpha \iota$  **prosdechomai**, *pros-dekh'-om-ahee*; to admit in (to intercourse with, to give hospitality. to await with endurance. to be waiting with expectancy.

# And Who are we looking for?

Titus 2:13 our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

#### W.A. Criswell

"Here in the Book of Titus is found one of the great theological statements in all of the Word of God, That is Jesus Christ is Almighty God."

# a "preparatory" message

I want this last message in this series to be **a "preparatory" message** – meaning, I want you to be ready to meet Jesus Christ because the time is short.

# WHILE WE WAIT

#### 1.) We're to be building upon our faith

Jude 20

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.

All key materials to building up your faith.

Your Faith is the Most Valuable Thing You Possess.

**Building** iπoικoδομέω epoikodomeo, *ep-oy-kod-om-eh*<sup>'</sup>-*o*; from to build by layer or stone by stone. To systematically stack or strengthen.

2 Pet. 1:5

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 be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **ROMANS 10:17**

**Rev. 1:3** Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 2.) We're to be assisting the proclaiming of the Gospel

Rom. 10:14

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

# WHILE WE WAIT

3.) We're to be living for the glory of God

# God expects us to conduct our lives in such a way

that other people are challenged to consider Jesus.

#### You wanna know what's so wonderful about this?

No matter how messed up your life is, if you hand over the controller to God, He will transform your life

**1 Cor. 10:31** Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Is what I **eat** an example to others? Is what I **drink** an example to others? Is what **whatever I do in life** an example to others?

1Timothy 6:14

that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,

# WHILE WE WAIT

4.) We're to be judging ourselves against His Word

# is there anything in my life that God does not approve of?

Titus 2:11   For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,
<b>1John 3:10</b> In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. 11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,
<b>2 Cor. 13:5</b> Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified. 6 But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.

# **Examine** $\pi$ ειράζω peirazo, *pi-rad´-zo;* from 3984; to test (objectively), i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline: — assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt(-er), try.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 5.) We're to be living in unity with other Christians

#### I should add an "If" to that. "we're to be living in unity with other Christians (IF)

#### 1 John 1:6-7

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

#### Donald Grey Barnhouse

#### "Without this hope of the coming of our Lord

alive in us, we have no gospel to preach. Death and the grave and Satan reign forever. Without this hope of the coming of our Lord, our footsteps hesitate. Our very walk is laggard. Our hands hang nervously by our sides for we know not what is true. We are defeated before we even begin the fight of faith. But thanks be to God, it is the blessed hope of Jesus' coming again that gives us victory in this life and a promise of resurrection and immortality in the life to come."

# How can you personally know that you are a Christian?

(other people will accuse you of being one) and in fact are saved? - there has been a break with the power of sin.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 6.) We're to be enduring these days of difficulty

# Suffering – yes. Not giving up – yes. Guarding our faith – yes but all that is called normal, personal victory

# True Saving grace breaks the power of sin in our lives.

#### Romans 7:24-25

O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

#### Romans 6:14

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 7.) We're to be resisting all forms of temptation

#### 1John 2:4-6

He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 <u>He</u> who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

#### Luke 4:13

Now when the devil had ended **every temptation**, he departed from Him **until an opportune time**.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 8.) We're to be hoping in what God has said

#### 1John 3:2

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.

#### John 14:1-3

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

# WHILE WE WAIT

# 9.) We're to be loving others wisely

#### Hebrews 6:11

And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance cof hope until the end, **12** so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

- Wisely by pointing the lost to Jesus
- Wisely by reaching out to the hurting
- Wisely by serving the church family
- Wisely by winning our family members to Christ

# WHILE WE WAIT

10.) We're to be being all about Jesus

Titus 2:13

Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

#### What is the **blessed hope** ?

It is glorious appearing of Jesus Christ for His People

# Until Then – We Are All About Jesus

John 14:31 But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

#### John 17:3

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

#### **DR. LEONARD RAVENHILL**

Just as WW-II was breaking out across Europe, a young man by the name of Charlie had been engaged to be married to his beautiful Katharine. Everything had been prepared and the wedding was just weeks away but before they were able to be married Charlie like all able bodied Englishmen were called up for battle. A year and half later a note arrived for Katharine announcing Charlie's presumed death. He and his ship had been sunk by a U-Boat. Charlie was declared MIA presumed dead". Many months had passed but Charlie was not dead. He had been found washed ashore on the coast of southern England. After his recovery Charlie made his way home and to Katharine's parents house. Upon knocking, Katharine's mum opened the door and seeing Charlie fell to her knees in shock. "You look like Charlie" she whispered. "I am Charlie – is Katharine here?" he asked. She is in her room. She has scarcely been out since hearing of your death. As Charlie tip-toed to her room he gently pushed her door open enough to see Katharine standing in front of a mirror, wearing her wedding gown and holding a picture of Charlie to her breast. The door squeaked and she softly looked up – seeing Charlie she said "O Hello Charlie, I've missed you" Charlie was stunned by her calm and almost mechanical response. She simply returned around to looking into the mirror again in a dream-like state until Charlie said in loud voice "Katharine, It's Me" and with that she snapped out of her waiting, turned around to jump into his arms.

He Returned to Find Her Dressed in Her Gown. Her Heart fastened to Him (he found her waiting)

#### Jude 20 & Titus 2:13

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. **Titus 2:13 Looking** for the **blessed hope** and **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

# >>>> The Cross, The Christ, The Call <<<<

•End of Study

Copyright © September 29, 2013 by Jack Hibbs