# Revelation 20-05-14a

This is Thursday, the 14th of May, 2020. We continue our study tonight in the book of revelation. We've transitioned from angels to revelation.

If you're looking for this study on the website, it is listed under angels slash revelation because we morphed from one thing to another, but we're going to be picking up this evening in revelation chapter 15 or thereabouts. We have already seen an overview of the seals, trumpets, thunders, and bowls. And I'm going to endeavor to keep to my time a little better this week than I did last week.

Squeezing those thunders in cost all of us about 15 minutes and we'll try to avoid that, but the thunders are done. So we need to pick up with the bowls this evening. We're going to be looking at the great earthquakes and we're going to be looking at a few other things pertaining to our current situation and how that affects our understanding of where we are in God's plan and what we can and should be doing.

Let's take a moment to ask God's blessing on our fellowship, on our individual hearts, on our collective fellowship, and then we'll begin. Father, we recognize the importance of being prepared for every phase of your plan, whether it is the small details of our daily lives or the larger events that take place around us to redeem the time because the days are evil, to invest the resources that you have given us in eternal things and convert the frangible and temporal aspects of life into things of eternal weight and value. We pray that as we look at this portion of your word this evening and review our place in your plan, that God the Holy Spirit will minister your word to each heart, that we can both be blessed and be a blessing to one another and shine his lights in the midst of our generation in the time that remains to us in this life.

We pray that in all things, the Lord Jesus will be glorified in us and through us. And we pray these things in his name, amen. Amen.

I wanna begin tonight because I'm gonna say something that might be subject to misunderstanding and I don't want it to be. And so I'm gonna review my fundamental commitment to the pre-tribulational rapture. And in doing that, we're going to review two quick passages and believe me, this is gonna be quick, but turn to what is now becoming familiar to us.

We've reviewed it class by class, 1 Timothy 4. We're gonna look at 1 Timothy 4 and 2 Timothy 3 just by way of review. I'm not gonna pick apart any of the terms. I just want an overview here.

Our current study is something more along the lines of an overview than a verse by verse, word by word study and necessarily so. I don't think we have time for a lengthy traverse of these things. We've got to get the big picture here.

So 1 Timothy 4, now the spirit expressly says that in latter times, there are going to be some

conditions. In latter times, just stop and think about that for a moment. We believe that the church age is going to continue, continue, continue, continue.

Then there is going to be a shout, the voice of the archangel, the trump of God, dead in Christ will rise. Those who are alive and remain caught up together with them, meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord, right? And the tribulation is after that. I am 100% convinced that that's exactly how it works.

However, the spirit expressly says that in the latter times, there are going to be conditions that lead up to that tribulation period. We are not in a sanitary, sanctified, germ-free bubble. We leave and suddenly the whole world turns ugly.

The world is going to start turning ugly and the groundwork is going to be laid before we leave. We're not going to be here for the 70th week of Daniel, the tribulation, the great time of Jacob's trouble. We will not be here for that.

We are church, that is Israel, no question. But what I'm going to suggest to you and document for you tonight is, that doesn't mean that we are not going to see the groundwork being laid and many of the pieces of the puzzle laid on the table and fitted into their places before we leave. And it's important to recognize the signs of the times and to be appropriately concerned without being alarmed.

There's a difference between concern and alarm. There's a difference between caution and panic. There's a difference between wisdom and being off the chain.

And we want to recognize what is going on around us. And that's what we're going to see tonight. So the spirit expressly says in latter times, some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.

We talked about that last time. Speaking lies in hypocrisy. What's the thing about hypocrisy? And I said, I'm not going to do word by word, but speaking lies in hypocrisy.

This is putting one thing for another. You remember the roots of this word, hupo kretes. The kretes is the mask.

Hupa is like hypo, it's like a hypodermic. It's behind the mask. It's under the mask.

There's one thing on the surface. There's something else behind it. There is a message that is being given.

There is a story that is being told. There's a policy that's being announced. That's the face of things.

Behind it is a different intention, a different agenda. That's hypocrisy. And so lies are being put for

truth.

And it is given with clear eyes and an unblinking stare into the TV cameras, but it's not true. Speaking lies in hypocrisy. Now, these are those departing from the faith.

These are people associated with the faith. This is church. This is Christianity.

This is fundamentalist. This is denominationalist. This is people who go to churches either independent or affiliated who are engaging in hypocrisy.

Now, you don't have to be a conscious hypocrite. You can be an unconscious hypocrite, just like you can be unconsciously witty. You can be unconsciously funny.

You can be unconsciously evil and you can be unwittingly hypocritical. Hypocrisy is saying and doing things that do not reflect biblical truth. And you don't even have to know you're doing it.

They don't wake up in the morning and twirl the ends of their mustache and say, I'm gonna sink to new depths of being a hypocrite today. In many cases, I think that this is unwitting and unconscious, and it is a result of failure to prepare, failure to learn, failure to grow, failure to cultivate humility and confession and acknowledgement and be teachable. God resists the proud, gives grace to the humble.

If we do not crack that nut of pride in our souls, we can be hypocrite speaking lies and not even be able to even know it. The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. And if your heart is lying to you, it's a lot like your mind giving way.

Talking to somebody earlier today about the tragedy of the Alzheimer's type loss of function, where your mind simply will not print new memories anymore. You can remember the past like it was yesterday. The people you talk with can remember the good old days very, very well, but can't remember what was said five minutes ago.

Call you up on the phone, five minutes later, call you up on the phone, don't realize that they just spoke to you and continue that five, six, seven times. And what can you do if your mind is not functioning and printing recent memories? What are you gonna do about that? If you make yourself a note and you look at the note and you say, well, I don't even know what this means, that you have no context to interpret it. You say, I just called Sam at such and such a time.

You look at the note and say, well, where'd that come from? And then you call up Sam. So in the same way, if your heart is deceitful, if your heart doesn't work like it's supposed to, you don't have a conscience that functions to convict. And if we don't have the mentality to acknowledge wrong and to confess our sins, we can be these people and not even know it.

The church doesn't go around being hypocritical doctrine of demon people. The church is never gonna think that. What are they going to say? Well, we're the church.

We represent Christ. We're all about the Bible and praise the Lord. And we sing songs and so on.

So don't think that this is some sort of a nefarious group. This is a well-meaning, well-intentioned and fundamentally evil church. You can be well-meaning and well-intentioned and just be as evil as the day is long, and you don't know it.

And because you don't know it, you can't fix it. Where does knowledge come from to get fixed? It's not in glad handing. It's not in experiences.

It's not in theatrical church. It's not in being made to feel good. It's not in wonderful stories.

It isn't in uplifting music, although music can be uplifting, but that's not where the value is. The value is in biblical truth, such as we're looking at tonight. Speaking lies and hypocrisy, look, having their conscience seared with a hot iron.

Your conscience can't work when it's seared. And this is something that happened in the past. This is the fruit of past behavior, past decisions.

There are people who lose their mental function because of a history of past behavior. It's not in every case, but in many cases, if you're taking uppers to get up and downers to get down and alcohol to wash them down with, you can burn out your brain, and it's just a fact. And if you cultivate emotional extremes, if you tolerate that, if you sort of get hooked on emotional extremes, you can burn out your brain and your conscience doesn't work right anymore.

It's just like wearing the sear off of a trigger. So these are not wake up in the morning and make a conscious decision to be evil, to be deceived, to speak doctrines of demons. This is not forbidding to marry.

This is undermining marriage. This is belittling the importance. This is eroding the foundation of marriage.

It's not forbidding to marry. It is hostility. It's taking it apart, picking it apart, taking away the ground out from underneath it so that it cracks and fails.

Same thing, this abstaining from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. Remember, we are in the age of spiritual truth and food for the body, you know, bodily exercise, profits a little, but what we're mainly concerned with, what kind of food nourishes us? As God fearing Bible grounded believers, what's our food? What did Jesus say when the devil said, turn these rocks into bread? We live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. I'll tell you what I believe this attack is when it says commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received, that's spiritual food.

Well, we've got to explain away that was cultural, that doesn't pertain now. We can't apply that in this modern day, that was for then, and this is something different. These foods represent, I don't

doubt that it has a physical food component, and there may come a time when people are saying, well, you can't eat this, you can't eat that, but this was an example in Paul's day of people picking issues that were physical, going back to the days of the Jews and the Israelites before them who made an issue out of phylacteries, binding them to their hand and their head instead of the word of God that those things represent.

Same thing here. Food for the body represents food for the soul, spiritual food, and to exempt portions of the word of God and say, we don't cover that anymore, we don't talk about that anymore, we don't consider that applicable or pertinent anymore, we're going to pick and choose, and the other parts that God designed to be nourishing to those who believe and know the truth, that's been taken off the table, we're just not going to talk about those things anymore, whether it's marriage, whether it's keeping your body sacrosanct and a lot of other things. So every creature of God is good, everything that has been made by God, creature is a creation, every creation of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving, it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

This goes beyond food, this is our appeal to God in humility to lead us in the right path, to show us what we should and shouldn't do, to what extent do we conform, to what extent do we not conform, how do you know when, like the founding fathers, a government has gone too far and it is time to stand up and resist and oppose, and when do you go along and honor the king, even as you fear God. Verse six, if you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, notice where the nourishment comes from, nourished in the words of faith and the good doctrine, which you have carefully followed, this is the key, whatever the issue, social, moral, civil, global, local, nourished in the words of faith and the good doctrine, which you have diligently, carefully followed, that is the key, when in doubt, search it out, search the scriptures, reflect, chew on what we know, reject profane and old wives fables and exercise yourself toward godliness, there is a lot of fable telling going on, and this has been going on now for decades, but it has lulled the church into a diet of Twinkies, I won't even go into all of the books and movements and fads and trends, and this year it's this, and last year it was that, and next year it'll be something else, that are all substitutes, leavened bits and pieces of the word of God, restrung together into a different necklace of beads, saying something the word of God never says, bodily exercise verse eight profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, cultivate godliness, we should wake up in the morning thinking, what is the path of godliness today, of faithfulness, of fidelity to what I know from the word of God, this is a faithful saying, profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come, we're living a life now, and we're looking ahead to the life which is to come, to this end, Paul says we labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, the savior of all men, especially of those who believe, you can chew on that for a while, I don't have time to talk about it, but if he's the savior of all men, especially those who believe, what does it mean? Well, a lot of it depends on the tense of the words here, but in short, he is potentially the savior of all men, he is specifically the savior of those who are trusting, and this is not salvation from the lake of fire, this is salvation in this

present evil age, delivering us out of this present evil age, turn over a few pages to second Timothy chapter three, know this in the last days, perilous times will come, and you know this list, I'm going to skip that, verse five, having a form of godliness, but denying its power, godliness, godliness with contentment is great gain, right? Godliness, same thing he talked about in the first letter, what is the power in godliness? Is it my level of commitment? Is it the strength of my faith? How can you deny the power in godliness? How does that happen? What does the Bible say is powerful and alive and sharper than a sword? It's the word of God. How does the power of God come into the life of the believer? How many times have I said this? It is the spirit of God and the word of God.

So if someone has a form of godliness and denies the power, what's missing? Failure to pay attention to the word of God and failure to cultivate the genuine ongoing presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the individual, which then pools in fellowship. Look at verse 10. You have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long suffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me in these different towns.

Out of all the Lord delivered me. All who desire, verse 12, to live godly in Christ Jesus. This is another synonym for godliness.

All who desire godliness in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. Evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse deceiving and being deceived. Deceiving and being deceived.

Same thing we saw in first Timothy chapter four, there is this deception and it's unwitting. They are deceived and they go forth and deceive others with their own deception. You must continue verse 14 in the things which you have learned and been assured of knowing from whom you have learned from childhood.

You have known the Holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise for deliverance, wise for deliverance. I'm getting the light of heaven shining in my face. Now I have a Holy glow.

If you can just stuff a pillow in that it's above the slats or roll that deal up and stuff it in there right now, I can't even, I'm the future's so bright. I have to wear shades. Is that it? Yes.

So in any case, these are the conditions that pertain at the end times. Why is the church being warned of these? I think you could roll up the other thing under your knee. Why is the church being warned of these? Because it's going to pertain before we leave.

Is this the last days before we leave? This is precursor. This is part and parcel of what is going to take place before we leave, before we go. So I want to stress that because as we turn now over to revelation and pick up tonight, looking at the time of the sixth and seventh seal, the sixth and seventh trumpet and the six and the seven bowls, all of the things that we have seen here are symptomatic and are things that happen in the tribulation.

But here's the thing. They don't appear like flash bulbs in the dark. There is a foundation under these things.

There is a trend and a buildup to them that begins before we leave. And that's what Paul was talking about in his two letters to Timothy and a couple of other places. Be aware that this isn't going to explode out of nothingness.

And it is the apathy and indifference of so much of the church that is going to allow these things to build. If you think about the days of Noah, did Noah leave and then the earth got very evil? Or did the earth get evil? Noah left and the judgment followed. And you remember there was the judgment that the wickedness of men's hearts and their imaginations were only evil all day long.

And Noah had to live in that for decade after decade while he's building the ark. And when it reached the point where God was going to judge it, God lifted Noah up from the earth and judged the earth beneath his feet. That's what's going to happen.

But don't think that Noah didn't have to mind his P's and Q's while he and his family were living in that incredibly iniquitous generation. And he had to fortify himself to not be dragged down with it and no longer be considered upright in his generations. Right? Upright in his generation.

So same thing here. Now, before we get into the details of what we're going to look at tonight in the latter part of these judgments, let me remind you that we've already seen that a lot of this overlaps. I think as the horsemen ride out, their effect is cumulative and simultaneous.

I think that's true of these judgments in general. And rather than there being 21 individual little phases that go along chronologically, you basically have three times in this 70th week. There is the initial phase, there is the intensification phase, and there is the judgment of God phase.

And the judgment of God follows the intensification so closely that it's almost just two phases. There's the buildup and then there's the judgment. These seven items are not dividing it chronologically.

They're dividing it by subject, by area of endeavor. If you have your chart, I can document this for you right quick. Let's take a look at the trumpets.

The trumpets are in the center of the book of Revelation. They're in the center bracketed by the seals and the bowls. If you kind of ignore the thunders for the moment, the thunders remind me of the church age.

You know, you have a sort of mystery element there, but look at the trumpets and just look for the fraction. Do you see in my chart in chapter eight, verse seven, if you don't have a chart, you can look this up in your Bible. Chapter eight, verse seven is the first trump.

If you annotated your chart last time, you have eight, seven over first trump there. Hail, fire, blood

are cast to the earth and one third of the trees burn. See that? One third of the trees burn.

Notice in the second trump that something else is cast to the earth. In the first trump, it was hail, fire and blood falling from heaven. Remember, these are the trumpets.

This is the angelic point of view. And this is stuff in the heavenlies impacting the earth. So here's hail, fire and blood coming down to the earth.

In the second trump, it's a great mountain, burning mountain that's falling from heaven and is cast into the sea. And again, you have a third of the sea creatures and a third of the ships. Now I would submit to you that these are, that they're possibly sequential, but like the seals, not by much.

I think this is all basically one big celestial event. And at the point that this material falls out of the sky, could be MU 1990 or, I think I said MR last time, and then I tried to look it up and realize it was MU. But if you want to read about this, it's MU 1990.

Those two things together will get you there. That's supposed to do a near flyby of the earth in June of 2027. But the thing is out of sight, out of mind, and nobody knows exactly what gravitational forces or what impacts it.

If it runs into something and gets diverted, it could easily be something that hits the earth. And it's calculated size is about this. They say it's about the size of Mount Everest.

Well, here you've got a great mountain being cast into the sea. So it's about that size. But notice whatever this is, about a third of everything on the earth gets ruined.

So in the first trump, it talks about the trees and the green grass burning. Now I want you to notice the very last thing I have there under the first trump. All green grass is burned up.

Just put a little asterisk there. All green grass is burned up. If you've got a lawn like mine, when your grass gets burned up, it is really a chore to get it to come back.

If you've got roots and stuff, that's one thing. But if your green grass gets scorched and burnt, it's usually a year and you've just got to start over. Okay, I'm just saying.

So in the second trump, but notice we've shifted in the first trump. This is not so, in my opinion, it's not so much sequence as what are you looking at? If you've ever gone to a museum, they've got benches in front of some of your famous paintings and you could sit there and you look at the painting and you just take some time to soak it up and reflect on it. Let your eye wander in different parts of the painting.

I believe that's what these seals, trumpets and bowls are like in the sense that these trumpets are not saying, okay, now that that has happened, this thing is happening next. As this trumpet

almost resets to the beginning and says, okay, trumpet number one, this is what's going to happen to the earth. Stuff is going to fall from heaven and the vegetation is going to be scorched.

The heavier duty vegetation, a third of it's going to die. The light duty stuff like grass, all of it's going to die. Now we step back and we say, okay, what happens under the second trumpet? Well, this great mountain is cast into the sea.

Now I'm looking at the sea. I'm not looking at the land. So the sea creatures and the ships are affected in the same proportion as what happened on the land.

You go to the third. That was chapter eight, verse eight, by the way. Then chapter eight, verse 10 is the third trumpet.

Notice a great star falls from heaven like a burning lamp. In the first case, it was hail, fire and blood. In the second case, it was a mountain.

Now it is characterized as a great star like a burning lamp. And notice your fresh water sources. This is fundamental to life.

You can live a long time if you have water, even without food, but the rivers, the fountains are turned to wormwood. They become unpotable, undrinkable, and people are going to die for lack of water. You look at the fourth trump.

This is chapter eight, verse 12. And notice now we've turned our attention to the atmosphere and a third of the sun, a third of the moon, a third of the stars, a third of day and night are darkened. And this means that at its brightest point, the sun can just barely brighten.

You know how it is when you've got a super heavy overcast, you've got a really stormy day, and you hardly know that the sun has come up until 10 or 11 in the morning. And if it stays super cloudy and super stormy, it starts getting dark mid-afternoon because the angle of the sun just can't penetrate and it basically gets dark. This is what it's going to be like.

There's going to be so much soot, debris, ash, whatever it is in the atmosphere, that it's only during the most direct rays of the sun that what's underneath the atmosphere can be illuminated. So the sun, moon, stars, it's all darkened day and night, don't shine, and there are three more woes to come. So you can see those four trumpets are really four different views of what I submit are a single event there is a shower of stuff that hits the earth.

And under the first trumpet, you see what happens to the earth. Under the second trumpet, you see what happens to the sea, which is 80% of the planet's surface. The third trumpet, you see what happens to fresh water supplies and that effect on mankind.

And then in the fourth, you see what happens in the atmosphere and above the earth, trying to look up, you can't, there's very little light. Notice in the fifth trumpet, chapter nine, verse one, a

star falls to the earth. And under this metaphor, he's given the key to the bottomless pit.

And once again, the sun and the air are darkened and men are not killed, but tormented for five months. Remember I had you put an asterisk next to the first trumpet where it says all the green grass was burned up. You remember under the fifth trumpet, it says when these locusts are released, don't hurt the green grass, the trees or green things, only mankind.

Well, how can there be any green grass left after these first four trumpets? If this is sequential, what green grass could he possibly be talking about? I think this is a clue much as our earthquakes are a clue in the seals, trumpets and bowls that that's an earthquake. And I think this is an event. And all five of these involves something falling from heaven to earth and then looking at the consequences.

And the trumpet is a trumpet of effect, not of chronology. And these trumpet judgments, the trumpet was blown, the shofar was blown in the ancient world and the trumpets were blown in the Roman army as marshalling for battle. And a trumpet blast would summon specific units.

They would have a unique signature and you could blow the trumpet and this particular battalion would then receive an order to advance or retreat or move left or move right or turn a flank or whatever. And so these trumps are in a sense warfare trumpets and there's war on the land, there's war on the sea, there's war on the fresh water supply, there's war on the air. And then there is the human toll, these scorpions with their power to hurt men five months.

Some of them are gonna die from these other causes like losing fresh water and so on. But initially there is this five month disease and it torments them. Then you come to your, and so you could almost draw a line.

You can see that there's kind of a natural division about two thirds of the way across my chart. And then you have the sixth and seventh seal, sixth and seventh trumpet, and you have the fifth through seventh file. If I'd had room, I could have probably put the fifth bowl down under the fourth.

Because once again, when you have people under the fifth trumpet that are tormented under the fifth bowl, you can see that men are blaspheming because of sores and pain. And if they don't repent, they're still alive, but they're tormented. And you could kind of loop that fifth vial under.

And then you have the sixth and seventh of everything. And this is why I'm saying the first five fall into the preparation and buildup phase. And then the sixth and seventh, this is the judgment of God phase.

And notice at the beginning of the sixth seal, what's the first, this is chapter six, verse 12, the sixth seal, we have a great earthquake. And under the seventh seal in chapter eight, verse five, we have a great earthquake. It's not written on there.

You might want to add it under the seventh seal. There's silence in heaven for the space of half an hour. And in eight, five, there is the great earthquake.

I think this is the same earthquake. I think the earthquake of the sixth seal is the earthquake of the seventh seal. And once again, these are two different points of view on the same basic set of events.

So the sixth seal, if you read those symptoms on the chart, the sun is blackened, the moon is blood, the stars fall like untimely figs, the heavens depart as a scroll, the mountains are moved out of their place. People are saying, hide us from the wrath of him who was on the throne, the wrath of the lamb, the day of wrath has come. That's everything on the earth.

On the seventh seal, where is it looking? Heaven. And all it says is there's silence in heaven. There's rack and ruin taking place down on earth, but in heaven, there's silence.

And I think this is a silence of awe. Nothing like this has been seen since the world was made. And all of the observers in heaven, which will include us, which will include the angels, are essentially in shock.

Even knowing what we know, recognizing the righteous judgment of God, this disaster, this calamitous judgment is just jaw dropping. And in heaven, from the safety of heaven, looking down at the judgment of God, there is just silence for half an hour. It's just so powerful and so unprecedented.

Nobody says anything in heaven for half an hour. But that great earthquake at the beginning of the sixth seal, me, myself and I, and I'm the only guy I know that says this, but I suggest to you, take a look at, there is only one great earthquake. Do you notice in all the preceding seals, trumpets and bowls, there are no earthquakes.

But in the sixth and seventh, there is an earthquake. And I think there's only one, and it is the big final earthquake. This is the earthquake to end all earthquakes.

So you'll notice in the sixth trumpet, right below that, this is chapter nine, verse 13, there's a voice from the altar. There's all the rest of that. You get down to the bottom and you can write in, in chapter 11, verse 13, which is at the end of the sixth trumpet and before the seventh trumpet, which is 1115.

If you wrote that down next time, see how the seventh trumpet starts at 1115. Well, under the bottom of the sixth trumpet, you can write down 1113 earthquake. And then under the seventh trumpet, the second to the last item there is earthquake.

I think that's the same earthquake. These are two different views. And once again, in the sixth trumpet, you're looking at the river Euphrates, you're looking at 200 million people killed by fire,

smoke and brimstone.

They're not repenting. There's an earthquake. That's the earthly view under the sixth trumpet, just like the sixth seal.

Look at the seventh trumpet next to it. This is heaven. There are great voices.

The kingdoms of this earth have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ who art was and is to come and has reigned and the nations are angry at the wrath that is coming. It is time to judge, reward the saints, destroy those who destroy the earth. The temple is open in heaven.

The ark is seen. There's lightnings, voices, thunderings and earthquake. All of this is in heaven.

And the hail of God's final judgment descends. But do you see what I'm getting at here? It's what you're looking at in the same way the seals, trumpets and bowls look in different directions. These groups of judgments are looking at the place of effect.

So then when you get to the bowls, we'll see the same thing. We're gonna pause here and take our break, but let me leave you with a final thought. If you had to stop here and listen to the second session on another day, God is in his heaven.

We are in Christ Jesus. God does not suffer the righteous to be moved. The trick is to be the righteous.

We've reviewed in 1 Timothy 4 and 2 Timothy 3, what it takes to be righteous and to avoid being deceived, to avoid being overtaken, have that day overtake us like a thief. It's not hard. Don't have to climb a mountain.

Don't have to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem or Mecca or anywhere. It is a simple matter of using what's right in front of us. You've got multiple copies of the word of God all over the house.

You've got the spirit of God available anytime, any place, any circumstance. It is the spirit of God and the word of God that fortifies our soul. That is the full armor of God.

That is the eyes to see and the preparation to tell us where to place our feet. When do we flex? When do we hold fast? When do we charge? When do we pull back? God does not want us to be confused. He doesn't want us to be weak.

He doesn't want us to be ineffective. He doesn't want us to fall under judgment. God is for us.

So who can be against us? But we've got to pay attention. We've got to remember who we are and why we're here and use these easily available right in front of us. It's not up in heaven that we have to ascend.

It's not down in the depth that we have to descend. It is near us. It is in our hearts.

It's on our lips. It's the word of God and the spirit of God. Prayer and reflection on the word of God is all it takes.

You just have to want it. And we are as secure as the angels that surround God's throne. And we can watch and we can be alert and be ready to serve and to function and to reflect God's glory and to do our part.

And it's exciting. It's not a time to be dismaled out and depressed. It's a time to be ready to serve, ready to move, ready to climb on a horse and join the Lord Jesus when he comes back to wrap all of this stuff up.

So it's an exciting time if you know what you're doing. It's just like a test at the end of a semester. You know, finals, people who know their stuff look forward to finals because they want to set the curve.

They want to see how close to 100% they can get. And they chew these tests up for breakfast. Who sweats finals? The unprepared.

Don't be unprepared. Let's pause here and take our break.