

A large wooden ark is under construction on a dirt field. The ark is made of many vertical wooden posts and horizontal beams, forming a long, rectangular structure with a curved roof. In the background, there are mountains and a sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. In the foreground, there are stacks of logs and wooden planks. The text "AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH" is overlaid in large, bold, yellow letters.

AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

December 6, 2017 Part 15 Pastor Grant Williams

Last week we learned from God's Word that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will be a major sign before His return and Judgment in the Time Of The End just as it was in the days of Noah. This outpouring of the Holy Spirit always precedes a great travail throughout God's Word, it defines a transitioning to a promise in God's Word.

God always tells us the *signs* or *things* of coming judgment (reward or punishment) and gives us mercy or time to repent before that judgment happens. You and I can not be lulled to sleep when we see these signs or things take place, they are warnings for everyone to stay alert and go make disciples. Jesus could come at any moment but, that doesn't mean don't talk about it, it means talk about it even more because when people realize that the prophecies are true, they will also start to believe that judgment is true as well.

We need to understand what Jesus is telling us in Matthew 24...

Matthew 24:6-8 KJV

6 *And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: **see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass**, but the end is not yet.*

7 *For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Note: In the Greek, sorrows in verse 8 is translated: birth pains...

Matthew 24:6-8 AMPC

6 *And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; **see that you are not frightened or troubled, for this must take place**, but the end is not yet.*

7 *For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in place after place;*

8 All this is but the beginning [the early pains] of the birth pangs [of the intolerable anguish].

In the period of time when birth pains occur, it is broken down into 3 trimesters. 1st...month one through three, 2nd...month four through six and 3rd...month seven through nine. The last month is always the worst, that is when the travail becomes the greatest and its then when the water breaks.

When the water breaks in the ninth month of a woman's pregnancy, you know that the child is about to be born. In the Bible, just like the breaking of water in the natural in the ninth month of a woman's labor, it is a sign that the baby or the promise is coming. Water, is always associated with the major spiritual transitions that God sends.

The signs of a transition are always travail: ***struggle, agony, anguish, tribulation, woe, distress, labor, pains, pangs, stress.*** There is always a ***battle or travail*** before the blessing and this is revealed all throughout God's Word.

We know that the former rain spoken by James has already occurred...

James 5:7-8 AMPC

*7 So be patient, brethren, [as you wait] till the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land. [See how] he keeps up his patient [vigil] over it **until it receives the early and late rains.***

8 So you also must be patient. Establish your hearts [strengthen and confirm them in the final certainty], for the coming of the Lord is very near.

James 5:7-8 KJV

*7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, **until he receive the early and latter rain.***

8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

James writes that there are two rain periods. A **former rain** in which you plant the seed and the **latter rain** which produces the growth that leads into the harvest cycle. There is going to be a literal last day outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This outpouring of the Holy Spirit is compared to water.

Acts 2:17-18 KJV

*17 And **it shall come to pass in the last days**, saith God, **I will pour out** of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:*

*18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens **I will pour out in those days** of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:*

We, you and I, the Church is now experiencing the **latter rain**. The latter rain is prophetic understanding of the dreams of visions spoken of in Joel 2 and in Acts 2. These signs, dreams and visions that were given by the Holy Spirit to the prophets that foretold what would happen before Jesus returns.

This outpouring of the Holy Spirit is to understand we are in this prophetic time in history, for us to understand that Jesus is coming and so is judgment. In Revelation chapter two and three John proclaims, ***“He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit said to the churches!”*** There will be scoffers and mockers but there will also be fertile soil from the former/early rain and many will hear if it is the non filtered Word of God.

Romans 1:16 KJV

*16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that **believeth** (has **faith in**); to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

James 2:26 AMPC

*26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, so **faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.***

This is what is happening right now, this is the Last Days, the Time Of The End, the time of the Latter Rain. This is what Paul told Timothy or the Church about this period of time...

2 Timothy 3:1-5, 13-17 AMPC

*1 But understand this, that **in the last days will come (set in) perilous times** (spiritually difficult 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].**

13 But **wicked men and imposters will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and leading astray others and being deceived and led astray themselves.**

14 But as for you, **continue to hold to the things** (God's Word, laws) that you have learned and of which you are convinced, knowing from whom you learned [them],

15 And how from your childhood you have had a knowledge of and been acquainted with the sacred Writings, which are able to instruct you and give you the understanding for salvation which comes through faith in Christ Jesus [through the leaning of the entire human personality on God in Christ Jesus in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness].

16 Every Scripture is God-breathed (given by His inspiration) and profitable for instruction, for reproof and conviction of sin, for correction of error and discipline in obedience, [and] for training in righteousness (in holy living, in conformity to God's will in thought, purpose, and action),

17 So that the man of God may be complete and proficient, well fitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work.

This is already happening, there is a great divide occurring. Will you and I stay strong and obey His Word? Will we be found holy as He is holy? Will we water down the Word? Change it? Leave some out in order to gratify itching ears, to be liked, to update God's Word for the current culture? If we do, they won't know until the Flood comes or the Fire comes that they need to repent.

There is a great deception happening right now but there is also a great outpouring taking place of the understanding of End Time prophecy. The Holy Spirit in all His glory is covering the globe right now, He is pouring out on His sons and daughters, to men and women everywhere about His return and judgment.

How long will this outpouring of the Holy Spirit last ?

Matthew 24:32-33 KJV

32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:

33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

Matthew 24:32-33 AMPC

32 From the fig tree learn this lesson: as soon as its young shoots become soft and tender and it puts out its leaves, you know of a surety that summer is near.

33 So also when you see these signs, all taken together, coming to pass, you may know of a surety that He is near, at the very doors.

Jesus refers to this parable of the fig tree but does not go into great detail about it here in Matthew 24... So where can we find more information about this period of time?

Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Let's go to the Song of Solomon and see what *the wisest man who has ever lived* (1 Kings 4:30) has to say...

Song of Solomon 2:10-13 KJV

10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Notice, this is talking about the fig tree, but what is of interest is what he is saying two different times in speaking of the fig tree, he writes “arise” or “rise up”.

This is what Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica...

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 KJV

*16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and **the dead in Christ shall rise first:***

***17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds,** to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

The dead in Christ will arise first and then we who are alive will arise and meet Him in the air.

Solomon mentions arise twice, the raising up of the dead and the catching up of the living is the parallel in these passages. Then, in verse 10, Solomon says.. come away (my love).

Song of Solomon 2:10 KJV

10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and **come away**.

What is he referring to here? This is Jesus speaking in John 14...

John 14:3 KJV

3 *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; **that where I am, there ye may be also.***

Jesus comes to get you and I and takes us away to His Father's house. This is the gathering together, the catching away, being caught up together or The Rapture of the Church.

The Rapture Of The Church

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 KJV

Key Word: Caught up together

Ephesians 1:10 KJV

Key Word: Gather together in one

Hebrews 12:22-24 KJV

Key Word: General assembly

2 Thessalonians 2:1 KJV

Key Word: Gathering together

Jesus meets you and I along with those who died and were joining Christ in the air. He takes us to heaven for seven years to the place that has been prepared.

Song of Solomon 2:11 KJV

11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

From the parable of the fig tree and the blossoming of the fig tree which we can see is the return of Jesus Christ we know that when the rain is over, which is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, is when Jesus says, ***“13... Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.” (Song of Solomon 2:10-13)***

As the outpouring of the Holy Spirit takes place, it will spread around the world like Noah’s Flood did. All nations shall taste the power of the Holy Spirit and then when God is finished with the rain and the rain is gone or abated...He will say come away with me.

This will be just like when the signs were completed in the Days Of Noah and that last sign was the death of Methuselah. When all of the ***signs*** or ***things*** that were prophesied took place it was then that the waters struck the earth. It was after the Flood that the new earth was created for Noah and his family just like after the Tribulation it will all be new again.

So where does this leave you and I? What do we do with what we know? Jesus told us about this time frame that is coming, about the days of Noah and Lot and he told us what to do...

Luke 21:36 KJV

36 **Watch ye therefore, and pray always,** that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

First, we need to watch and pray. Because, the coming of Jesus Christ for the Church or the Rapture, is an escape from the wrath of God and the Tribulation. Many people in the church still don't want to talk about it, they claim "since we don't know when it's going to happen, who cares, just always be ready." The Bible commands us to know and it gives several reasons why.

It is God's nature to bring the righteous out of trouble..This is the Law Of Escape and this is the character of God.

Noah Escaped The Flood Waters

Genesis 7:13-17

Genesis 7:13-17 AMPC

13 On the very same day Noah and Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, went into the ark,

14 They and every [wild] beast according to its kind, all the livestock according to their kinds, every moving thing that creeps on the land according to its kind, and every fowl according to its kind, every winged thing of every sort.

15 And they went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there were the breath and spirit of life.

16 And they that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded [Noah]; and the Lord shut him in and closed [the door] round about him.

17 The flood [that is, the downpour of rain] was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased and bore up the ark, and it was lifted [high] above the land.

Lot Escaped The Destruction of Sodom

Genesis 19:16-22

Genesis 19:16-22 AMPC

16 But while he lingered, the men (angels) seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, for the Lord was merciful to him; and they brought him forth and set him outside the city and left him there.

17 And when they had brought them forth, they said, Escape for your life! Do not look behind you or stop anywhere in the whole valley; escape to the mountains [of Moab], lest you be consumed.

18 And Lot said to them, Oh, not that, my lords!

19 Behold now, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have magnified your kindness and mercy to me in saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, lest the evil overtake me, and I die.

20 See now yonder city; it is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Oh, let me escape to it! Is it not a little one? And my life will be saved!

21 And [the angel] said to him, See, I have yielded to your entreaty concerning this thing also; I will not destroy this city of which you have spoken.

22 Make haste and take refuge there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar [little].

Genesis 19:16-22 GNT

16 Lot hesitated. The Lord, however, had pity on him; so the men took him, his wife, and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city.

17 Then one of the angels said, “Run for your lives! Don't look back and don't stop in the valley. Run to the hills, so that you won't be killed.”

18 But Lot answered, “No, please don't make us do that, sir.
19 You have done me a great favor and saved my life. But the hills are too far away; the disaster will overtake me, and I will die before I get there.

20 Do you see that little town? It is near enough. Let me go over there—you can see it is just a small place—and I will be safe.”

21 He answered, “All right, I agree. I won't destroy that town.

22 Hurry! Run! I can't do anything until you get there.”

Because Lot called it small, the town was named Zoar.

Jeremiah Escaped Babylonian Captivity

Jeremiah 40:1

Jeremiah 40:1 AMPC

40 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him bound in chains among all who were carried away captive from Jerusalem and Judah, who were taken as exiles to Babylon.

Jeremiah 40:1 GNT

40 The Lord spoke to me after Nebuzaradan, the commanding officer, had set me free at Ramah. I had been taken there in chains, along with all the other people from Jerusalem and Judah who were being taken away as prisoners to Babylonia.

A Remnant Was Marked And Spared From Babylonian Captivity

Jeremiah 40:5

Jeremiah 40:2-5 GNT

2 The commanding officer took me aside and said, “The Lord your God threatened this land with destruction, 3 and now he has done what he said he would. All this happened because your people sinned against the Lord and disobeyed him. 4 Now, I am taking the chains off your wrists and setting you free. If you want to go to Babylonia with me, you may do so, and I will take care of you. But if you don't want to go, you don't have to. You have the whole country to choose from, and you may go wherever you wish.”

5 When I did not answer,[a] Nebuzaradan said, “Go back to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam and grandson of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylonia has made governor of the towns of Judah. You may stay with him and live among the people, or you may go anywhere you think you should.” Then he gave me a present and some food to take with me, and let me go on my way.

Jeremiah 40:2-5 AMPC

2 And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah and said to him, The Lord your God pronounced evil upon this place.

3 Now the Lord has brought it about and has done as He said: [It is] because you [of Judah] have sinned against the Lord and have not obeyed His voice, therefore this thing has come upon you. 4 Now, see, I am freeing you today [Jeremiah] from the chains upon your hands. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will keep an eye on you and look after you well.

But if it seems bad to you to come with me to Babylon, then do not do it. Behold, all the land is before you; wherever it seems good, right, and convenient for you to go, go there.

5 While [Jeremiah] was hesitating, [the captain of the guard] said, Go back then to Gedaliah son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people; or go wherever it seems right for you to go. So the captain of the guard gave him an allowance of food and a present and let him go.

What causes a person to either escape or not escape captivity? So if a person says “I’m a Christian, I haven’t been to church in five years, I don’t tithe/support missions, don’t help the poor (in any area), have my own thoughts on righteousness” are they going to escape? Will they escape like the ones who have been faithful to God, worked hard at being an overcomer, obedient to God’s commands (habitual fellowship/not perfect), serving God according to His Word, His Righteousness & His Commands?

Let’s look in God’s Word for the answer. In the book of Ezekiel, Babylonian judgment was coming and God was going to give some insight to the Jewish people about Babylonian captivity...

Ezekiel 14:13-14 KJV

*13 Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it: 14 Though these three men, **Noah, Daniel, and Job**, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God.*

Ezekiel 14:13-14G GNT

13 “Mortal man,” he said, “if a country sins and is unfaithful to me, I will reach out and destroy its supply of food. I will send a famine and kill people and animals alike.

14 Even if those three men, **Noah, Daniel, and Job**, were living there, their goodness would save only their own lives.” The Sovereign Lord has spoken.

Let’s look at what God has to say about these three men ...

Noah

Genesis 6:9 AMPC

9 This is the history of the generations of Noah. **Noah was a just and righteous man, blameless in his [evill] generation; Noah walked [in habitual fellowship] with God.**

Daniel

Daniel 1:3-8 AMPC

3 And the [Babylonian] king told Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring in some of the children of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility

4 **Youths without blemish, well-favored in appearance and skillful in all wisdom, discernment, and understanding**, apt in learning knowledge, competent to stand and serve in the king’s palace—and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

5 And the king assigned for them a daily portion of his own rich and dainty food and of the wine which he drank.

They were to be so educated and so nourished for three years that at the end of that time they might stand before the king.

6 Among these were of the children of Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. 7 The chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar [the king's attendant], Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

8 But Daniel determined in his heart that he would not defile himself *by [eating his portion of] the king's rich and dainty food or by [drinking] the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might [be allowed] not to defile himself.*

Job

Job 1:1 AMPC

*1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was **blameless and upright, and one who [reverently] feared God and abstained from and shunned evil [because it was wrong].***

It is not our righteousness (us doing what is right in our own minds), but it is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. It is speaking and living in that covenant according to His Word, His Laws, that causes us to become worthy to escape judgment.

Luke 21:36 KJV

*36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, **that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*

God said in Ezekiel 14:14 that Noah, Daniel, and Job would escape the wrath that was coming because of their righteousness in God, living according to His Word.

The prophet Jeremiah prophesied for over twenty years that the Babylonians were coming as their judgment and most people didn't believe him. When the time came to take them to Babylon, Jeremiah was in chains but the Babylonians said release that man, let him stay here in the land.

Jeremiah 40:1-5 GNT

1 The Lord spoke to me after Nebuzaradan, the commanding officer, had set me free at Ramah. I had been taken there in chains, along with all the other people from Jerusalem and Judah who were being taken away as prisoners to Babylonia.

2 The commanding officer took me aside and said, "The Lord your God threatened this land with destruction,

3 and now he has done what he said he would. All this happened because your people sinned against the Lord and disobeyed him.

4 Now, I am taking the chains off your wrists and setting you free. If you want to go to Babylonia with me, you may do so, and I will take care of you. But if you don't want to go, you don't have to. You have the whole country to choose from, and you may go wherever you wish."

5 When I did not answer, Nebuzaradan said, "Go back to Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam and grandson of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylonia has made governor of the towns of Judah. You may stay with him and live among the people, or you may go anywhere you think you should." Then he gave me a present and some food to take with me, and let me go on my way.

Jeremiah escaped the captivity because he was willing to stand up for God, to preach the Word that God told him (*just like Jonah 3:1-5*), to prophecy that judgment was coming. Jeremiah was spared because he declared the Word of God and did not care or stop regardless if God's people were listening or not.

This is just one of many examples for you and I that there is an escape from the wrath, travail, tribulation or final judgment that is coming. I'm not talking about every day trials and tribulations, Jesus spoke to that and that is why we need the Holy Spirit...

John 16:1-33 AMPC

*1 I have told you **all these things**, so that you should not be offended (taken unawares and falter, or be caused to stumble and fall away). [I told you to keep you from being scandalized and repelled.]*

2 They will put you out of (expel you from) the synagogues; but an hour is coming when whoever kills you will think and claim that he has offered service to God.

3 And they will do this because they have not known the Father or Me.

***4 But I have told you these things now, so that when they occur you will remember that I told you of them.** I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.*

5 But now I am going to Him Who sent Me, yet none of you asks Me, Where are You going?

6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts [taken complete possession of them].

7 However, I am telling you nothing but the truth when I say it is profitable (good, expedient, advantageous) for you that I go away. **Because if I do not go away, the Comforter** (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengtheners, Standby) **will not come to you** [into close fellowship with you]; **but if I go away, I will send Him to you** [to be in close fellowship with you].

8 And when He comes, **He will convict and convince the world and bring demonstration to it about sin and about righteousness (uprightness of heart and right standing with God) and about judgment:**

9 About sin, because they do not believe in Me [trust in, rely on, and adhere to Me];

10 About righteousness (uprightness of heart and right standing with God), because I go to My Father, and you will see Me no longer;

11 About judgment, because the ruler (evil genius, prince) of this world [Satan] is judged and condemned and sentence already is passed upon him.

12 I have still many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them or to take them upon you or to grasp them now.

13 But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) **comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth).** For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].

14 He will honor and glorify Me, because He will take of (receive, draw upon) what is Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you.

15 Everything that the Father has is Mine. That is what I meant when I said that **He [the Spirit] will take the things that are Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you.**

16 In a little while you will no longer see Me, and again after a short while you will see Me.

17 So some of His disciples questioned among themselves, What does He mean when He tells us, In a little while you will no longer see Me, and again after a short while you will see Me, and, Because I go to My Father?

18 What does He mean by a little while? We do not know or understand what He is talking about.

19 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask Him, so He said to them, Are you wondering and inquiring among yourselves what I meant when I said, In a little while you will no longer see Me, and again after a short while you will see Me?

20 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that you shall weep and grieve, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy.

21 A woman, when she gives birth to a child, has grief (anguish, agony) because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she no longer remembers her pain (trouble, anguish) because she is so glad that a man (a child, a human being) has been born into the world.

22 So for the present you are also in sorrow (in distress and depressed); but I will see you again and [then] your hearts will rejoice, and no one can take from you your joy (gladness, delight).

23 And when that time comes, you will ask nothing of Me [you will need to ask Me no questions]. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that My Father will grant you whatever you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I Am].

24 Up to this time you have not asked a [single] thing in My Name [as presenting all that I Am]; but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so that your joy (gladness, delight) may be full and complete.

25 I have told you these things in parables (veiled language, allegories, dark sayings); the hour is now coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but I shall tell you about the Father in plain words and openly (without reserve).

26 At that time you will ask (pray) in My Name; and I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf [for it will be unnecessary].

27 For the Father Himself [tenderly] loves you because you have loved Me and have believed that I came out from the Father.

28 I came out from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father.

29 His disciples said, Ah, now You are speaking plainly to us and not in parables (veiled language and figures of speech)!

30 Now we know that You are acquainted with everything and have no need to be asked questions. Because of this we believe that you [really] came from God.

31 Jesus answered them, Do you now believe? [Do you believe it at last?]

32 *But take notice, the hour is coming, and it has arrived, when you will all be dispersed and scattered, every man to his own home, leaving Me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.*

33 I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]

The escape I'm talking about, and this is great news, is the escape from the seven year Tribulation and the final judgment that leads to eternity in the Lake of Fire. Jesus said it's coming and here's how to escape it, so watch the signs of my return, I command you to know them and pray always.

Revelation 3:21 AMPC

21 **He who overcomes** (is victorious), I will grant him to sit beside Me on My throne, **as I Myself overcame** (was victorious) and sat down beside My Father on His throne.

