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We continue our newsletter series with our Scripture focus: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Needless to say, the peril and strife are brewing throughout the entirety of the world. It saddens my heart to witness the profuse escalation toward a third world war. Throughout history, Jehovah has raised up other nations as an act of judgment against evildoers and their wickedness.

In the last decade America has pushed moral boundaries beyond imagination. Societal norms are broken down more each day. As a Godcalled Minister, I willingly – and pray humbly – carry a heavy burden and feel constrained by the Holy Ghost to cry aloud and spare not.

As the voice of *The Voice of Evangelism*, I am often criticized as being heretical, a nonconformist, a freethinker, a dissenter, and some even declare I am an apostate. When studying the Scriptures, I understand that those who were faithful to preach the Word of the Lord, and proclaim it vociferously, were often despised, castigated, abused, and rejected.

Due to the gravity of God's love for His people, He warned them diligently and often: "And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his <u>messengers</u>, rising up betimes (early), and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked (contemptuously insulted) the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no

THE NEED TO BE SOBER AND VIGILANT! – PART 8

remedy (healing)" (2 Chronicles 36:15-16). There is nothing more burdensome, grievous, and difficult to bear than the Word of God. Jehovah had no restraint or misgivings when sending His messengers to cry aloud and spare not, though He knew His servants would be persecuted, mistreated, and even martyred.

For the past 30+ years, I have known what it means to be persecuted, mistreated, and misunderstood due to my Holy Ghost convictions and my eschatology. Nevertheless, I will not bend or bow to the modern church and its pathetic representation of what we now call God's house.

Whatever happened to the decree of being a peculiar people? It is a shame and disgrace concerning the debauchery that has infested the church today. Some weeks ago, a Presbyterian pastor in Tampa, Florida drove into an oncoming lane and killed the mother of three and terribly injured her children. His blood alcohol content exceeded the legal limit; in his blood were found amphetamines, and Diazepam or Valium. Having ministered for nearly 47 years, I understand the stress and perplexities ministers face each day.

Men of God must return to Christ. Only He can help us endure the hour, adversities, and pains of ministry. Every man of God must spend quality time in prayer and in His Word.

If Satan can snare God's messengers, then Jehovah is left without a voice. Those who are not in hot pursuit of Christ, diligent in their prayer lives, and immersed in the Scriptures, do not realize the gravity of the hour. The permeation and proliferation of

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sin will soon bring to fruition the revelation of the Antichrist.

I know most say the church will not witness his revelation, but God's Word says something different: "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him (Isn't that the rapture of the church?), That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come (What day? His coming and our gathering together unto Him), except there come a falling away (a divorcement) first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?" (2 Thessalonians 2:1-5).

Paul's second epistle to the church at Thessalonica was a forewarning, a harbinger, and a presage of what was to come here in the end. Thus, Paul implores: "<u>Remember ye not that I</u> <u>told you these things</u>?" If the church is not here, why would Paul implore them to remember his words?

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth made an unfathomable statement several weeks ago when he said: *The possibility now exists that a third Temple could be built in Jerusalem.* When a man of that stature speaks such profundities, you know Bible prophecy is being fulfilled.

At the time of this writing, our

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military has moved 30% of our B-2 and B-52 bombers to the airbase at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. From that base, it is approximately 2,400 miles to Iran's southern coast. President Trump is calling for a new nuclear deal with Iran and if not; he said the bombings will begin. For several years I have petitioned all to pray for a wartime president and I am certain Donald Trump is that man.

The B-2 bomber is capable of carrying two massive ordnance penetrators, which are, 30,000-pound bombs designed to destroy hardened and deeply buried targets. Trump plans to bomb Iran's nuclear sites. We are about to cross a nuclear threshold relative to war and nuclear weapons.

Israel has said they too will not allow an existential threat flying over their heads: meaning a nuclear missile. The Middle East is presently a powder keg, but suffer me to also share a quote from four-star Air Force General Mike Minihan who some time ago sent out a memo to the officers he commands. He predicted the United States will be at war with China in two years and he tells his officers to get ready to prep by firing "'a clip' at a target and aim only for the head." In the memo obtained by NBC news, Minihan said, "I hope I'm wrong, but my gut tells me we will fight in 2025."

In 1979, America made an alliance with Taiwan to defend them, and now most Pacific nations – Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and others – are fearful of China's aggression and what could happen to them. Prophecy is being fulfilled, and sadly the church is fast asleep and not *sober and vigilant* to the reality of current and world affairs.

Jesus said: "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things <u>must come to pass, but the</u> <u>end is not yet</u>" (Matthew 24:6).

Both France and Germany are speedily preparing for war with Russia. Europe has threatened to take over NATO by installing one of their own commanders because Trump has said he might not defend Europe. It grieves my heart profusely at the gravity of peril that America and much of the world is now facing.

I have often pondered what sermons were proclaimed from God's Word in both America and Europe prior to World War II. Of a certainty, Scripture verifies history does repeat itself: *"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us"* (Ecclesiastes 1:9-10).

Here is another translation of this passage: "History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new. Sometimes people say, "Here is something new!" But actually it is old; nothing is ever truly new" (Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 NLT).

Philosopher George Santayana from Harvard once said: "*Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*" This is why I often ponder what God's ministers were proclaiming from the Word of God leading up to WW II. I do believe those who were anointed by the Holy Ghost were allowed to see what was coming to warn both America and Europe.

My grandparents shared with me how people prayed and cried out to God during that hour. They sought the Lamb so He would save their sons and our nation. Where are the oldtime Holy Ghost messages today that are full of conviction, and those who are warning America to repent?

I have determined there will be no guilt or blood on my hands on the Day of Judgment.

Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel cried aloud concerning Babylon and how Nebuchadnezzar would come to Jerusalem, like a lion, and lay waste the Temple of God and all its glory, and how multitudes would be exiled into Babylonian captivity. We read: *"The lion* (Babylon) *is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer* (one who ruins) *of the Gentiles is on his* <u>way; he is gone forth from his place</u> to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant" (Jeremiah 4:7). Israel spurned and rejected those warnings from the prophets of God.

Please heed the Word of our Lord and place your faith in the Lamb of God. We are now in the throes and birth pangs that Christ spoke of concerning His Second Coming. I can't tell you when I've heard an oldfashioned Holy Ghost anointed message concerning the Second Advent of Christ.

This present world, as we know it, is not our home; we're just passing through! At Christ's Second Advent, He will sever the wicked from this present world and the blood-bought shall inherit it: "So shall it be at the end of the world (age): the angels shall come forth, and sever (separate) the wicked from among the just" (Matthew 13:49). Dear saints of God, please keep your lamps trimmed and burning brightly because Jesus will come again!

We thank you and are very humbled by your continued support for this ministry. God is using you in helping us reach multitudes. We earnestly covet and long for your prayers because they are truly a strength to us.

Please keep September 26-28, 2025, open for our Revival Meeting In Hickory, North Carolina.

Serving with you,

David W. Lankford Pastor / Evangelist