

Rev 26-06-21b

We're ready now to resume our study here in Revelation. It is a fascinating look forward. We are not going to see this from the earthly perspective, but from a heavenly perspective.

Hopefully, we will be those who are on these white horses. There's no reason not to be. We know the drill.

We know why we're here. We know how to lay hold of righteousness by faith. We are able to be in this privileged, intimate group.

So, let's do it. And this war that takes place, it doesn't say that the white-robed throngs participate in the war because this angel flying in the sun says, Come gather for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses, the flesh of those who sit on them, the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great. Notice how many times the word flesh is mentioned.

The days of flesh, the arm of flesh that will fail you, as Martin Luther's great hymn indicates, the arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own. Put on the gospel armor. Actually, that's a different song.

I'm quoting Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus. The arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own. Flesh, the works of the flesh, the lust of the flesh, the carnality is a word that is based on carne, which is flesh, meat, and it's the Latin.

This is a description that emphasizes the fact that we are moving away from the days of flesh, the power of flesh, these captains and kings and so on, and the birds are there coming and gathering. What that says is this age, this type of power is dying, has been judged, has been taken out of the way, and it is food for the carrion birds. This is not going to literally be vultures pecking all over the earth, but they will be eliminated and their remains will be removed.

This is what happens when the clean-up birds come in. That which has been slain is consumed and removed. That's what's going to happen in preparation for the millennial reign of Christ.

The beasts, the kings of the earth, and their armies that gather together to make war, and you get the idea that there is a knowledge ahead of time that is proclaimed. You're going to lose. Do you not see this? I've already called the vultures to eat your flesh.

Remember the scene of David and Goliath? What is it that Goliath says to David? Am I a dog that you send this guy out to me? I will feed your flesh to the fowls of the air and to the beasts of the field. And then David's reply. It's fun to go back and read that in 1 Samuel.

This is similar. The son of David is going to come, and those who endeavor to make war against the Lord are going to suffer the same fate as Goliath. And remember, it doesn't say that birds

actually came down and beasts actually came and ate the body of Goliath.

It was a prediction that is metaphorical, indicating that you will be defeated, you will be slain, and you will be no more. You're going to be cleaned up in some fashion. The two beasts and false prophet are cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Remember, these are non-human entities. They have some sort of angelic component. The first beast arises out of the sea.

The second beast, the false prophet, arises out of the land, but they are not of human stock, at least not entirely. I think looking at the symmetry of biblical revelation, this may be aligned with Genesis 6, where the sons of God see the daughters of men and cohabit and produce offspring. There is this weird mix that has to be eliminated by the flood.

That genetic material has to be destroyed. Nearly all of it is. There is a strain that persists down through, in my view.

These are the giants that are not slain until the latter days of David, when the last of them are wiped out. Noah was perfect in his generations. His wife and his sons are uncontaminated, but we don't know about the wives.

And it is possible, if I had to pick a candidate, I am sure that it was not Shem's wife. I doubt it was Japheth's wife. So, if there was any residual genetic information that came across and resulted in giants and six fingers and other strangeness due to bioengineering on the part of the angels in Genesis 6, I know this sounds kind of wild-eyed, but these mighty men of old.

This is what gave rise to the mythology of gods and demigods and those with supernatural powers. It comes down in a greatly distorted form in the pantheons of the various ancient empires, whether it's the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans, all of these mythological beings. Even in South America, you see this notion of what Eric Von Daniken thinks is aliens that came down and did things.

Yes, they are aliens. Yes, there are aliens. They are, quote-unquote, from outer space.

They are the fallen angels. And after their dalliance in interfering with human physiology and genetics, they are eliminated. The material is destroyed, except evidently for a small strand, and the last of that dies out in terms of producing giants in the days of David, which is a couple thousand years after the fact.

That being the case, these individuals being more than human, shall we say, are not susceptible to the same kind of destruction, perhaps, as mortal human beings who will be raised at the judgment and then destroyed. We'll see that when we get to the Great White Throne. But they are cast alive into the lake of fire, and there is at least a momentary sensation that these individuals

are going to experience, otherwise it wouldn't say cast alive.

They could have been slain in the battle and their corpses thrown in. The carrion birds eat the humans slain because they are flesh. These two seem to be more than flesh, and so they have a special judgment and a special destination.

Also remember that the lake of fire was prepared for the devil and his angels, and if these two go into the lake of fire, it strongly suggests that they are a part of that group. The rest are killed with the sword which proceeds from the mouth of him who sat on the horse. All the birds are filled with their flesh.

I would say this, the Word of God issues forth, and sometimes we see the agency that it invokes, and other times we don't. There are those who are slain by the breath of his mouth, as we will see, and again, this seems to be a spoken word. Think of the symmetry of the Bible.

Think back to Genesis chapter 1. Let there be, and there was, and God saw that it was good. I am sure that there is at least one level of agency involved that is not mentioned in Genesis 1. It is mentioned in John 1. The Lord Jesus was there at the beginning, and without him nothing was made that was made. So when God says, let the earth bring forth, let there be this, let the waters be divided, and when he issues these commands, there is agency that brings them about.

It isn't simply a word that goes forth into emptiness of space and produces everything. There is agency. I think the Lord Jesus Christ was certainly involved because we are told so in John 1. I think that the Lord Jesus, who has under his control at least legions of angels, could have issued additional commands, and there might have been design teams of angels that did the detailed coding, and God comes and inspects.

He gave a command. Agency does work. God inspects it and says, that is good.

If God is just doing it all himself and the angels are in the seats eating popcorn and cheering, why would God then, this is my opinion, if God does a thing himself at first person, he wouldn't need to look at it and say it's good. He knows it's good because he's good and he does good work. It implies to me, it suggests to me, that after a day is complete and God looks at everything that was done, a creation day, and God saw that it was good, God conceives it and provides inception.

Agency carries it out, at a minimum, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit is hovering on the face of the waters. So there is that, but we have the previous creation of the angels, and it seems likely to me that why would not God include them the way we include our children in tasks for their benefit? They get to know us. We see who is faithful, who is working harder.

There are levels of angels, and I suspect that this wasn't an arbitrary assignment, but in the same way that we prove ourselves faithful, he that is faithful in that which is least will be faithful also in

that which is much. It is required in a steward that a man be found faithful, Paul says, and I think that there are projects in the past, possibly including this creation, in which angels were involved and demonstrated that they were capable. Some disobeyed when they were given early oversight in the infant earth civilization.

I suspect that there was some initiation into the wheel and fire and the basics of how to draw your living from the dust to the ground. How do I do this? If angels were involved in composing the soil and providing nutrients and designing the seeds and so on, they could teach agriculture. They could teach things that Cain and Abel would begin to practice after the fall.

So you have the growing of vegetables, and you have the herding and care of sheep and goats and so on, and this could have been under instruction. Give some insight. Get your lunch.

Don't have to figure it out from scratch. I say that to say this. There are special judgments, special holding places that are associated with angels, such as the bottomless pit, such as those angels who are kept in chains to which the Lord Jesus went and communicated his successful, victorious work on the cross.

He wasn't talking to demons. He wasn't talking to Satan. The spirits that are reserved in chains are not destined for the lake of fire.

They were disobedient. They are not rebellious, and there is a difference. So you can look those passages up.

We've talked about it many times before, but when these two, the beast and the false prophet, are sent into the lake of fire, this is specifically designed originally for Satan and his angels. It will ultimately also include these that are upcoming in the next chapter. So there is a symmetry, and when the Lord Jesus, it says, kills all of these other individuals, the rest, those that took the mark, those that worshiped the image of the beast and so on, the rest were killed with the sword which proceeds from the mouth of him who sat on the horse.

This is a literal sword. It's a flying sword going around and just chopping everybody into flinders, and then you would have actual carrion, you know, turkey buzzards and vultures and all that coming in trying to eat all of this dead flesh. I think because the book is metaphorical, I think this is metaphorical, and when the sword of his mouth is the word of God, the word of God that initiated creation, I think involved agency.

At a minimum, it involved the Lord Jesus because we're told so. I think here when the Lord Jesus issues the word of God from his mouth, this involves agency, and there will be agency involved in slaying the rest of those who are on the earth, and we need to be prepared in case that involves those who are clothed in linen and sitting on the white horses. If the Lord Jesus is coming with a sword, I have to think that this is not just a cheering section or an honor guard, that there may be some involvement there, and those who are prepared are not going to be in shock and are not

going to fail to do whatever it is they are called upon to do in this scenario.

I will tell you that believers who think that pacifism is righteousness and any involvement in warfare or anything involving the taking of human life in judicial capital punishment or in warfare have got a surprise coming. They limit themselves to the gentle Jesus who came at the first advent, the first coming, and judge everything by that, and they do not look at the Lord of the armies, the Lord of hosts. How many times is he called that? These are not armies that are distributing bread and clothing to the homeless in the Old Testament.

The Lord of hosts is his name. Read the Psalms hundreds of times. God is referred to as the Lord of hosts.

The hosts are the armies. He is the Lord of the armies. Armies go into battle and kill people and break things.

That is what they do. He is Lord of the armies. So, do not be surprised when the Lord Jesus returns and his vesture is sprinkled with blood, the blood of his enemies from treading the wine press.

This is violent death. Get used to it. Accept it.

There are people who can't and don't. And all I'm saying is this is one of the reasons you're going to be non-functional. You're going to be in some sort of post-traumatic stress when the Lord Jesus appears and deals righteously and truthfully with his enemies.

He is faithful and true. His judgments are faithful and true and righteous. And the punishment that is dealt out is righteous and true.

However you understand the lake of fire, God invented it. God does the judging. God does the sentencing.

And God fulfills the sentence. And it is not sweetness and light. It is not blessing and comfort.

The threat of it doesn't bring everyone around and say, oh, well, if I had known that was on the line, I would have, sorry, no. There are those who are completely obstreperous, who are stubbornly, willfully unwilling to believe. I'll give you an example of this that relates to the debate between science and faith or science and creationism or design or whatever you want to call it.

The argument is from science today and the NEA, the education people and the science leadership, they all say we've got to keep the Bible out of the classroom. We've got to keep Christianity and faith out of the classroom. Because why? Why do they not want it in there? Their argument is, well, if people start putting God into everything, they'll quit doing science.

That whenever they come up to a problem, they'll say, well, that's just the way God made it. No

point in looking any further, which is the devil's own lie. Science was invented by believers.

Look at Newton. Look at any number of the early scientists. They were all believers in God, and they did science because they knew that God was orderly and had purpose and design, and they wanted to understand it.

Their belief in God spurred them to enjoy and to glory in the beauty of his creation. What happens when you don't believe in God? Einstein, through his calculations, had to come up with the cosmological constant. He saw his math was leading him to an expanding universe, which immediately implied the Big Bang, which implied a beginning.

Einstein didn't want a beginning, so Einstein changed one of the numbers in his formula so that it would produce or describe a universe that was steady state and was eternal and had always existed. He fudged the number. Look it up.

Einstein cosmological constant. Years later, when he was proven wrong, he said, it was the biggest mistake of my career. But the reason he made that mistake is he didn't want there to be a beginning because he didn't want there to be a God.

Stephen Hawking made the very same mistake. And one of the huge blunders of his career, he did a lot of wonderful physics, but the blunder of his career toward the end of his life and career, he said, if you have the law of gravity, the universe will create itself. And he also fought the idea that there was a beginning.

He didn't like it. He didn't want it because it immediately forces you to understand that there is something outside this universe that brought it into being. Well, it's got to be anything but God.

Those who say, well, the fine tuning and the reason everything is so balanced and can produce life. Look up the fine tuning argument sometime. If you want to see the wonder of the way God built the universe, uh, so many things balanced on a knife edge, one or two tiny fractions of a measurement unit to one side or the other.

And you would either have a giant black hole or you would have heat death in the universe and, and not have life. All of these forces that are arbitrarily determined. There is no law of the universe that tells protons how much charge to have, or how much charge an electron should have or subatomic particles, how fast they should spin or in what direction they should spend the force of gravity, the electromagnetic force, the expansion rate of the universe, the speed of light.

There are dozens and dozens of these things that are exactly finely tuned. And then if they were off in any imaginable degree, this universe could not sustain life. Not to mention the Goldilocks position that this earth occupies and our solar system occupy in the Milky way galaxy.

And the fact that we've got gas giants sweeping asteroids and meteors out of the way, we have a planet that's got magma inside that swirls and creates electromagnetic fields that are the Van

Allen radiation belts that produce the northern lights and fend off a bunch of damaging fatal levels of solar radiation. They say, oh, there's billions of stars and millions of galaxies and all the rest of it. There's bound to be other, you know, accidentally it will come into being.

Not like this. Just look at Mars. If you want an example, even in our own solar system, with all of the other advantages, Mars doesn't have the kind of core that our planet has.

It's not at the right distance. It doesn't have a moon so that you can have liquid water that will be stirred so that you have productive environments. God created the heavens and the earth and all that in them is.

And science, when things were simple, when Darwin thought that in some warm pond life began, little sunshine hitting some muck of some kind, they thought that cells were little blobs of jello. And that, well, these little blobs just kind of stuck together. First thing you know, you've got snails.

The next thing you know, you've got mammals and so on. The more science investigates and sees the incredible complexity, if you get a chance to see the story of everything, it's out now. You can watch it.

I just bought it, I think, for 15 bucks. If you wait a while, it'll be runnable for five. But it shows you the extraordinary machinery that is inside a cell.

And you immediately realize intuitively, logically, and obviously there is no way, zero chance that this accidentally assembled itself. I could wax eloquent on that. But my point is, there are those who are so resistant to the fact of God and that he is the biblical God that created us and has moral standards of righteousness and justice.

They will resist this to the point of blood. They will resist to their dying day. They will see God on his throne and decide that they are hallucinating.

Their last thought is, I hate this God. As they go into the lake of fire, there is no amount of persuasion. There is nothing that can be said or done or shown that will convince them.

Unbelievers are going to live for the better part of a thousand years in the millennial kingdom. And they cannot wait to join Satan when he's released from the bottomless pit for the Gog Magog rebellion. I say that to say this.

This idea of being unteachable, unpersuadable, of not having the humility to reconsider, is of Satan. It is at the core of evil. You think Satan, as wise and beautiful and powerful as he is, doesn't he know he's doomed? He does.

It doesn't change his mind. He's going to do what he's going to do because he hates the alternative so much that he will go to destruction rather than repent and be with God. It is necessary for this attitude to be eliminated.

So that brings us to chapter 20. Another angel. Remember, there is an angel in the sun who presages the battle that is inevitably going to be won by the Lord Jesus.

The sword that proceeds from the mouth of him who sits on the horse, the birds are filled with their flesh, meaning their flesh is removed. They are no longer around. Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

We saw this angel previously when there were dark angelic creatures released from that pit. You can turn back to Revelation chapter 9. The fifth angel sounded. This is the fifth trumpet.

I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. He opens the bottomless pit.

Smoke arises out of it, like the smoke of a great furnace. The sun and the air are darkened because of the smoke of the pit. Smoke is the key to the bottomless pit.

He opens the bottomless pit. Smoke arises out of it. Smoke plays a role in Revelation.

Smoke ascends long after a fire has accomplished its purpose. Out of the smoke locusts come upon the earth. That is Revelation 9, 1 and 2. Again, in verse 11, these things that have tails like scorpions, stings in their tails, power to hurt men five months, they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

This is king of the locusts, the locust kings. He is the bottomless pit angel. And that is the first of the three woes that are at the end of those trumpet judgments.

You look at Revelation chapter 11 and verse 7. The two witnesses, after they have accomplished their purpose and finished their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. Their dead bodies will lie in the street, but they are not consumed by carrion birds. People rejoice and make merry, but after three and a half days the breath of life enters them in 1111.

They stood on their feet, great fear fell on those who saw them. They hear a loud voice from heaven saying, Come up here. They ascend to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies see them.

The same hour there is a great earthquake. Chapter 17, verse 8, we have another reference to the bottomless pit. The angel says to John, who is marveling at the vision of the scarlet harlot, Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has seven heads and ten horns.

The beast that you saw was and is not and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. That corresponds to the first woe that we saw back in chapter 11. And then we see it here twice mentioned in chapter 20, where we are now.

The angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand, he lays hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan. These are all four of the names that are used for Satan in the book of Revelation. All four of them occur here, in case you missed it.

He is the dragon. He is the serpent of old. He is the devil.

He is Satan. And his four names are mentioned because Satan, with the universality of his power, his reach, his purpose, his aims, his influence, all of Satan, all four of his names are bound with a chain for a thousand years. Notice, this is the first mention of the millennium.

This is the only passage in scripture that gives us the duration of the kingdom fulfillment of Old Testament promises to Israel. Nowhere in the Old Testament does it say how long it is going to be. Nowhere in the New Testament, until you get to Revelation chapter 20, do we find out the duration of this kingdom.

And it is predicated upon Satan being out of the picture for a thousand years. Satan is out of the picture for a thousand years. He is bound.

He is in the bottomless pit, reserved. And in his absence for a thousand years, you have the kingdom ruled by the Lord Jesus, by David and his sons. This is a new permutation.

We'll talk about it more momentarily. But notice that the time is a thousand years. You will see universally people saying, well, a thousand years is symbolic.

It just means a really long time. And it might be shorter. It might be longer.

We don't really know. A thousand years is symbolic. Here's the thing.

Is Revelation a book of symbolism? Yes or no? Yes. What kind of symbols does it employ? You have beasts, you have scorpions, you have locusts, you have harlots, you have dragons, you have all manner of living things. You have wormwood, you have stars, you have angels.

What is the one thing in Revelation up to this point that we have seen that is never taken symbolically? Let's start in chapter two. How many churches are there? Actually, it's in chapter one. How many churches are there in Asia? There are seven.

Is that a symbolic number? It's a meaningful number. But are there actually nine or ten churches that Jesus is going to write to? The number seven is a literal number seven. That's how many churches are going to be addressed.

The numbers of seal judgments, of trumpet judgments, of thunder judgments, and of bowl judgments are seven. No more, no less. When it says there are seven seals, that's how many get opened.

Seven trumpets, that's how many get blown. Numbers in Revelation are not symbolic. It's not an average.

It's not just a token. It doesn't mean just a lot or a little. When Smyrna is told they'll have tribulation ten days, that's a literal ten days.

You can take those ten days to the bank. What kind of days are they is a different question. Day can represent a lot of different things, both in Genesis and in Revelation.

The day of the Lord. Is it the hour in which Babylon is destroyed? Is it the entire realm of judgments with seals, trumpets, thunders, bowls, woes, and other happenings? But numbers are always literal numbers. They count things, and that's how many things there are to count.

So when this says a thousand years, we have no reason to think it is anything other than ten centuries. And it isn't just thrown out as a quick, a long time. Why wouldn't it just say a long time? If you want to say a long time, there's a perfectly good way.

In Hebrew, you say olam. If you say it in Greek, it is eis ionios. Eis means unto.

Ionios is ages. For a while. You can say something is going to have duration, and you say day and night.

It just means as long as there are days and nights. There will come a time when there aren't days and nights. But as long as there's days and nights, this is going to continue.

So when it says he's going to be chained for a thousand years, notice you can put a star by it. In verse two, Satan is bound for a thousand years. He's cast into the bottomless pit, shut him up, and set a seal on him so that he should not deceive the nations anymore until the thousand years are complete.

The thousand years are complete. It has a beginning, and it has an end. Right? After these things, he must be released for a little while.

It's a finite duration. It has a beginning, and it has an end. And after it ends, Satan is going to be released.

Then verse four, I saw thrones, and they that sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Now, this is before any mention is made. When's the last time we saw thrones and individuals sitting on them? Have any angels been sitting on thrones? Where have we seen thrones and people sitting on them? Go back to chapter four.

What's one of the first things John sees when he is responding to come up here, and I will show you what's going to take place shortly. He sees the 24 elders seated on thrones, wearing crowns. So, when this says, I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them, I

think this is a reference to the 24 elders, which are representative of overcomers in the church.

Then I saw souls of those beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshipped the beast or his image, had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands, and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. Notice these martyrs who lost their lives, beheaded for the witness, the testimony of Jesus. They live and reign with Christ for a thousand years.

It doesn't say that they are sitting on these thrones judging. It may be that those who sit on the throne determine who of the martyrs are going to receive what assignments in terms of this rulership, some large, some small. The rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished.

This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. We think, well, you're taking part, meaning you're involved in some way.

Yeah, I'm taking a part in a parade. I'm taking part in an effort of some kind. Part is a technical word in Greek.

It is meros, and it means inheritance. Blessed and holy are those who have an inheritance. Cross out part, put a note in your margin, have an inheritance.

This can be an inheritance represented symbolically by possessions. It is also function, opportunities to serve, to reign, to judge. This is a part of inheritance.

Remember the inheritance of the firstborn in the Old Testament? He became the family's arbiter and priest and judge. That's not a material possession. It is an inheritance.

And you see those distributed through the sons of Jacob when Reuben messes up. So blessed and holy is he who has an inheritance in the first resurrection. The rapture is the first phase of the first resurrection.

Blessed and sanctified are we if we are raised and qualified for inheritance. You are blessed and you are sanctified. Holy means sanctified, set apart.

God's going to do special things, grant special opportunities, assign specific responsibilities to those who have demonstrated themselves faithful, who get it, who know what's going on, who respond to the exhortation and the urging to redeem the time, to be the wife of the Lamb who has made herself ready, to be able to put on a white robe, to ride a white horse. And it's so simple. In the same way that the Lord Jesus demonstrated His worthiness to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords by His earthly life, there was no guile found in Him.

He did not sin. He did not give into temptation. And He proved Himself worthy to be.

Remember, He did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but He humbled Himself, took on the form of a servant, and came in the likeness of men, being found in appearance as a man. He humbled Himself and became obedient, even obedient to the death of the cross. For this reason, God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name that is above every name, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and the name that only He knows.

For this reason, because He recognized the challenge of being faithful and obedient, as a human being, enabled and empowered by the Holy Spirit, and informed and enlightened by the Word of God, just like us. He demonstrated this for us. When we do what He did, God will highly exalt us.

God will grant us inheritance and opportunity for further service and entrance into the intimate future activities that God will engage in. Things that are just so far beyond our comprehension. They can only be given to us in metaphorical terms.

That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. It isn't just so that we can have stuff and do things in the eternal future. Our motivation is to be to the praise and glory of our Heavenly Father, who sent the Lord Jesus, who gave us these opportunities.

It is all of grace, unmerited and undeserved, but we have to decide to accept it and we have to decide to act on it. Look at the wonderful opportunities which are certainly coming. This is more real than the world around us.

This is made out of quarks and little subatomic particles. There's vast empty space between each one of those little things. Our brain interprets energy waves and vibrations and gives us a visible picture and an audible picture of what we consider to be the material world.

This is not it. What we are seeing here is where we're going and we need to be spiritually mature so that we can enter into, function in and be worthwhile in the future eternal spiritual world. So, what an opportunity to get with it.

We've been told we've still got time. If we are still here breathing air, there is an opportunity to be ready, to get ready. Take off the dirty clothes and put on clean ones.

Put off the old man with his desires and his short-sightedness. Put on the new man, created in righteousness, created for that future life with Christ. So much more to see here in Revelation 20.

This is where we will pick up this coming Wednesday. We'll close here in a word of prayer. Father, what a privilege to have a curtain drawn aside and to be able to look through the window into the future where we will participate, where we have the opportunity to be at the center and to see your glory revealed and the unfolding of your plan and purpose centered on our Savior, the Lord Jesus, vindicating His time on this earth, His work on the cross, judging those who reject Him, eliminating those who oppose Him, and by extension, oppose us.

We pray that as we reflect on these things, the Holy Spirit will help us to constantly realize that the time that you grant us is capital to be invested in improving ourselves, preparing ourselves and readying ourselves for this wonderful and glorious opportunity in the future. We pray that in all things in our lives, the Lord Jesus will be glorified. We ask it in His name.

Amen.