

# THE NEXT GENERATION SERIES

LIVING OUT OUR CHRISTIANITY IN AN EVER-INCREASING TIME OF EVIL.

Recording Number JHX-490      June 14, 2020

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**WHERE ARE YOU?**  
**KNOWING THE GOD WHO IS IN THE KNOW.**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Last Days, Repentance, Perseverance, Endurance, Hope, LifeStyle

**1Timothy 3:14-15 / 2Peter 3:10-11 / Colossians 1:16-18**

**1Timothy 3:14-15**

**:14** These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; **15** but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is ***the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.***

**2 Peter 3:10b-11**

**:10** But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. **:11** Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, ***what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.***

**Colossians 1:16-18**

**:16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. **18** And ***He is the head of the body, the church,*** who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

**What comes to your mind when you hear those three words?**

**It could be a parent** calling their teenage son or daughter to ask them...

**WHERE ARE YOU?**

**It could be a friend** who has been patiently waiting for you and so they ask...

**WHERE ARE YOU?**

If you have had any exposure to the Bible, what comes to our minds is the garden of Eden where our original mom and dad, Adam and Eve conspired to fool God by trying to hide from Him until He came near to them and asked...

Specifically “Adam, **WHERE ARE YOU?** But in that question to Adam, God continues to ask each and every one in this world that very same question.

“Jack, **WHERE ARE YOU?**”

I’m wondering if that’s the question the Lord is asking the church today... **WHERE ARE YOU?**

Is the church hiding **because it’s the hour of chaos?**

Is the church hiding **because of the lordship of man?**

Is the church hiding **because it’s been intimidated?**

Or is the church hiding **because it is “unsafe”?**

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

1.) Maybe you’re in a **confused** place?

### **1 Corinthians 14:33**

“For **God is not** the author of **confusion**, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”

**confusion / akatastasia**; instability, disorder, disturbances. Everything and all things that cause instability, disorder, disturbances.

<https://www.absolutearts.com/painting/other/yosef-reznikov-pablo-picasso-1577015445.html>

<https://images.app.goo.gl/GcAv6x7rDgiKmThj8>

Noah Webster’s 1828 Dictionary of the English Language

CONFUSION, n. as in a general sense, 1) a mixture of things, disorder; irregularities.

The confusion of languages at Babel. 2) Tumult(s). The lack of order in society.

Example: The whole city was filled with confusion. [Acts 19]

### **Biblical Examples of CONFUSION...**

#### **Isaiah 41:29**

Indeed they (*idols as well as human wisdom*) are all worthless; Their works are nothing;

Their molded images are wind (*destructive winds*) and confusion (*swirling about*).

Convinced at this hour Satan is devouring

#### **1 Peter 5:8**

“Be alert and of a sober mind. (*why?*) Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking **for someone to devour.**” *Stunned them with confusion*

## **We know that lies cause confusion.**

### **John 8:44**

“You are of your father the **Devil**, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a **murderer** from the beginning and has not stood in the truth, because there is **no truth in him**. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because **he is a liar** and the **father of liars.**”

### **Joshua 10:9**

After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them (the Amorites) by surprise. **10** The LORD threw them into **confusion** before Israel,

## **The Remedy for Confusion**

### **It’s a Requested (Prayed for) Peace that Removes Confusion**

#### **Philippians 4:7**

Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

“Prayer is the cure for a confused mind, a weary soul, and a broken heart.”  
- Anonymous

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **2.) Maybe you’re in a fearful place?**

#### **Biblical Examples of FEARFUL...**

#### **Luke 12:29-32**

“And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. **30** For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. **31** But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. **:32** “Do not **fear**, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Webster Again;

**Fear**, Fearful - the grip of concern or expectation of an impending evil.

Fear/Fearful/Fearfulness is the first of emotions before dread, terror follows.

#### **Luke 24:38**

“And Jesus said to them, ‘Why are you troubled, and why do doubts (*fears*) arise in your hearts?’”

#### **Isaiah 41:10**

Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

Fear is what's causing you to go backward and "rethink" the things that **had already been settled** in your life.

**Proverbs 3:5**

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding."

**1 John 4:18-19**

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. 19 We love Him because He first loved us.

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **3.) Maybe you're in a frustrated place?**

#### **Frustration / Frustrated**

To make or to become exacerbated, discouraged, up-ended, irritated, blocked, hindered, helpless.

( my mom was so short and petite that my brother and I would just hold out our arm to stop her )

#### **Frustration Must Be Slain Quickly**

**Psalm 119:165**

Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.

**Personal Observation:**

With what I learned here in this study – I must confess, I had never thought of before. *Long before someone "calls it quits" or "waves the white flag" That person first experiences increased frustration until they become overwhelmed by it. Once frustration has set in, then defeat is almost certain.*

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **4.) Maybe you're in an angry place?**

**Anger:** In the negative / the desire to injure another or to wish injury upon another; usually accompanied with a propensity to take vengeance, or to obtain satisfaction from the offending party.

Anger causes us to **think** really dumb things.

Anger causes us to **say** really dumb things.

Anger causes us to **do** really dumb things.

**Psalm 37:8 NLT**

Stop being angry! Turn from your rage! Do not lose your temper.

**Ecclesiastes 7:9**

Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, For anger rests in the bosom of fools.

“in the lap of fools.”

**James 1:19-20**

So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **5.) Maybe you're in a *weary* place?**

**Weariness is an interesting Place.**

Never confuse it with Service to God. There is a joy in physical expense when serving Jesus – weariness is in the mind.

**Galatians 6:9**

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

**Proverbs 4:23**

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.

### **Combatting Weariness With the Truth.**

**Isaiah 49:14-16**

“But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me.” “Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.”

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **6.) Maybe you're in a *lonely* place?**

Loneliness is a place of mind, an emotion brought on by feelings of 1.) separation from other human beings. 2.) The sense of isolation is very deeply felt by those who are lonely. The Hebrew word translated “desolate” or “lonely” in the Old Testament means “abandoned, to be the only one; he who is solitary, forsaken, wretched.”

“There is no deeper sadness that comes over the mind than the idea that one is alone in the world, that we do not have a friend, that no one cares for us, that no one is concerned about anything that might happen to us, that no one would care if we were to live or die.” – Dr. Paul David Tripp

**Psalm 25:16-17**

Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me, for I am desolate and afflicted.  
17 The troubles of my heart have enlarged; bring me out of my distresses!  
It is interesting to note that the word “lonely” is never used in the New Testament to describe a Christians’ life.

**Proverbs 18:24**

A man who has friends must himself be friendly,  
But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

## **WHERE ARE YOU?**

### **7.) Maybe you’re in a dark place?**

**When Relating to the Believer:**

A dark place begins to happen both in the mind and in the spirit.  
Then the physical acts of darkness can follow.

**When Relating to the Non-Believer:**

The dark place is where they live and so what they think, say or do is always shrouded in darkness.

**2 Corinthians 4:4**

“in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

“In this hour of all-but-universal darkness, one cheering gleam appears: within the fold of conservative Christianity there are to be found increasing numbers of persons whose religious lives are marked by a growing hunger after God Himself. They are eager for spiritual realities and will not be put off with words, nor will they be content with correct "interpretations" of truth. They are athirst for God, and they will not be satisfied till they have drunk deep at the Fountain of Living Water.” – A.W. Tozer

**2 Corinthians 13:5**

Examine yourselves *(let the light pierce through you to the core of who and what you are)* to see if your faith is genuine *(in the faith)* . Test *(prove, examine, to put through the rigors)* yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.

## WHERE ARE YOU?

### 8.) Maybe you're in a hopeless place?

#### 1 Kings 19:1-15a

Now Ahab had told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time." 3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. :4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" :5 Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat." 6 Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. 7 And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you." 8 So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God. :9 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" :10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." :11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. :13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." :15a Then the LORD said to him: "Go. Return!"

### Maybe All Hope has been dashed in your life.

I do not mean to add insult to injury but can I ask you what kind of object or person did you have your hope in? My reason for asking is because the hope that we place in Jesus Christ, it can never fail because His hope never expires. You've come to a hopeless place because you have hoped in that which is less than the God of the Scriptures, the God of all creation. Hope is what we place and something that ought to be greater than ourselves. But if that thing or if that person is not greater than us, then our hope will be dashed. I'm always curious about someone's jewelry around their neck but I'm the most curious when I see a cross around someone's neck on their chest. God would not have you to wear a cross on your chest unless the cross is first in your heart.

## End of Study

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