

Psalms 11:1-3

Sunday 06/09/2024

I. Review

Last time we finished up Psalms 10, and I showed you one of the most amazing things in your Bible about God and His dealing with the two identities that down through history He has used to accomplish His plan. We know them as the nation of Israel in the Old Testament and the church in the New Testament. **I showed you how God has hidden Himself from the nation of Israel. I also laid out the reason for the rejection (Matthew 12-13) and laid out the parables for you.** I covered the first part of Matthew chapter by chapter, and Jon Bousquet finished that up at Bible study (05/30/2024).

We also talked about how the church has hidden itself from God—the reverse of the Old Testament where God hid Himself from the nation of Israel. I showed you in Isaiah 46:10 and Isaiah 42:9 how God has laid out and revealed literally everything to us...everything about Himself, everything about His people, everything about His plan (whether it be past, present, or future); He's given it to the church—the truth of God. **Man today has hid himself from God's truth, and because of it, is ignorant of the things of God.**

In your Bible, probably the greatest example of us today hiding from God and God's truth is Adam and Eve. God gave them everything. He put them in a perfect garden in a perfect environment; He held nothing back from them; and yet, when Adam sinned in Genesis 3, what did he do? He ran and hid from God. That's exactly what we do today.

I showed you how God through the order of the seven books in the Bible, from Israel's captivity in 2 Chronicles (Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes), will lay out the pre-millennial return of Christ which is the key theme of the Bible. The key book was Esther which we spent time laying out. In the book of Esther, there is no mention of God, yet you see God behind the scenes doing everything. I showed you how this book doctrinally fits into the time gap of our history from around 1880 up to the day we live in which started with the Zionist movement in history and God moving toward the regathering of the nation of Israel. Many of us are seeing that today. The dethroning of a Gentile queen, Vashti, and the setting up of a Jewish queen, Esther, is a picture of two great doctrines in the Bible for the end time. We see the end of the times of the Gentiles (Luke 21:24) and the beginning of the fulness of the Gentiles (Romans 11:25). I covered that at Bible Study (06/06/2024). All this will help us better understand, not only Psalms 10, but everything else that goes along with it.

I showed you that God regathers the nation of Israel two times in history. Once after the captivity in 606 BC—70 years later around 536 BC they go back. They are also kicked out in 70 AD under Titus, and they go back again the second time around 1948 which begins the final phase of everything that God is doing today. Honestly, most people are not only ignorant of this, but oblivious to it as well.

II. Psalms 11 Helps us Understand the Mess we're in Today

Today we're going to start Psalms 11, which we will break into two sections. I would say that building up to today's message, **this will probably be the most important message for a Christian in America**; this message is paramount to your survival. It's absolutely the greatest simple aspect that **explains why we are in the mess that we are in today, yet many of God's people still just don't get it.**

Doctrinally, this is a tribulation Psalm that goes into the millennium; however, within this Psalm lies a great practical principle for God's people today where God declares the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10). It's incredible. I will read all seven verses to establish the context, but we won't get past verse three today.

Psalms 11:1-7. In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee [as] a bird to your mountain?

2. For, lo, the wicked bend [their] bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

3. If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

4. The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne [is] in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

5. The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

6. Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: [this shall be] the portion of their cup.

7. For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

➤ Key Words and Establishing the Context

Now as you look down through here, from many of the things I give you in the Bible, when you read a passage like this, **some things ought to pop right out at you. You use those things to establish the context.** If you were reading down through this and wanted to establish the context, look at verse one.

The first thing you see in verse one is that he tells them to *Flee [as] a bird to your mountain.* That's Matthew Chapter 24, where they are told to flee Jerusalem and go to the mountains. You see, things like that will automatically begin to set your context.

The second thing in verse two is the antichrist and his attack on the Jew. This will again be in Matthew Chapter 24 and Daniel 9. This will be the abomination of desolation in the middle of

the tribulation when the antichrist changes from the peace and safety mindset and then makes his bow ready to destroy God's people.

III. Foundations in the Bible

In Psalms 11:3, the foundations now are destroyed, and then a key question is asked. *If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?* Now I want to focus my message today simply on verse three. Here's a place right in the middle of a tribulation passage where you have a key verse for every one of us today, what we are going through now, and what we will be experiencing in the next few years.

Now that's a great question, and **the real question today among God's people, with everything that's going on around us, is what can we do?** Let's look at foundations in the Bible for a moment. They are a great study.

- The Foundation of the Universe

In Job 38:1-7, God talks about the foundation of the second heaven or the foundation of the universe.

Job 38:1-7 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

- 2. Who [is] this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*
- 3. Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.*
- 4. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.*
- 5. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?*
- 6. Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;*
- 7. When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

Around the theological world, churches and pastors claim this is one of the hardest passages in the Bible to understand; however, this is probably one of the easiest places in the Bible. It starts with a question. **You're going to find that the questions in the Bible that God asks are incredible studies, and here He's asking a question to the unsaved scientific world**—the same world that says the Earth has been here for billions of years and that we evolved through some kind of evolutionary process. He says here, *who [is] this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?*

We see God founded the universe. **God's overall structure and plan is built on a foundation.** Now, that foundation is found in Proverbs Chapter 9, and right there you find the foundation by

which everything that God is doing is built on. Maybe you get tired of hearing me say this, but you couldn't find five pastors in this city who could lay out this foundation for you. Don't take my word for it. Ask them!

- The Foundation of Your Salvation

I Corinthians 3:11-13. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13. Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

The day you got saved, a foundation was laid in your life. As you come to church, get disciplined, and grow, you build upon that foundation. And the Bible tells us in I Corinthians Chapter 3 that you're going to build any of six things—three are good and three are bad. You're either going to build gold, silver, precious stones, or you're going to build wood, hay, and stubble. **When you get to the Judgment Seat of Christ, the gold, silver, and precious stones will just get purified when tried by the fire. But do you know what happens when fire hits wood, hay, and stubble? It's gone!**

In Matthew 7:24-27 you have a wise man who built his house upon a rock (strong foundation), and the foolish man who built his house upon the sand (and you know what happened there).

- Don't Build Upon Another Man's Foundation

Romans 15:20. Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

Paul said that when you build a church, you never build a church on another man's foundation. You don't build a church by stealing somebody else's people. You build a church on your own foundation as you win people to Christ and do the ministry with them.

IV. Foundations are the Key to Everything in Life

You're going to find out that foundations are the key to everything in life. I don't know anything that doesn't start with some kind of solid footing or foundation. When you lose your kids to the world (God forbid!), there's no foundation built in those kids' lives or maybe the wrong foundation. There's a foundation for the family that you must understand and implement into your family.

When your marriage falls apart, the reason is that there is simply no foundation. There is a foundation in the Bible for marriage. Marriage is something that God designed. It wasn't designed by cavemen and didn't come about as society developed. The foundation is given in

Genesis. Our counseling ministry has helped lay a foundation in the lives of troubled marriages. When your Christian life falls apart, what's the reason? No foundation! People who get saved and never go any farther never build on that foundation. **In 100% of whatever God does, He starts with a foundation.**

In Psalms 104:1-5, He talks about the foundations of the earth. Most people wouldn't even know where to go to even find that. I'll give you a key—it's in the book of Isaiah.

We're told in Ephesians 2:20 that the foundation of the church, what we have today, was built upon the foundation of the apostles. Everybody knows there were 12 apostles, but did you know that there are seven apostles to the New Testament church? Most of God's people couldn't tell you who they were. If you've been saved five, six years or less, you get a free pass; however, if you've been saved 10, 15 years...I'm telling you; this is the problem today.

➤ When God does Anything, He will Build it on a Sure Foundation.

Isaiah 28:16. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner [stone], a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

In life in general, when you build anything (house, high rise building, whatever), you have to have a good solid foundation. If you own a home, one of the most expensive and difficult tasks will be your foundation repair. When a child of God comes out of the world and gets right with God, we must clean all the junk off their foundation (bringing it right back to the day they got saved) and build on that foundation the right things.

When God put His plan together for man on planet Earth, you'll find in the book of Genesis that He established three foundations for man to go by on planet Earth. You'll find that when these three are functioning well, you will have a good life and the country will enjoy the blessings of God. When they get destroyed, then your world goes to pieces and total destruction of life will follow. Welcome to the United States of America.

This is where America is today because she has no understanding of the reality of why things are the way that they are. America today, and it's all according to God's plan, is fast becoming a third world country. We are turning into a nation of anarchy and losing any system of values. America is in decline because America is in denial. This is the problem in Christianity, too.

This is an election year. **This country is divided in a way that is unprecedented in history.** Nobody understands that everything that is going on is based on what has been told to us in Matthew 24 about the final generation. Everybody thinks that getting a new president will solve our issues. Both of our political parties blame America's disastrous state on each other. A couple of times a year, the president gives the State of the Union address. If we're honest about it, the State of the Union is that we're in a mess. **The real issue is simply a lack of understanding—of the times and the seasons, the book of Esther, Matthew Chapter 24, Revelation Chapters 1-3...how God is behind the scenes. The key to everything is God's dealing with the nation of Israel right in the midst of all of us today.**

➤ What we can Learn from the Ants

I think every Christian should have an ant farm. When I was a kid growing up, I had an ant farm. You buy the farm and then you send away for the ants. The ants come in the mail. You add sand and water to the farm and then dump the ants inside. It has a glass side, and you can watch the ants burrow down and make their little tunnels. Ants are social. The instruction booklet said they like to play games with each other, wrestle with each other, and communicate with each other. They are great engineers; they build all kinds of stuff. The instructions also said to only use their ants because if you mix ants from different colonies, it will start an ant war.

It wasn't until later on when I got into the Bible that I understood what Proverbs 6:6 meant when the wisest man who ever lived said, *Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: So, there is something about ants that God wanted me to know.* I remembered my ant farm. They would dig tunnels here and store their food there. **I would watch them, but the greatest thing I learned was that all those ants in there thought it was their ant farm.** They were doing all the work, and they were doing all the digging. Then one day I grew up, and I realized there were more important things in life than an ant farm. So I walked into my bedroom, picked up my ant farm, walked over to the trash, and threw it away. My point is this. **Those ants thought that was their ant farm; however, somebody else had paid the price to buy the ant farm, and it was really theirs.** You people think this world is yours because you labor and do all the work. There is Somebody coming Who is going to pick-up this ant farm and dump it in the lake of fire someday. You know why? He bought the ant farm.

America does not understand they are facing the judgment of God today. What has happened is because America has destroyed the three foundations that God has set in place for any nation. The question for us today is *what can the righteous do?*

God has put three foundations in place for man and established three foundations which life on planet Earth must be built on. All three have been destroyed today, and people don't know what to do. They listen to the news or their friends, and everybody has a plan to make America how they want it to be. There is fear and confusion in the world today and especially with God's people. Our verse today says that when all these foundations are destroyed, *what can the righteous do?* **Doctrinally this verse is the tribulation, but inspirationally we are right in it today.**

V. The Three Foundations God Established

I want to look at the three foundations that God established and define them for you. It goes all the way back to Genesis, for any nation, and life on planet Earth for the next 6,000 years. American Christianity today is like the Titanic sinking. We're in the middle of the night, we're going down by the bow, we're going to sink, and the people on the Titanic are re-arranging deck chairs for the next event. That's where America is at. They are oblivious to it.

These foundations are like dominos. Once one is put in motion, you cannot stop it. **Once the first foundation was destroyed, the domino effect kicked in and the second one went. When**

the second one went, the third one went. The foundations are destroyed, and the question you must answer is *what can the righteous do?*

1. The Church

The first foundation for you and for me, in our time, will be the church (kingdom of God). In the Old Testament we know it was Israel (kingdom of heaven). You'll find this laid out for you in the book of Ephesians. Matthew 5:13 really is the key here.

*Matthew 5:13. Ye are the salt of the earth: **but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.***

The word of God preserves the world from destruction. The word of God will preserve your family, your life, your church, everything. **It's like salt, a preservative which keeps things from decaying.** When we started our country, we had the word of God. You can look back and see the incredible blessings that were on this country. Then around the end of the 1800s, America dumped the word of God. When the church and pastors dump the Bible, the process of destruction begins. You could safely say, and this is where people don't get it, that every problem America has is the fault of pastors and Christians who do not preach the Bible anymore. **The salt has lost its savour; there's no preserving effect of the word of God in anything.** Because of the attack on the church today, God's foundational structure of truth, it is completely and totally destroyed.

We are the salt of the Earth. **God's people, without God's word, are good for nothing. Now you're cast out and trodden under foot of man.** Boy, if that isn't Christianity today. **Once the church goes, the domino effect automatically takes place.**

2. Civil Government

This will be Romans 13; God established the foundation of civil government.

*Romans 13:1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: **the powers that be are ordained of God.***

*2. **Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.***

*3. **For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:***

*4. **For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to [execute] wrath upon him that doeth evil.***

The original establishment of government was to keep you safe. It was ordained by God as a foundation for society of rules, laws, and regulations that protected everybody. Civil government was the foundation of God's law and order for any society. We are to obey the laws under all circumstances. The Bible says they are ordained of God. If the government becomes wicked, you don't overthrow the government or start a revolution. **We as Christians understand that our job is to obey the government, and if they are doing wrong, God is going to judge the nation someday.** Now that's up to a point obviously. No government has a right to tell you that you can't read your Bible or preach the word of God.

➤ Our Government was Founded as a Republic

Our government was founded as a Republic. Most people who say The Pledge of Allegiance don't really understand it. You most likely couldn't find three Christians who understand what a Republic really is. It's like Christians who carry a Bible to church but couldn't figure out the foundations if their life depended on it. **Most people don't know the difference between a Republic and a Democracy.** It started out as a Republic, but as they dumped the Bible and got rid of God, it became a Democracy. A Democracy is a form of government where the majority rules. It only takes 51% to legalize marijuana, legalize gay marriage, or get rid of capital punishment. **A Republic is a system of running a nation by elected officials that follow an unchanging foundation of laws.** Back when our country was founded in 1776 and all the way up to 1920, it was built on Blackstone's Commentary of Law. It said that within our Republic, the government has a right to regulate the price of corn, the price of oil, the price of bread, the price of apples, etc., but the things that God has legislated in His word, a Republic cannot change. We sell Noah Webster's 1828 Edition in the bookstore. He was an educator who wrote most of the curriculum for the early schools. **He said in 1828 that a Republic has its foundations in the word of God, run by elected and saved men. That's a Republic.**

When the church goes, the salt has lost its savour and the preserving aspect of the Bible is no longer there, so the country goes. We have inflation, a completely broken justice system, and anti-Semitism all throughout this country. The government is broken. You can pretend that everything is fine, but then you too are in denial. All three foundations have been destroyed. And when they are, *what can the righteous do?*

3. The Family

The third foundation that God established is the family. **The family structure is the fundamental key to all God does both in the Old Testament and the New Testament.** It's building families that minister together as ministry teams. **The breakdown of the family will be the final destruction of any nation.**

The generation of World War II has been rightly called The Greatest Generation. It was that generation that still fundamentally had a respect for the word of God. It was moving out, but it was still there. This was the generation of many of your moms and dads who have now gone home to be with the Lord. They worked hard. They came through the depression. They didn't have iPhones or computers. When they ate dinner, it was the family talking together. What a novelty!

When World War II started for America on December 7, young men were lined up at the recruiting station to fight for their country. There were young men who got turned away because they were not physically fit for the military. Some were so despondent that they committed suicide. Where is that today? Our young people today hate this country; they burn our flags. We bring young people over from other nations where they were living in an ashtray or a litter box. We give them a free education, free room and board, and the very country that brings them in they turn against. They would all have been dead by now back in the lands they came from.

➤ The Old Testament Law was Harsh Dealing with Rebellious Children

Did you ever notice in the Old Testament the harsh dealing with rebellious children under the Old Testament law? You kids, us older kids too, ought to thank God we're not under the law. We wouldn't be having church this morning because there wouldn't be anybody left to do anything. **Deuteronomy 21:18-21 says if you have a stubborn or rebellious son or daughter (any of you ever fit in that category? I sure did!), who won't listen to mom or dad (anybody ever find themselves in that category?), that will resist rebuke and chastisement (anybody here like that?) then they're brought before the elders.** The father says this is my son or daughter who won't do what's right, they're rebellious, and I've tried everything I know, so I bring them to you for your help. To that the response is, "No problem! We're going to give them a rock concert!" and they were stoned. That seems harsh. Why would God do that? Do you know why? **God knew that if you don't deal with rebellious children, they'll destroy your nation. We're under grace today, but the devil is still attacking the family.**

I mentioned a couple of weeks ago about the Kansas City Chiefs kicker, Harrison Butker. He spoke about the importance of family. He said you may pursue all your dreams, but the greatest thing you'll ever do is to have and raise a family. For that, he was attacked on every side for weeks. Nobody in sports says anything about the bar fights, drunk driving, wife beating, or all the other terrible things that happen. Everybody is okay with that, but today let a man stand up and use his free speech to talk about family, and they hate him. Welcome to America! The salt has lost its savour, and God's people for the most part are worthless and have been trodden under the foot of man.

We ordained a man a number of years ago who is chaplain to the Jackson County Jail. He told me about the kids involved in the shooting at the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl Parade. He said everybody wants to talk about what a terrible thing it was (and it was), but he talked to these kids. These kids had no mother, they had no father, and the only ones who raised them were the gangs who took them in. And everybody wonders why they're the way they are. You know what the problem is? It's the family.

One of the key aspects of this church, which I rarely talk about, is our adoption program here. We've probably got 15 or 20 young men and young ladies in this church who have no parents. They were left to themselves, and God only knows where they would be today if it wasn't for people like you. You took them in; you loved them; you bought them clothes, you gave some of them their first birthday party, you invested your life with the word of God in them. The Marvelous Hand of God brought them to us, and it was people like you who saw them, who had compassion on them, and you literally adopted them. You disciplined them, taught them the Bible,

and now many of them are leaders in this church today in ministry. Right now, nobody knows what you're doing or who you are, but wait until the Judgment Seat of Christ.

The key to a real church and its ministry will be to protect and build the families from this attack. This is why I Timothy 3:4 clearly says a man cannot pastor who has lost his kids to the world. To show you how people like to pick and choose out of the Bible, in Baptist churches back in the 1960's if you were divorced, you might as well be dead. You can't ever get remarried, be a deacon, or be a pastor (because all of those things require being the husband of one wife). They didn't want divorced people mixing with the "pure" church, so they created a special Sunday school class for them. All the time their teaching on divorce was so unbiblical, but yet those same pastors lost all their kids to the world. Welcome to New Testament Christianity!

- Job 21:7-15—Where American Youth are at Today

You want to see where American youth are at today? Turn over to Job 21:7-15. This is the final result when the foundations are destroyed, and finally the family goes.

Job 21:7-15. Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? (Their parents are mighty in power).

8. Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes (Their children generation after generation after generation are fostered in this mindset).

9. Their houses [are] safe from fear, neither [is] the rod of God upon them. (That's Hebrews 12:8. If there's no chastisement in your life, then you're a bastard and not a child of God).

10. Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf.

11. They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance.

12. They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. (Music is key, and if you're paying any kind of attention, you'll find that the timbrel, harp, and organ are the same instruments the devil used in Genesis 4:21 when he established Babylon. The devil, being the first music director, is always going to bring music up to a level that meets the children in the depravity that they are in...from Elvis, The Beatles, Jerry Lee Lewis, to Taylor Swift...they met the youth that were beginning to deteriorate on a level with their music that added to their depravity. The devil never misses a trick).

13. They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. (That's epicureanism: eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die, and hedonism that the chief goal in life is pleasure).

14. Therefore they say unto God (here it comes), Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. (There is where the kids are today because of the breakdown of the family, the government, and the church).

15. *What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?* (Now it isn't WHO is the Almighty; it's WHAT is the Almighty. They have lost every conceivable, understandable concept of God. And why should they serve Him? There's no profit in praying to Him...that's where the youth are at today).

Now if you went a little bit further on in this chapter, you would find that **this generation here is the generation of Noah, and they're overthrown with a flood. I bring that point because the Bible says in Luke 17:26: *And as it was in the days of Noe (Noah), so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.*** This is the youth today. **So, the domino effect...so goes the church, so goes the country, so goes the family.**

VI. If the Foundations be Destroyed, What Can the Righteous Do?

Now we finally get to the real question. Where the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? **That would be YOU.**

1. Psalms 11:1. *In the LORD put I my trust:* You've got to trust Him through it all. This is Proverbs 3:5-6.

Proverbs 3:5-6. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

This is probably in your notes & you can probably quote it, but **you'd better learn to apply it.**

- Trust Him with your whole heart
- Get His understanding and dump yours
- In every aspect of your life & your family, you acknowledge Him. You keep Job 21 out.
- He now, through His understanding, will direct your path through it all, and you'll never get messed up.

2. Luke 19:13. Doctrinally this is the tribulation, but inspirationally it's for us.

Luke 19:13. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

Remember 10 is the number of the Gentiles, and pounds are English weights. And he said unto them, *Occupy till I come.* The mandate for the body of Christ today, you and me, in the time that we live is to occupy till He comes. **We've got a job to do.** No matter what the times or the seasons or how bad it is, we have as a church a job to do. We never lose sight of the objective; moreover, with God's understanding we know where we are at, but more importantly (Book of Esther), we know where God is at.

I as a pastor need to adjust my ministry and my church to meet the challenges of our day as they change on a daily basis taking care of my people first—helping and encouraging them, but we all need to occupy until He comes. **We need to stay in the fight right up to the end.** Not being fearful or afraid but having a sound doctrine, sound mind, sound faith, sound word, sound speech, sound wisdom...all built on a sound and sure foundation.

I was watching a program about D-Day. The men on Omaha Beach were the ones that caught the worst of it. On the program, the vets said for a year before they ever went, they were trained extensively every day. They got to England six or seven months before the invasion, and their training intensified. One of the vets went on to say that all that training was put into them for one day when the ramp came down and their feet were on the soil of France. Every bit of training prepared them for one day.

Some of you have been here with me 10, 15, 20 years and some 30 or 40 years. Thursday night Bible Studies, Sunday mornings, Bible Institute, etc....**every ounce of your training has been for one reason—the day we’re living in.** The ramp just came down, and we need to occupy till He comes.

3. Look at the Examples and Ensamples in I Corinthians 10 (we did this a couple of weeks ago) as well as God’s Hall of Fame in Hebrews 11.

I Corinthians 10:11-12. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

12. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

The things that the Old Testament men and women went through are for our admonition. They’re our examples and ensamples. Then what does it say? Upon whom the ends of the world are come. **They’re right there for us to learn from—how they got through what they went through and how you’re going to get through what you’ve got to get through; and yet occupy.** Let’s look at a few.

- Joseph was sold out by his brothers. Ever happen to you? He was left for dead, jailed under Pharaoh, lied about...and yet God sustained him, and God was behind the scenes. He winds up becoming second in the kingdom in the middle of the most godless, perverse society and government you could ever imagine.
- Daniel goes in the first captivity. He’s under Nebuchadnezzar. Remember when the Hebrew children wouldn’t bow to the image? They’re a picture of you and me in the world that we live in. Everything the world wants us to bow down to, we simply won’t do it. Daniel gets thrown in the lion’s den. I always tell people there’s nothing wrong when the devil throws you in the lion’s den as long as the Lion of the tribe of Judah goes in with you!
- Ezekiel goes in the second captivity. In Ezekiel 1:1, it says he was sitting down by the river as a captive taken away by Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar in chains going into the exile of a terrible godless country and government. Then he says that he looked up and

the heavens opened. He saw visions of God. Ezekiel became one of the greatest prophets that Israel ever had in the middle of the captivity.

- Job went through great tribulation with no Bible, no family, no church, no prayer group, no friends, no pastor...all he had was God. And God was enough.

There will never be a time, no matter how dark it gets, if you get yourself squared away and you get your perspective, that God won't open the heavens. God is greater than all of that. What God needs is men and women who get understanding and who will occupy till He comes.

VII. Summary

I leave you with this story found in 2 Samuel 5:22-25. This is a great example of Proverbs 3:5-6.

2 Samuel 5:22-25. And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

23. And when David enquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt not go up; [but] fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.

24. And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.

25. And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

David is surrounded by the Philistines in verse 22. David inquires of the Lord asking if he should go up and fight. **Now David has been told to fight many battles many times—but not this time.** In verses 23-24, God tells him not to fight this time; however, God wants him to move around to their backside and get in position. (By the way, this is a picture of the second coming). **God tells David that when he hears the sound going through the tops of the mulberry trees, know that God is going to fight them for him.** When David hears that rush coming through the tops of the trees, a multitude of angels comes and wipes out the Philistines. God tells David that the victory is through Him. **Let God do the fighting, and we just need to occupy until He comes.** I know it's all according to God's plan.

Somebody asked me the other day what would be the next sign before Jesus comes. I said, "Pal, I ain't looking for a sign. I'm listening for a sound." **I'm listening for the sound coming through the tops of the mulberry trees. My deliverer!**

As times go on, real churches like ours as well as some others are not going to get bigger. They're going to get smaller. **This thing is going to get whittled down to a remnant.** You're going to see people jumping off ship just like they did the Titanic when it was going down. Personally, I'll stay in the fight. I can't speak for you, but I'll stay the course. I will occupy till He comes. **If I'm not dead, I'm not done.**

Sooner or later, you're going to have to make one of two choices. You're going to have to get in the fight, or you're going to have to get out. A lot of people don't like me because of what I preach, but those that do like me...when you get to the Judgment Seat of Christ, you're going to find out, as your pastor, I was your best friend. You may not have liked it, but I always told you the truth. There is a day coming when all of us are going to stand there, and **it's not going to be what you know or didn't know, but what you could have found out but you decided not to.**

The question is: when the foundations are destroyed, and they are, what can the righteous do? I don't care what situation you find yourself in. I don't care how bad your life is. I don't care what the problem is in your life. **There is always something you can do.**