

MATTHEW 24:§2

“THEREFORE KEEP WATCH, BECAUSE YOU DO  
NOT KNOW ON WHAT DAY YOUR LORD WILL  
COME”

# THE MARK OF THE BEAST AND HOW TO PREPARE FOR IT

11TH HOUR MINISTRY  
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*2 Thessalonians 5:6*

*“So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but  
let us be awake and sober”*

# FOREWORD

In 2021, an apocalyptic movie called “Don’t Look Up” hit our screens. It told the story of two astronomers who became aware of a comet approaching Earth that would utterly wipe out humanity. They were the only ones who knew about this. These astronomers had the mammoth task of sounding the alarm. The movie’s plot revolves around their desperate attempt to warn people of what was coming and shows how difficult it was to get people to listen. In many ways, this movie encapsulates the situation we find ourselves in right now. We are in the 11th hour now just before the return of Jesus and the warning needs to go out to the church to wake up and prepare itself for what’s coming. However, just like in this movie, people are distracted and not focused on the end times. In this movie, we see that the reason people couldn’t focus on their message was due to factors like an overload of information, the distractions of social media and the abundance of online movies and entertainment.

The impact of social media in our lives is undeniable and has been explored in a documentary on Netflix called, “The Social Dilemma”. We can see how the

world has evolved to a place where we are being fed bite-sized posts that are designed to captivate us and keep us online for maximum attention. With A.I., each person's feed can be tailor-made to match their exact interests and worldview which will thus keep them amused and captivated. Essentially, this is done for advertising revenue. Simply put, the more time you spend on an app, the more ads are offered to you. This model is so successful for Google, Facebook, YouTube etc that it now commands most of the company marketing spend. This power is also utilised by political and social movements to convince and influence society. In this way, we can become easily distracted and pulled away from a focus on the end times that we so desperately need right now!

God has given us the book of Revelation as a warning of what's to come. Its purpose is to help us prepare and be ready for the final hour. Without this knowledge, we cannot prepare for what's coming. That's the reason we wrote this book. It's a call to the church to wake up and prepare for the end, as Revelation describes.

Some believers have the firm impression that we are living in the 11th hour now, just before the return of Jesus. We have a deep concern for the greater body of

Christ is not awake and prepared for these end times and what's to come. If we're not ready, it would be easy to be deceived and receive the mark of the beast and ultimately lose our salvation.

People who hear about the End Times usually fall into three camps:

1. Those who don't believe it.
2. People who do believe but feel afraid and distressed and thus ignore it and do nothing to prepare.
3. Those who believe it and begin to prepare themselves.

Often, these folk who fall into the second camp are distressed by the end times and just want to focus on Jesus and stay in a place of rest and peace. This approach is understandable, but not wise. Jesus pointed to this in the parable of the ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom. God has given us the book of Revelation as a warning of things to come so that we can prepare. It would be foolish to believe we can bury our heads in the sand. Instead, we need to begin preparing for it with all urgency. Remember that it is godly to hear God's word and act on it. Jesus

emphasises this principle with the parable of the man who built his house on the rock. Jesus taught us that the man who built his house on the sand was foolish because he heard the words of God but didn't put them into practice. If we are to navigate the time coming and the mark of the beast, we can only do so if we are prepared. And the time to prepare ourselves is now ,before it all unfolds.

We see clearly in this verse below that Jesus in the book of Revelation gives us a very stern warning about the mark of the beast which must be taken very seriously.

#### *Revelation 14:9-11*

*"If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."*

The topic of this book is weighty and something not

many would want to write about or necessarily read about. Yet, it's such an urgent message for this time. In the 80s and 90s, we can remember hearing a lot about the second coming of Jesus and preparing for it. Many people were making crazy predictions about the date of Jesus' return at the time. These outlandish predictions were not accurate. Worse yet, they caused many Christians to become wary of anything to do with the end times, the rapture, the second coming of Christ and even the book of Revelation. However, God has strongly impressed on us that we are in the 11th hour now, and it's critical to get the message out so that the church can begin to prepare.

The aim of this book is not to predict the date of Jesus' return because Jesus said that no one knows the day or the hour that He will return except the Father (Matthew 24:36). Instead, with this book, we hope to do three things. Firstly, we want to lay out what the Bible says about the end times. Many of Jesus' teachings were about the end times; therefore, it's a critical issue we need to focus on. The book of Revelation is called the Revelation of Jesus Christ, where He unfolds the events that will occur in the final hour. Secondly, we would like to highlight some of the events unfolding in the world that show that the

beast's system is arising. We will provide links to the sources so you can see the evidence for yourself. We don't subscribe to any sources that push conspiracy thinking and make baseless assumptions based on false information. In fact, these people are often the cause of people not believing the true knowledge and discredit not only themselves but those who are trying to warn others of what is about to come. We aim at all times to only quote the key role players in the world today that are pushing for, what they call, "The Great Reset" and the "New World Order". And thirdly, our aim is to send out a wake-up call to the Body of Christ to be alert and begin preparing for what's to come.

So this is a wake-up call to the church that we are indeed living in the End Times. Jesus can return at any moment, and the mark of the beast is coming. Therefore, there is an urgency as never before to make sure that we are prepared for what's to come so that we can stand firm in that final hour. That is our hope and prayer for this book. Arise, oh body of Christ and begin to prepare yourself for what's ahead so that you may stand firmly for Jesus in the End Times.

**Please Note: When reading this ebook all the wording in blue are hyperlinks that you can click on to see the source of the information.**

# 1

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## THE GREAT RESET

1 Thessalonians 5:3 says, *“While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labour pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.”*

March 2020 marked the start of a new dawn. We vividly remember sitting in our lounge as news of the Covid pandemic bombarded us. Every news channel in the world heralded these reports.

Everything started when the mainstream [news channel](#) showed how China built a hospital in record time in preparation for this pandemic.



They gave us three days to prepare and buy essentials before imposing the lockdown. How well we remember the run on the shops for toilet rolls (of all things) and other necessities. Our local supermarket, Checkers, had a whole aisle devoted to toilet rolls stocked up on the shelves and piled on the floors to meet the demand! We are still wondering what that was about.

From Chile to Russia, Alaska to New Zealand, the entire world as one went into a complete lockdown. This global lockdown was something completely unprecedented. Never before had we seen the world come together in such united power. The New World Order had arisen. And their show of force was unprecedented. Within a few hours, they had the entire world confined to their homes awaiting instructions.

We all saw our cities become ghost towns. All commerce, except essential services, came to a halt. Many small businesses closed down, and many people lost their jobs.

From the early moments of the pandemic, we started hearing the voice of Klaus Schwab – Professor, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum. And he defined the time of the

pandemic as [“The Great Reset”](#).

Check out [this video](#) where Klaus Schwab speaks of the reach of the wef.

## ***WHAT IS THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM?***

The World Economic Forum is a global organisation that meets annually in Davos, Switzerland. They include most global government leaders, big business, civil society, faith groups, NGOs, academia, the arts and sports leaders. They are the think tank for most of the decision-making on global issues.

The World Economic Forum is by far the most influential decision-making body in the world today. To illustrate this, in 2023, **2700 leaders from 130 countries**, including **52 heads of state** and government, gathered in Davos, Switzerland. This meeting took place over five days. Every year since the 1970s, they have been meeting together in Davos. Therefore, when their leader Klaus Schwab states that this is the Great Reset, we must sit up and take note.

[The World Economic Forum](#) has considerable reach, influence and power. They have a global agenda and the power to carry it out. The events that followed the initial lockdowns were in global lockstep. Global Lockstep means that the entire world followed the same procedures. These included the five stages of lockdown, clapping for healthcare workers on Monday nights, the same slogans like “build back better” and of course the roll-out of the vaccine and all that went with it. It was a clinically run roll-out that took the entire world through the exact same experience. They then continually made reference to what they called the Great Reset.

“The pandemic represents a rare but narrow window of opportunity to reflect, reimagine, and reset our world” – Professor Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum.”

With surety, the pandemic has set some worrisome precedents. While it is obvious that the vaccine isn't the Mark of the beast, one can see the following steps as progress towards this outcome:

## **1. VACCINE MANDATES**

This is the first time we have seen the concept of

**vaccine mandates.** All people in uniform in the military, police and health sector **had to comply** with the mandate and various other industries (especially massive corporate companies) as well. All those who questioned the mandate and refused the vaccine [lost their jobs](#) and livelihood.

## **2. APP-BASED VACCINE PASSPORT**

We saw the onset of an app-based vaccine passport. These were regional and excluded people from travel and entry into certain establishments. Therefore, the [vaccine passport](#) can be seen very clearly as a forerunner to the mark of the beast. As we speak the World health organisation has rolled out a [global pandemic treaty](#) signed by countries as well as a global vaccine passport which will take the form of an app with a QR code which will be recognised globally and will restrict and exclude all those who choose not to get whichever vaccine they prescribe.

Click on [this link](#) to see a clip of the head of the World health organisation speaking about the Global digital health passport

Here are 3 more links.

- [The World Health Organisation's Global pandemic treaty](#)
- [Global Digital Health Certification](#)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMWXYMqgmE2k&t=2s>

### **3. CANCEL CULTURE**

This concept involves cancelling people for having opposing views to the popular beliefs of the day and questioning authority. A clear illustration of this was with the truckers in Canada who were peacefully demonstrating against vaccine passports to cross provincial borders in Canada. Remember that at the time of this demonstration in Canada, vaccinated people were still getting covid, dying of Covid and transmitting it. There were also many reports of adverse effects from the vaccine. As a result, some people decided rather to wait and see the outcome of the trials for the untested vaccine. However, the response to them was vicious. They labelled them as anti-vaxxers, bigots, racists and many other slurs. [The Prime Minister of Canada called those who didn't want the vaccine bigots and racists.](#) The Canadian state government responded by cancelling the truckers' bank accounts. Even people who supported them via Go

Fund Me had their bank accounts cancelled. You can follow the link [here](#). The Bible clearly states that you cannot buy or sell without the mark of the beast. Cancelling people's bank accounts is a clear step towards this. It means governments can close people's bank accounts for not complying with their particular agenda. And the fact that there wasn't any opposition from other groups, including human rights lobbyists, was very telling. In the same way that the German population gave Hitler his power by supporting him, we see that most people supported such draconian laws and control.

#### **4. STEPS TOWARDS A ONE-WORLD GOVERNMENT**

We have seen the rise of the United Nations and the power they wield over the world's governments. The Bible speaks of a one-world government under the beast system. The Covid pandemic is the first time we have seen such a united, global effort throughout the last decades since the formation of the United Nations. The World Health Organisation has just recently begun negotiations on a [worldwide accord on pandemic prevention](#), preparedness and response. This accord allows them to control countries' responses to future

pandemics directly. It would leave member states without the power to set their own responses to lockdowns, mandates etc. You can see the link [here](#).

Here are some links of world leaders calling for a new world order:

- [France](#)
- [USA](#)
- [UK](#)

## **5. GENE-BASED THERAPIES**

Moderna, the company that produced the mRNA vaccine, openly shows that they are moving into [gene editing and CRISPR technology](#). (You can find another link showing Pfizer's developments with gene editing [here](#)). No one should take gene-based therapy lightly because it can potentially change people's DNA. The Bible says we have been created in the image of God. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

## **6. BOWING THE KNEE TO A CAUSE**

We must discuss one more concerning thing. We have seen sportspeople bowing their knees before matches for the first time. Whatever your political persuasions and beliefs on Black Lives Matter or racism, bowing

your knee is something we haven't seen in society before. We need to clearly state that, as followers of Christ, we are entirely against racism in any shape or form. We vehemently stand against this. Bowing your knee (especially when done by sports leaders and heroes people look up to), however is setting a dangerous precedent for bowing your knee for other causes and, ultimately, a system. As the children of God, we are only to bow our knees to God our King. Therefore, we have to see this in light of what the Bible says about people bowing to the beast.

At the opening of the ceremony for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, there was an image of a massive beast with a woman on its back shooting fire from its mouth. Masses of people from different nations were bowing down before it. These blatant displays that we are seeing point towards the soon-to-arise beast that the Bible speaks of. These displays shouldn't be taken lightly as they serve to slowly condition society to accept the coming time where as indicated in the Bible, people will be forced to bow down and worship the beast.

The link to the video of the opening of the ceremony for the 2022 Commonwealth games can be found

below. You can also see at 12 minutes and 50 seconds in this video how the tower they reconstructed for the ceremony is referred to as the Tower of Babel.

[Click here](#) to see the opening ceremony of the 2022 Commonwealth Games

In conclusion, we have noted over the past three years since 2020 that a New World Order has arisen with new rules and a new agenda. And the Bible tells us that a time will come when everyone must decide whether or not they will worship that beast and its system and receive its mark. We see this in Revelation 13:15 *“The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.”*

## 2

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# *WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT THE END TIMES?*

As children of God, the most important voice we always need to listen to is Jesus. And Jesus spoke much about the end times and often used parables. Let's look at these parables now.

### *THE PARABLE OF THE TEN VIRGINS (MATTHEW 25:1-13)*

Jesus tells the story of ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom to arrive. They each had a lamp which needed oil to keep burning. Five virgins brought extra oil to keep their lamp burning because they didn't know when the bridegroom would arrive and didn't want to run out of oil. But the other five virgins did not bring extra oil. When the bridegroom finally arrived, the virgins with insufficient oil were caught unawares and had no more oil in their lamps. While waiting, they used all the oil up and had no extra oil on hand.

Jesus is warning us in this parable that we must always be prepared for His return because we do not know

the day or the hour when He will return.

***THE PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE  
(MATTHEW 24:32-34)***

In this parable, Jesus points out that when a fig tree gets leaves, it shows that summer is near. Likewise, when we see certain signs of the end times, we will know that Jesus is returning soon.

In this parable, Jesus tells us that we must watch for the signs of the end times to be ready for His return.

***THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND  
THE TARES (MATTHEW 13:24-30)***

In this parable, Jesus tells the story of a man who planted good seed in his field. But an enemy came in and sowed weeds among the wheat. These grew together until the time came to harvest, and the weeds were separated and burned. This parable refers to God's judgement at the end of the age when God will separate the righteous from the wicked.

***THE PARABLE OF THE DRAGNET  
(MATTHEW 13:47-50)***

This parable is about fishermen who cast a net into the sea and caught fish of every kind. They pulled the net to shore and sorted the fish when it was full. They kept the good fish and threw away the bad ones. In this parable, Jesus speaks about the final judgement and how He will separate the righteous from the wicked.

***THE PARABLE OF THE FAITHFUL AND  
WISE SERVANT (LUKE 12:35-48)***

This story is about a master who goes away and leaves his servants in charge. The wise servant faithfully goes about his master's business, but the unfaithful servant does not do this and mistreats the other servants. The lesson from this parable is that we must faithfully serve God while we wait for Jesus to return.

***WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF THE END  
TIMES?***

These are the signs of the end times:

Wars and conflicts (Matthew 24:6) This is one of the first signs mentioned. "You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come."

2. Natural disasters – famine, earthquakes, pestilences (Matthew 24:7) "There will be famines and earthquakes in various places."
3. Tribulation and persecution of believers (Matthew 24:9) "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me."
4. False prophets and messiahs (Matthew 24:24) "For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."
5. Increase in wickedness (Matthew 24:12) "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold."
6. Signs in the Heavens (Luke 21: 25-26) "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken."
7. The rise of the antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2: 3-4)

“Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and exalt himself over everything called God or is worshipped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.”

8. The rebuilding of the temple (Daniel 9: 27) “he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple, he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.”
9. The mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16-17) “It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name.”
10. The preaching of the gospel to all nations (Matthew 24:14) “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”
11. Nation rising against nation, and kingdom against kingdom (Matthew 24:7). “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.”

12. The apostasy of many Christians (1 Tim 4:1-2) “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.”

### ***WHAT CAN WE CONCLUDE FROM ALL THIS?***

Based on what Jesus told us in the parables, we see the following:

- We need to be watching for the signs of the end (parable of the fig tree)
- We need to be ready to meet Jesus (parable of the ten virgins)
- We need to be faithfully serving Him while we await His return (parable of the faithful and wise servant)
- Once He returns, there will be judgement and separation of those who belong to Him from those who don't (Parables of the wheat and tares and the parable of the dragnet).

# THE RAPTURE

## WHAT IS THE RAPTURE?

The term rapture originates from a Latin word meaning “snatching away”. The rapture refers to when Jesus will come back to fetch every believer on Earth who is alive and He will also resurrect all of those who have died and take us all to Heaven with Him. When the rapture occurs, both the dead and living believers will receive glorified bodies.

Let's look at some bible verses about the rapture:

*1 Thessalonians 4:16-18*

*“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words”*

*Luke 17:34-36*

*“I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one*

*will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.”*

### *1 Thessalonians 5:1-8*

*“Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.*

*But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.”*

We must remember that no one knows the day or the hour when Jesus will return. We shouldn't be focused on this or swayed by false teachers who would try to predict this. The Bible is clear that no one can predict when Jesus will return. Matthew 24:36 says, “But

*about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”*

We are to stay alert and watch for the signs of the end so that we can be ready for the rapture. The parable of the fig tree illustrates this well. We can't predict the exact day and hour, but we can identify the season.

Our primary focus needs to be to stay close to the Lord and invest deeply in our relationship with Him. Fill yourself with the word of God, memorise it and stand on it daily. Then we need to prioritise reaching out to those around us with the love of God and His message of salvation. And finally, stay alert and stand firm in Jesus so that you do not receive the mark of the beast.

# 3

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## THE GREAT DELUSION

The Bible talks about a grand delusion to come in the end times. 2 Thessalonians 2: 9-12 says, “The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness”.

We strongly recommend that you watch the following video on YouTube exposing the false spirits that are infiltrating the church.

[Click on this link.](#)

We can clearly see from 2 Thessalonians 2: 9-12 that in the end times (this verse refers to the lawless one mentioned in Revelation), God will send a grand

delusion on people who refuse to accept the truth and the gospel.

We see this happening already. There's an alarming trend of false churches and teachers arising and spearheading this grand delusion. You only need to tune in to TBN to see a vast array of false churches and false teachers. Please note we are not saying every church or Bible teacher on TBN is false. However, many of them are clearly teaching a false message. These churches usually strongly emphasise so-called "signs and wonders". (Again, please note that we are not against the genuine work of the Holy Spirit as seen in the Book of Acts). Their message promotes prosperity and self-improvement. It is self-centred and focused on what God can give and do for you. Very seldom is their message about the Lordship of Christ, obedience, following Him, making disciples or repentance from sin. These are the true hallmarks of the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles.

We all know as believers that God is a healer, daily working in us and leading us. However, we can't allow those who seek billionaire lifestyles to take these truths and twist them to defile the teaching of Jesus. They water down the Gospel to be self-centred and devoid

of any power to save souls from sin. We are warned of this in 2 Timothy 3 :1, which says,

*“But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days –having a **form of godliness** but denying **its power**. Have nothing to do with them. always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.” Romans 1:16 highlights to us what the true power of God is: “For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**: for it is the **power** of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”*

The culture that we find ourselves in today is very materialistic and embraces sinful lifestyles. Rather than being a voice and a guide to society, the church has become compromised by the very culture it needs to reach. It is vitally important that we re-assess what the true gospel of Jesus Christ is.

## **THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST**

The gospel of Jesus Christ, according to scripture, is:

1. Mankind has a problem with sin. (Rom 5:12)
2. We all sin and fall far short of the mark God has set for us. (Romans 3:23)

1. The Bible says that the penalty for sin is death. (Romans 6:23)
2. Therefore, we are in desperate need of a Saviour. (Romans 3:10)
3. Repentance is at the heart of the Gospel. Repentance is both a change of mind and direction. When meeting Jesus Christ as saviour, we turn to him as Lord and master of our lives. This conversion transforms us in our innermost soul to become a new creation in Christ. This is what the Apostle Paul refers to as the **power of God** unto salvation.

An important warning from scripture is that the Bible says that it is a rebellious people who seek a sign (Matt 16:4). Jesus, Himself also said that in the last days, signs and wonders would deceive people. (Matt 24:24). It's important to note here that we are not saying that there are not genuine signs and wonders in the church that are from God. However, signs and wonders are definitely not an indication that the teacher or preacher is from God. We need to pray and ask God to give us wisdom and discernment to know when the signs and wonders are a genuine move of the Holy Spirit or a false spirit. We deeply value the work of the Holy Spirit and His signs and wonders. However, we know from scripture that there is a counterfeit false church with

false spirits (2 Cor 11:13-15). When prayerfully discerning whether a ministry is from God or the work of false teachers we need to trace back and look at what those ministries are rooted in. We need to identify what influenced them. Remember, even if they produce good fruit, it's critical to investigate what they're rooted in because it's from those roots that the ministry will have its essence. We are repeatedly warned in the New Testament about false teachers and are called to test everything.

A striking example of a false teacher is Benny Hinn and his "ministry". Below is a video of his nephew, who worked with his ministry for many years, and exposes the deception and false teaching that went along with the so-called "healings". We must always go by the truth of the word of God.

[Click this link](#)

## ***THE FALSE CHURCH***

fThe Bible calls the church the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:27). God, in His Word, also speaks of the church as the bride of Christ (Rev 19:7-9). It's God's main purpose in the world to reveal and draw people to Himself through His body - which is each one of us who are

believers. It's also important to remember that we represent Jesus here on earth (2 Cor 5:20). Therefore, the church has a crucial role to fulfil and it needs to be taken seriously.

Throughout history the church and the state of the church can be seen as a barometer or even a thermostat that indicates the state of our society. Coming out of the dark ages into the reformation (also known as the enlightenment) we saw the rise of the impact of God in the societies of that time. It was a time of revival when many came to Christ and it brought a marked difference in various areas like art, science and advancement in technology. All these areas flourished from this point. You simply cannot underestimate the importance of the institution of the church. In light of this it's utterly devastating to see what's happening with the false church. The Bible predicts that there will be a rise of the false Christ's, false teaching, apostasy (a falling away from Jesus – 2 Thessalonians 2:3) and even a great delusion. We need to be very aware of these things, especially in this final hour before the return of Jesus so that we don't become deceived.

Many of us may have recently seen the documentary on Netflix showcasing the rise and fall of the Hillsong

church. What a devastating and tragic story! Hillsong Church sits in the Hills district in the western suburbs of Sydney. We once called this church home and served in the Sunday school. Its influence and impact are hard to measure. Suffice it to say it's significantly impacted the greater modern church movement. One of its most influential areas of outreach was through its worship ministry. Underneath the mesmerising facade that appeared angelic, sadly there was a deeply rotten core. Their corrupted leader, Brian Houston, spearheaded it, along with his cultish following of leaders. As the story unravels, it has come to light that the leadership was exploiting the wealth of the offerings, which is in the tens of millions. Expensive Gucci clothing, gold watches, private jets, and expensive hotels were the norm. They embraced a lavish lifestyle of luxury and pomp. They used finely crafted messages laced with the poison of self-enrichment and the promises of wealth and prosperity to draw followers and ultimately mislead them. The documentary touches on the final straw that tipped Brian Houston's fate - a drunken night and forty unaccounted minutes alone in a hotel room with a woman. These are grave accusations for a Christian leader that wields influence over tens of thousands in the Hillsong movement and millions in the broader

body of Christ. As devastating as all this is, it's important to acknowledge that there are many sincere Christ-followers in this movement. We want to make it very clear that this is chapter is not a judgement on people who attend Hillsong or similar churches. We acknowledge that there are some very sincere followers of Jesus in this movement. However, some of the leaders became corrupted and caused devastation. Let this be a stark reminder to each of us not to follow blindly after leaders who live and lead us in ungodly ways.

Ultimately, churches like this embody the false church that promotes the false Christ. We bring this up not just to nitpick one church but to sound a warning that a false church exists that promotes a false Christ and false teaching. Hillsong is just one example that highlights an example of the false church. In South Africa we have seen terrible situations where some Pastors physically beat people, [spray them with doom](#) and manipulate them in the worst ways for money. These churches are all cut from the same cloth. Beyond a doubt, the leaders in these churches are corrupted. However, it must be stated that there is a dual responsibility here. We cannot just blindly follow these corrupt leaders. We all have a responsibility to question

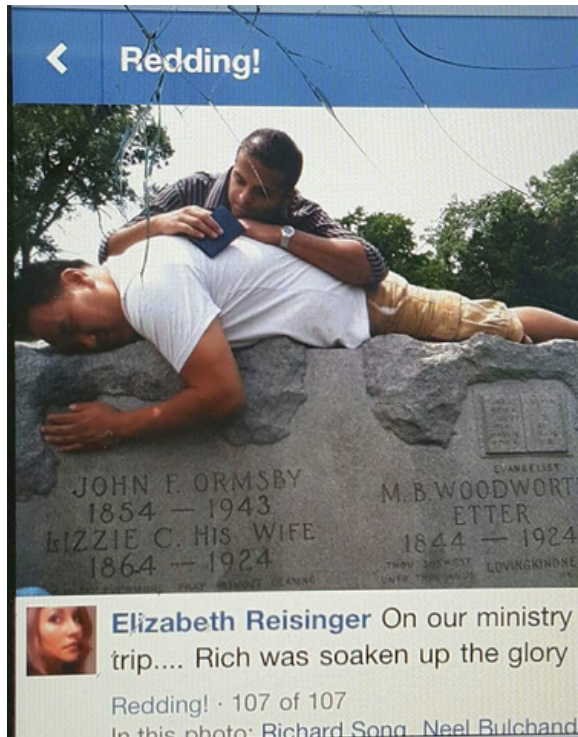
what is happening, challenge the false teaching and to leave the church if there is no repentance. We are warned about this continually in scripture. When the leaders turn away from God and become ungodly and try to lead us in the same way we need to vehemently oppose this and leave. In these churches, we see a decisive shift away from the teachings of Jesus and the apostles. Instead of hearing messages about laying our lives down, taking up our cross and following Jesus, we hear messages about self-enrichment with a strong emphasis on materialism. Instead of having a focus on God, they make themselves the focus. It becomes a case of me, myself and I. It's all about me and how much God can do for me. Is it any wonder then that they fall away? They did not truly come to salvation in Christ in the first place!

These false teachings starkly contrast the teachings of Jesus and the apostles. Jesus taught us to deny ourselves, be obedient to God and self-sacrifice for the furtherance of His kingdom. As someone once put it, the very things these false churches offer (hedonism, egoism and materialism) are the same things the devil tempted Jesus with. We should reject these things vehemently, as Jesus did.

Sadly, when flicking through the 'Christian' TV

channels, one finds this theme playing repeatedly. It's devastating to see the Kingdom of God reduced to people paying good money to "Christian groups" to be trained in the "art of the supernatural". We know from scripture that we as believers have the Holy Spirit living within us, and therefore we have His power flowing through us at all times. We are warned clearly in scripture against trying to buy the power of the Holy Spirit. We see this with the story of a man called Simon who tried to buy the power of the Holy Spirit from Peter and was severely rebuked. (Acts 8: 9-25). You can see the costs for one of these schools for 2021 [here](#). THE COURSE WILL SET YOU BACK A COOL \$10000.00

[Youtube link](#)



These are images of their team members lying on the graves of past revivalists. They believe that by lying on the graves, they receive the “anointing” of the person buried there. However, the Bible strictly prohibits these practices because it is necromancy; as Christians, we are to have nothing to do with this.



What we see from these false churches is deeply concerning because of their power and influence in the greater body of Christ. They are pioneering and promoting the false church and the false Christ. We observe a growing trend of a new ‘Christ’. A smoke and mirrors manoeuvre where, with a puff of ‘holy smoke’ and signs that make one wonder, the Christ of the Bible is kidnapped and hastily removed while the new and

improved Christ appears from the mist. These false teachings should deeply concern and grieve those of us who follow the Jesus of the Bible.

Let's compare the false church and the body of Christ:

***FALSE CHURCH***

***TRUE BODY OF CHRIST***

The message revolves around you and how to improve your life, emphasising what God can do for you.

The message revolves around Jesus. You need to die to yourself.

You have to give money as a "seed" to receive a financial blessing.

You come by faith to God to receive from Him all you need.

Material wealth is seen as a blessing.

We are taught not to value material wealth and if it's something we have to generously share with others

This message is self-focused and self-absorbed.

This message is Christ-focused. Deny yourself and follow Jesus.

<p>The focus is on what God can do for you.</p>	<p>The focus is on knowing and serving God and sharing the gospel with others.</p>
<p>This message appeals to the emotions and the flesh.</p>	<p>It's all about being born-again and being transformed in your spirit.</p>
<p>No emphasis on God's hatred of sin and the need for repentance and transformation.</p>	<p>The focus is on internal transformation, and His call is to repentance and transformation.</p>
<p>There is an emphasis on signs and wonders.</p>	<p>There is an emphasis on an inner transformation in your spirit which leads to an external change in behaviour.</p>
<p>There is a focus on vibrant music for worship.</p>	<p>Also have music for worship and enjoy times of worship but understand that our highest worship to God is the way we live our lives every day.</p>

<p>The “church” adapts to the world to the point that they start embracing sinful lifestyles.</p>	<p>We don’t conform to the world.</p>
<p>They target influential people who have wealth or standing in society.</p>	<p>Reach out to everyone, especially the poor, the vulnerable and the unwanted people in society.</p>
<p>Spends the majority of its money building their local church and on lavish lifestyles.</p>	<p>Will use the majority of their money to reach unreached people groups and complete the Great Commission.</p>

As you can see, there’s a very stark difference between the false church and the actual body of Christ. We are called as ambassadors of Christ to build His Kingdom. As the body of Christ, our lives need to be marked by surrender to Jesus, living for Him and having a passion for reaching the lost. In short, we need to carry the heart of God and be His hands and feet wherever we go.

# 4

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## WHAT IS THE MARK OF THE BEAST?

Now that we've looked at the false church we need to turn our attention to the mark of the beast. This is such an important issue and one that we need to explore. Let's look now at what the Bible says about the mark of the beast.

*Revelation 13:15-17 says, "15 The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. 16 It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or their foreheads, 17 so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name."*

From this verse, we can note the following:

1. It is a mark of some kind that people will receive on their right hand or forehead.

2. You will have to decide whether to receive it or not. (There will be a strong coercion to try to force you to take the mark).
3. You cannot buy or sell without this mark.

So from this verse, we can see that the mark of the beast is a serious issue. It's also something we need to start preparing our hearts for now.

At this stage, we don't know precisely what form the mark will take. It may or may not be a microchip. What's most important now is understanding that we will not be part of the beast's economy without it. The implications of this will be far-reaching in terms of survival. This is why we need to start preparing now.

It's important to note that whoever controls the banking system ultimately has complete control over the world. Since we know from scripture that the without the mark of the beast, we will not be able to buy or sell, we can conclude that the mark of the beast will be related to our banking system. We're fast moving towards a [cashless society](#) as well. The implication of this is that every single transaction we make can be tracked, and it also opens the possibility of

cancelling people's bank accounts. The implications of this are obvious and devastating.

[Click on this link to see a video with regards to this](#)

But how exactly is this all going to happen? And why would any Christian receive it if we've been warned so clearly against it? Let's turn back to scripture again.

*Revelation 13:11-14 says, "11 Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon. 12 It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. 13 And it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people. 14 Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived."*

The book of Revelation speaks of 2 beasts. The first beast arises from the sea and is known as the Beast of the Sea.

We see this in Revelation 13:1-3 which says, "The

*dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name. 2 The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. 3 One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was filled with wonder and followed the beast.”*

Common belief holds that this beast is the antichrist. He is given power and authority by the dragon, who is Satan and is empowered to rule for a time.

The second beast arises from the earth and is known as the Beast of the Earth. This beast appears to be a false prophet.

We see this in Revelation 13:11, which says, “Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon.”

This verse points out that it had the horns of a lamb which is an image strongly associated with Jesus, the Lamb of God. So we can infer that he looks like Jesus.

However, he is not Jesus because the second part of the verse says that “it spoke like a dragon”, which is a reference to Satan.

This beast (the second beast) gets the people of Earth to worship the first beast and to receive the mark of the beast.

### **HOW WILL PEOPLE BE DECEIVED INTO RECEIVING THE MARK OF THE BEAST?**

It's critical to understand this deception. The second beast deceives people and gets them to take the mark of the beast through the signs and wonders it performs.

*Revelation 13:12-14 says, “12 It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. 13 And it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people. 14 Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth.”*

Again, we emphasise that we must be careful of thinking that all signs and wonders are from God.

## ***WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST?***

Revelation 14:9-12 says, “A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, they, too, will drink the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment will rise forever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name.” This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus.”

It’s very clear from this part of scripture that you will not be saved and will endure wrath and torment if you take the mark of the beast. This warning is not something we can tiptoe around and try to make more palatable. It’s a reminder that we must prepare ourselves now to stand boldly in that hour.

## 5

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# HOW CAN WE MAKE SURE WE ARE NOT DECEIVED INTO RECEIVING THE MARK OF THE BEAST?

It might be surprising for Christians to realise that the church will be part of this great deception coming in the end times. The Bible prophesies that the church will experience deception in the last days, and there will be a great falling away. The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines deception as “the act of causing someone to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid”. We will see this in the church. People will reject the truth of God’s word for a more “palatable” doctrine.

*2 Thessalonians 8-12 says, “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who*

*perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”*

It's important to note here that this verse talks of the “lawless one” because, in these last days, the world and even a lot of the church will accept things that the Bible calls sinful and unrighteous. And conversely, those things that the Bible calls righteous will be labelled wrong by the world and even the church. We may see Pastors go to jail for preaching the truth. It's also possible that the Bible will be banned because it goes against the agenda and beliefs of the world. You must ensure that your Church is preaching sound doctrine based on the Word of God.

Isaiah 5:20 says, “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.”

We can clearly see then that this deception and delusion is coming and that many will be deceived into receiving the mark of the beast. Therefore, the most

crucial question we can ask ourselves is how to prepare ourselves so we don't receive it.

We can prepare ourselves to stand firm and be vigilant against receiving the mark of the beast in the following ways:

## **1. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THE JESUS OF THE BIBLE**

Bank tellers undergo training in recognising counterfeit money. They are trained by handling and working with genuine money repeatedly until they can identify counterfeit simply by the feel of it because they know what genuine money feels like.

The same is true for us as believers. We will recognise the antichrist because we know the true Jesus of the Bible.

So, we must study our Bibles and spend time with Jesus daily. Doing this will help us to know Jesus and grow deeply in our faith. Remember that we will need deep faith in God to be able to persevere, stand and overcome in these final days.

We encourage you to invest deeply in your relationship

with Jesus in every way. Get to know the Bible and memorise scripture because you will need to stand on that scripture if Bibles are banned.

## **2. DON'T BE DECEIVED BY SIGNS AND WONDERS**

Test absolutely everything and hold it up against scripture. Don't think something is from God just because signs and wonders are associated with it. Always look at what something is rooted in. Who founded it? What do they believe? Are they teaching and following the Jesus of the Bible?

## **3. DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD**

The Bible says in Romans 12:2, “ *Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*”

Make no mistake about it; the beast's system will use peer pressure to get people to receive the mark of the beast. Be very careful of the desire to be part of the

pack, accepted by friends and have your identity linked to your social standing. The desire to fit in and be accepted can easily lead people to compromise their faith in Jesus and receive the mark. For this reason, you need to be rock-solid in your relationship with Jesus and have your identity firmly grounded and established in Him so that you can stand alone and entirely apart from everyone else. This is the only way to stand firm and not compromise in that final hour. Throughout the ages, people have viewed followers of Jesus as non-conformists. They did not do this in a rebellious spirit. However, they were only willing to conform to the word of God. We need to do the same.

#### **4. DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD**

Here in the prosperous West, we know so little about suffering for our faith. But Christians living in countries closed to the gospel know that when they come to Christ, they will lose everything, including family and friends. They understand and accept that they will suffer. But they are prepared to make that sacrifice because they understand what they truly receive in Christ. They have an eternity perspective. They understand that this life and all its trappings are

temporary while salvation and Heaven are eternal. They are prepared to lay aside whatever they must, even their lives, to follow Christ. We must do the same!

## **5. BE PREPARED TO LAY YOUR LIFE DOWN FOR CHRIST**

Revelation 12:11 says, *“They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”*

Laying down your life for Christ is not a popular message, but we must take it to heart to stand in this final hour. We must value nothing and no one over Christ. Be prepared to lay down whatever you must, including your life, to keep your salvation.

Jim Elliot, a famous missionary martyr, once said, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose” Here, he is referring to giving up our lives (which we cannot keep) to gain what we cannot lose (salvation and eternity with God).

May this quote be true for each one of us as believers.

# 6

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## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

Genesis 3:4 *“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God.”*

Right at the beginning of time, in the perfect garden of Eden, man found himself face to face with the temptation to be like God. We see this in how Satan tempted Eve to take the fruit and become like God. Today we see this recurring theme of mankind wanting to be like God and fully control the world. Since then, many have risen, including Nimrod (with the tower of Babel), Nebuchadnezzar, Nero, Napoleon, Stalin and Hitler, to name a few. The common thread connecting all these people was their hope to create a utopian society apart from God.

Below is a clip from Professor Yuval Noah Harari who is an Israeli author, public intellectual, historian and professor in the Department of History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He makes the statement that in today's world even God cannot throw anything at us

that we cannot counteract like droughts, diseases etc. It brings to mind the tower of Babel in the book of Genesis.

### [YouTube Link](#)

Never before in the history of the world has mankind had the opportunity to take control of the entire world by making use of the knowledge and technology we now have access to. We are now at the dawn of this great reset that has been heralded and sees the rise of a New World Order. The New World Order will use global terrorism, covid, and now climate change to bring in laws that will destroy all the hard-gained rights and freedoms that Western countries held so dear. Things like freedom of speech, movement and association are now tightly regulated and controlled by a few for the so-called “common good of all”.

It's impossible to predict with 100% accuracy what the future may look like under the Beast's system. However, influential groups (The United Nations, World Economic Forum and the Central Banks, to name a few) are making statements of what they see for the future. Based on what they are saying, we can conclude the following:

## SURVEILLANCE

We all know that we already live in a [high-surveillance world](#). Our movements, habits, beliefs and viewpoints are constantly being monitored. We live in a digital world where online surveillance tracking is very much a reality. An example is when you click on something online, and then social media ads bombard you for that very thing. A more startling example is when you simply talk about something and are flooded with the products or services you've spoken about. So, beyond a doubt, we know we are being monitored.

While it's difficult to predict precisely and to what extent governments are using our info, we know they are doing this. In today's world, the technology of AI, smartphones and computers has made this surveillance possible. The Australian government were found to monitoring their citizens' social media accounts. [See the link here](#). They then used this info to identify and target "anti-vaxxers", who they said were spreading "false" information.

## SMART MONEY

It's important to note that the mark of the beast will

revolve around the banking system and our economic system ([Revelation 13: 16-18](#)). Our entire banking system has changed over time, and in years gone by, people had a bank book. Bank tellers manually added transactions, and a stamp indicated your bank balance. We lived in a very trusting world where a piece of paper with a signature allowed you to withdraw large sums of money from bank accounts.

However, the onset of digital banking changed all of this. Everything happens electronically now, and you must provide a reason if you draw large amounts of cash. In addition, it's all become very tightly monitored too. We're all aware of the Fica requirements we need to fulfil to confirm our identity and personal details. Failure to do this means your bank account is frozen, and you can't access any of your money. It's important to note that we understand governments did this to address issues like terrorism, money laundering, and fraud. However, it's set in place a terrifying system of control in which we can easily lose control over our money. (An example of this is the [Canadian truckers](#) who were protesting enforced vaccine passports, and the Government stopped the protest by freezing their bank accounts) Also, in [recent news](#), a prominent UK politician, Nigel Farage, has had his bank accounts frozen.

In addition, we are already seeing countries speaking of [going cashless](#) for security reasons. Many don't know that countries are making way for a completely new system of money called [Central bank digital currency](#). It will be a form of [cryptocurrency](#). This type of currency can be programmed according to the user and the purpose it will serve. All transactions can be tracked and recorded.

Cryptocurrency is a type of digital money that uses encryption techniques to secure and verify transactions. It is decentralised and is not controlled by any government or financial institution. Instead, it's run by a network of computers around the world. Every single crypto transaction is recorded on the blockchain. Examples of cryptocurrencies are Bitcoin, Ethereum etc. It's no secret that this is why many people use this for drugs, human trafficking and many other criminal activities. By contrast, the new smart money will be centralised, tightly controlled and will track all transactions. While this could go a long way to eradicating criminal use of money, it presents some dangerous opportunities.

- Firstly, because your money is digital you could be restricted from buying certain products. The ruling power may deem items like fuel, meat etc, restricted. As a result, they may ration what we can buy. There is already talk of [rationing meat](#) to “help” stop the effects of climate change.
- They could terminate digital money due to non-compliance to orders like vaccine mandates.

A cashless society will restrict any freedom to transact as you wish. These restrictions will even affect the social grants many people rely on. In addition, certain restrictions may also apply to the use of smart money. They may have time limits meaning you must spend it within a specific timeframe and possibly only on essential products. So you can clearly see that if you don't receive the mark of the beast, you will not be part of their system and will be unable to buy or sell.

You may be wondering how they will introduce all of this. Bear in mind that with the onset of AI, around 40% of jobs will be replaced.

[\(Venture capitalist: AI will displace 40 percent of world's jobs in as soon as 15 years\)](#) With so many jobs replaced by AI, the masses will be without jobs and an income. To deal with this, they will introduce a

[universal grant](#). The grant will be made available to every person and will be a living wage. But most importantly, you will need to fulfil certain conditions to receive it.

Here are some further links:

<https://youtu.be/ZhxUoA2kmLE>

<https://youtu.be/QoEUKCBuQnQ>

## SOCIAL CREDIT SCORE

We all know we have a financial credit score. This determines whether we can get access to credit. The older folks will remember when you could go to your bank manager directly to apply for a loan. Those days are over. Applying for a bond or bank credit is all done electronically or on an app based on the raw data you insert.

A social credit score works on the same principles but is based on your social behaviour and compliance with the agenda set by the ruling power. It will be based on factors like your carbon footprint, energy usage and your consumption of animal products. More importantly, it will consider your stance on issues like gender, political views, racism, and support of groups

like BLM. These they will easily glean from social media. This social credit score system is currently up and running in China.

[A Look Inside China's Social Credit System | NBC News Now](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/tech/look-inside-chinas-social-credit-system-n1111111)

<https://youtu.be/0cGB8dCDf3c>

## DIGITAL ID

This will have far-reaching effects on our lives and seriously impact our freedom of movement. It will affect everything from whether we can open a bank account and get a driver's licence to how freely we can move about. Access to shopping centres, airports, etc., will depend on a digital ID. It will include things like your social credit score. So if you don't receive the mark of the beast and have a digital ID, your freedom of movement will be a thing of the past.

<https://youtu.be/EnYSwfSDVwE>

## WEARABLE HEALTH TRACKERS

By this, we are not referring to a smartwatch. While there are benefits to monitoring your health, it could also be misused by those who would like to track

functions within our bodies, i.e. mental health and our mindsets. Significant advances in companies like [Neuralink](#) have created a link between our brains and computers. Their mission statement says, “Create a generalised brain interface to restore autonomy to those with unmet medical needs today and unlock human potential tomorrow.” While this may seem a positive step for people with medical conditions, you could imagine the negative potential for controlling and tracking people. It’s not difficult to see how this could fit in with the mark of the beast.

## GENE EDITING AND MODIFICATION

Genetic modification has been around for a while now. One of the biggest suppliers of GMO seed is a company called Monsanto. (They were bought over by a company called Bayer in 2018). On the World Health Organisations website they define GMO as organisms (i.e. plants, animals or microorganisms) in which the genetic material (DNA) has been altered in a way that **does not occur naturally** by mating and/or natural recombination. The technology is often called “modern biotechnology” or “**gene technology**”, sometimes also “recombinant DNA technology” or “genetic engineering”. It allows selected individual genes to be transferred from **one organism into another**, also

between non-related species. Foods produced from or using GM organisms are often referred to as GM foods. There are many concerns around GMOs but the major red flag is that it can allow big Corporate Companies to gain full control over food production by owning the seeds. This type of control, especially of food can have devastating consequences and leave us vulnerable and forced to follow their dictates.

<https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/food-genetically-modified>

In a similar vein, we have seen the emergence of another newer technology called Gene therapy or CRISPR. By means of this gene therapy genes are edited like computer code. While this holds exciting prospects the obvious pitfalls are that it could fall into the hands of terrorists or those who want complete control. A lot more could be said about the potential uses of this technology for generating coronavirus as well as other pathogens. There is even talk now of virus that can target certain ethnic or people groups. Here are some further websites of interest

<https://www.biopharmadive.com/news/pfizer-caribou-crispr-allogeneic-cell-therapy-investment/685241/>

<https://www.pfizer.com/news/articles/how-crispr-helps-find-genetic-%E2%80%98needle-haystack%E2%80%99-diseases>

[https://www.illumina.com/techniques/popular-applications/genome-editing.html?scid=2023-269PAS8829&utm\\_medium=paidsearch&gclid=Cj0KCQjwuZGnBhD1ARIsACxbAVjpwLdAmChz6t6yWBV2NjOuBdnCY6BbN79Av2f4sDwhzjZPgMnyveYaAgTmEALw\\_wcB](https://www.illumina.com/techniques/popular-applications/genome-editing.html?scid=2023-269PAS8829&utm_medium=paidsearch&gclid=Cj0KCQjwuZGnBhD1ARIsACxbAVjpwLdAmChz6t6yWBV2NjOuBdnCY6BbN79Av2f4sDwhzjZPgMnyveYaAgTmEALw_wcB)

## **NO OWNERSHIP OF ASSETS**

There will be no ownership of assets like land, cars etc. In his book Covid 19: The Great Reset, Klaus Schwab, The head of the World Economic Forum stated, “You’ll own nothing and be happy”.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/06/how-can-the-internet-of-things-inspire-a-shift-to-a-circular-economy/>

## **FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WILL BE CONTROLLED**

Freedom of movement will be reliant on your social credit score. There will be no need for prisons or

camps; instead, you won't be able to leave your house and have freedom of movement without a good social credit score. During Covid we saw the introduction of covid passes that controlled access to gyms, shops and other places.

Bearing all of this in mind, it's not impossible to foresee how the beast's system will exert its power over the world. The beast system will be almost omnipresent (it can be everywhere at once) with its surveillance, massive data storage capacity (linked to AI) and ability to listen to our private conversations. With its global centralised power and control of the economy, military and media, it will be almost omnipotent (all-powerful). With AI's power, which includes tracking and controlling our spending of money and our thoughts and beliefs on social media, the beast system will almost be omniscient (all-knowing).

Being omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient are God-like qualities. And for the first time in history, man has the ability to become like God over the masses of society. From the beginning of time, as recorded in the book of Genesis, Satan's primary temptation to man is that man can become like God.

The Bible states that we are created in the image of

God, but we are NOT God. Through the Holy Spirit, we receive the fullness of God in Christ, but again this does not make us God. We are empowered to be godly, but we are NOT God. What's important to understand is that what we see with AI now is man's attempt to once more be like God.

So, in summary, the future under the system of the beast will be one in which people are tightly controlled and forced to follow the agenda and beliefs of this ungodly system which is in direct opposition to God. It is one that we cannot bow to as Christians.

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE END TIMES

Since this is a book about the end times we felt that it's important to include a chapter that lays out the various beliefs Christians hold around the end times. Eschatology refers to the study of the end times and the ultimate destiny of mankind and the world. Scripture reveals to us what the end times will be like. We feel it's essential to address this because different viewpoints about the end times can frame our beliefs.

When it comes to the end times, Christians agree on the following:

- There will be a time of tribulation
- At some point, the rapture will happen
- That Jesus will return with the second coming
- There will be a final judgement by God.

However, there are different viewpoints about how this will all unfold. If you are wanting more information with this you are welcome to watch a debate hosted by John Piper and 3 learned pastors with different viewpoints on the end times. [Click Here](#)

This chapter aims not to give a heavy theological explanation of each or to convince you to follow a specific viewpoint. Instead, we want to present the various viewpoints around the end times. We pray that each person will prayerfully decide for themselves, with the direction of the Holy Spirit, which viewpoint they will embrace.

## 1. PRE-MILLENNIALISM

The word “premillennialism” is derived from the Latin words “pre” (meaning “before”) and “millennium” (meaning “millennium”). Therefore, premillennialists believe that Jesus will physically return to earth before the millennial (1000 years) reign.

The core beliefs of premillennialism are as follows:

- The second coming of Jesus: They believe in the physical return of Jesus to establish His kingdom on Earth. The return of Jesus will happen before the millennial reign starts.
- The return of Jesus is imminent, and we need to be ready and watching for it.

- **A Millennial Kingdom:** After Jesus returns, there will be a literal 1000-year period during which Jesus will reign on Earth. It will be a time marked by righteousness, peace and justice.
- **Tribulation:** There will be a time of tribulation which will occur before Jesus returns. It will be a time of intense suffering, global turmoil and the rise of the Antichrist.
- **Rapture:** Jesus will rapture the Christians before He returns. The rapture and the second coming of Jesus are seen as two separate events.
- **Israel will be restored:** As part of God's redemptive plan, Israel will be restored and redeemed.
- **Premillennialists interpret prophetic writing in scripture and the book of Revelation in a literal way.**

Within Premillennialism, it's essential to note that there are different beliefs about the timing of the rapture and the tribulation period. These are as follows:

## **PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE**

According to this viewpoint, Jesus will rapture His Church before the intense tribulation known as the Great Tribulation. Key points to note are that:

- The rapture will occur before the tribulation.
- Christians will escape the tribulation and not face suffering or persecution.
- The rapture and the second coming of Christ are seen as two different events.

Now let's look at some of the strengths and weaknesses of this viewpoint.

## **STRENGTHS**

- In Matthew 24:44, we are warned to be alert and ready because Jesus will return when we are not expecting Him. This verse supports the view that the return of Jesus is imminent.
- Thessalonians 1:10 and 5:9 speak of Christians being saved from the coming wrath. This verse supports the view that we will not have to go through the Great Tribulation.

## **WEAKNESSES**

- There seems to be a lack of explicit scriptural evidence to support the idea of a pre-tribulation rapture.
- Verses like Matthew 24:29-31 and Revelation 20:4-6 point to the gathering of believers after the tribulation, suggesting a post-tribulation rapture.

## MID-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

This viewpoint believes that Christians will be raptured in the middle of the 7-year tribulation period. In other words, the rapture will occur after the first three and half years of tribulation. Key points to note are that:

- The rapture will occur halfway through the tribulation. This is seen as a significant milestone in the end-time events.
- The seven-year tribulation will be an intense time of suffering and judgement, as described in the book of Revelation.
- Christians will face the first half of the tribulation (3 and half years) and must persevere. They will see the rise of the Antichrist and face the mark of the beast, but God's grace will sustain them and help them to persevere.
- The abomination of desolation (Matt 24:15). This is seen as the Antichrist defiling the temple. According to this viewpoint, it marks the midpoint of the tribulation and is a sign that the rapture is imminent.
- Christians who have faithfully endured the tribulation to this point will be raptured.

## STRENGTHS

- Supporters of the mid-tribulation rapture viewpoint refer to Matthew 24:15-31 where Jesus talks of the “abomination of desolation” and the gathering of the elect immediately after this. This verse suggests the possibility of the rapture occurring in the middle of the tribulation period.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:9 speaks of believers not being destined for wrath, which seems to point to the rapture before the tribulation’s worst judgements.
- Revelation 13:5-7 describes a period of intense persecution against believers. This verse supports the idea that the rapture will occur during the tribulation.

## WEAKNESSES

- Determining the exact midpoint of the seven-year tribulation is not explicitly stated in the Bible, making it challenging to pinpoint when the mid-tribulation rapture would occur.
- Lack of Explicit Biblical Support: The Bible doesn’t clearly state a mid-tribulation rapture, raising questions about its direct support in scripture.
- Different Interpretations: People who believe in the mid-tribulation rapture may have varying ideas about when the midpoint of the tribulation occurs,

- leading to differences in how this viewpoint is understood.
- Timing of God's Wrath: Identifying when exactly God's judgment begins during the tribulation and how it aligns with the mid-tribulation rapture can be unclear.

## POST-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

This viewpoint holds that Christians will be raptured after the seven-year tribulation period. Some key points to note are:

- The rapture occurs at the end of the seven-year tribulation period. It precedes the second coming of Jesus.
- The seven-year tribulation period is a time of intense suffering, persecution and judgement.
- Christians must endure and persevere through the tribulation and rely on God's strength to do so.
- The second coming and the rapture are seen as one event. Christians meet Jesus in the air and then return to earth with Him immediately for the millennial reign.
- God will judge the wicked after the tribulation.

## **STRENGTHS**

- Post-tribulation supporters use verses like Matthew 24:29-31 to support their view. These verses mention the gathering of the elect after the tribulation, which seems to support this idea.
- There is an emphasis on endurance and faithfulness during tribulation. They believe that this view prepares Christians to face persecution and gives them a mindset of perseverance and relying on God's strength.

## **WEAKNESSES**

- Post-tribulation supporters have difficulty explaining passages in the bible that suggest a pre-tribulation or pre-wrath rapture.
- The timing of the rapture is problematic with this view. It can be argued that the purpose of the rapture is to deliver believers from the coming wrath and judgement, and if the rapture occurs after the tribulation, it may not serve this purpose.

Now that we've looked at these different rapture viewpoints within Pre-millennialism, it's important to note that there can be variations within each of these viewpoints. However, the descriptions above give a general overview of each.

## 2. POST-MILLENNIALISM

Post-millennialism believes that the second coming of Jesus will only occur after the millennium. They believe we are living in the millennium now. They view the millennium as a spiritual reign of Christ in and through His Church on Earth, where the Gospel gradually transforms society and brings about a period of peace, justice and righteousness. As always, however, there are variations in what they believe within each of these different viewpoints.

The core beliefs of Postmillennialism are as follows:

- The Gospel will progressively impact the world and bring about a period of peace and righteousness. (Matthew 13:31-33 – The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven, interpreted as illustrating the gradual growth and expansive nature of the Kingdom of God and Isaiah 2:2-4 – A prophecy depicting the elevation of God’s house and the flow of nations to it, leading to a time of peace).
- The belief that All nations will eventually come to worship God, resulting in a transformed world (Psalm 22:27-28 – A prophecy that all families of the nations will worship before the Lord and that the Lord rules over the nations and Isaiah 11:9 – A vision of the knowledge of God covering the earth, bringing peace).

- The knowledge of God will fill the earth, leading to a universal reign of God and His peace (Isaiah 11:9 – A vision of the earth being filled with the knowledge of the Lord and Habakkuk 2:14 – A prophecy of the earth being filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord).
- The Kingdom of God will grow and fill the whole earth, influencing the nations (Daniel 2:35 – Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of the image representing the kingdom of God growing and filling the earth).

## **STRENGTHS**

- Postmillennialism offers a positive and hopeful perspective on the future, believing that the Gospel will gradually transform the world, leading to a period of peace and righteousness.
- Proponents of postmillennialism believe that the growth of the Church and the spreading influence of the Gospel align with the idea of a future golden age before the return of Christ.
- This viewpoint encourages active involvement in society, emphasizing the importance of applying Christian principles across various spheres of life, such as politics, education, and social justice.

## **WEAKNESSES**

- The realities of life that we face such as wars, conflicts, and moral declines, appear contradictory to the anticipated global transformation and peace envisioned by postmillennialism.
- The ongoing existence of evil, suffering, and moral decay challenges the idea of an imminent universal peace as envisioned by postmillennialism.
- Postmillennialism often requires a more symbolic interpretation of apocalyptic texts, which can be more subjective and less clear than a literal understanding.
- The absence of a clear historical period that aligns with the anticipated millennial reign, as well as differing interpretations of the timing and nature of Christ's return, raise challenges for this view.

## **3. AMILLENNIALISM**

Amillennialism believes that the millennial reign mentioned in Revelation 20:1-6 is not a literal 1000 years. Instead, they see it as a symbolic representation. The “a” prefix in “amillennialism” means “no”. So this view holds there is no literal, earthly millennial kingdom following the second coming of Christ.

The core beliefs of Amillennialism are as follows:

- The millennium is seen as a spiritual and non-literal period representing the present Church age, rather than a future earthly reign. (Revelation 20:1-6 – The passage describing the 1,000-year reign, is often interpreted symbolically to represent the Church age rather than a literal period).
- Christ currently reigns in heaven and spiritually through His Church, not in a literal earthly kingdom (Acts 2:32-36 – The exaltation of Christ to the right hand of God, emphasizing His present reign and Ephesians 1:20-23 – The depiction of Christ being seated at the right hand of God, ruling over all things).
- The Kingdom of God is presently established in the hearts of believers and through the Church's influence in the world (Luke 17:20-21 – Jesus' teaching that the kingdom of God is among or within the people and Colossians 1:13 – The idea that believers have been transferred into the kingdom of God's Son).
- Satan is currently limited in his power and influence, not necessarily bound in a physical sense (Revelation 20:1-3 – Interpreted as Christ's victory over Satan's power, limiting his influence).

- Christ will return only once, at the end of the Church age, to judge the living and the dead (Acts 1:11 – The angels’ affirmation that Christ will return in the same way He ascended to heaven and Matthew 25:31-32 – The future coming of Christ to judge the nations).

## **STRENGTHS**

- One of amillennialism’s strengths is its emphasis on spiritual and symbolic interpretations of biblical prophecy, which some see as allowing a more flexible understanding of end-time events.
- Biblically Conservative Interpretation: Amillennialism aligns with a more straightforward, less speculative interpretation of certain biblical texts, particularly regarding the symbolic nature of the millennium and the book of Revelation.
- Continuity with Historical Christian Thought: This perspective is in line with early Church fathers’ and historical Christian theologians’ interpretations, providing continuity in the historical development of Christian eschatology.
- Emphasis on Christ’s Sovereignty: Amillennialism stresses the present reign and sovereignty of Christ, which can provide comfort and confidence to believers amidst the uncertainties of the future.

## WEAKNESSES

- Amillennialism's symbolic interpretation of the millennium can face critique for not taking certain prophetic texts literally, potentially losing some of the vivid imagery and details in these passages.
- It can be argued that the absence of a literal 1,000-year reign can lead to ambiguity in understanding certain prophetic passages, particularly those referring to the duration and nature of the millennium.
- An exclusively spiritual interpretation might not fully address the existence of evil and suffering in the world, raising questions about the timing and resolution of these issues in an amillennial framework.
- Amillennialism might not adequately align Old Testament prophecies concerning the restoration of Israel and the kingdom with their interpretation of a present spiritual reign.

This chapter has focused on giving you a brief overview and understanding of the differing viewpoints on the end times. Again, we reiterate that each one of us as believers needs to seek God prayerfully and ask Him to help us understand the end times and how we should view them.

The most important thing to remember, however, is no matter which of these viewpoints you embrace, we all need to be alert and watchful as we await the rapture and the return of Jesus. We must stay vigilant and awake to avoid deception. And in the meantime, we must do all we can to prepare for the tribulation. Even if we are raptured before, there's wisdom in preparing so we are not caught off-guard.

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## SUFFERING

The Bible teaches us that suffering is part of our Christian walk. We need to expect it. Jesus says the following in John 16:33, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world”. In the western world, we’ve lived in a society primarily based on biblical ethics and values, and we’ve freely been allowed to live out our faith as Christians. In truth, we know very little about suffering for our faith.

However, we are witnessing a significant shift towards a post-Christian and secular humanist society. This shift is of deep concern as it will be replaced by an uncertain New World Order, potentially characterised by a socialist worldview. The foundations of family and the social fabric that hold our society together have already experienced significant erosion.

It is worth noting that throughout the past century, Christians have faced marked persecution in communist and Islamic countries. Suffering and

martyrdom have been widespread in these regions. And interestingly, it is in these areas that the Church of Christ has experienced remarkable growth.

In the last century, more Christians [faced persecution](#) and lost their lives due to their unwavering faith in Jesus compared to all the preceding centuries combined. Surprisingly, approximately 65% of all Christians who have ever endured persecution or martyrdom lived during the period from 1900 to 2000. Various organisations that monitor human rights and Christian agencies assessing Christian persecutions and fatalities have estimated that 15 – 20 million Christians were killed in the last century. This number is both shocking and distressing.

Given all of the above, we understand that we will suffer for our faith and that it's critical to prepare for it. Let's look at Bible verses now that talk about suffering and give us principles we can follow to develop a godly perspective towards suffering.

# BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES TO HELP YOU ENDURE SUFFERING WELL

## 1. SUFFERING IS PART OF OUR WALK AS BELIEVERS

2 Timothy 3:12 says, *“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted”*.

We need to understand and embrace the fact that we will suffer when we follow Jesus and live godly lives. Remember that the Antichrist will usher in a New World Order, and part of that will include the mark of the beast. This New World Order will be anti-Christian, meaning it will completely oppose everything we believe as followers of Christ. And they will cleverly use agendas like Black Lives Matter and the Pride movement to single Christians out and try to make us bow to their evil agenda. The Bible teaches us never to bow our knees or to worship anything but the Lord our God. These agendas (Pride movement etc.) will be a way to bring in the concept of bowing the knee to a “cause”. Be aware that these movements are not just movements. They have been established to condition people to bow their knees to a cause. We can see an

example of this with the South African cricket team. There was a [cricket player](#) who initially refused to bow his knee to the Black Lives Matter cause. He was not allowed to play on the team without doing so. And unfortunately, he decided to bow his knee. Please understand that we are not condemning that player at all. We used this example to highlight that this will be a devastatingly difficult time to walk through, and we will need God's strength and grace to help us say "no" and stand firm.

This time ahead is going to be a time of great sifting. If you are in Christ and refuse to accept the mark of the beast, you will be excluded from every part of society. Our comfortable lives as we know them will be over. We won't have access to schools for our children, access to shops and indeed may well have our freedom of movement significantly reduced. We may well even go to prison.

To endure this and stand strong, we first and foremost have to embrace that this is part of our walk as believers. And then we need to remember that we will not face this alone. Our God will never abandon us, and He will give us what we need in that hour.

## 2. WE NEED TO PERSEVERE IN TIMES OF SUFFERING

James 1:12 says, *“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”*

Now that we've established the fact that we will suffer for our faith in Christ, let's turn our attention to how we should approach it. We see from the verse above that we need to persevere. This is what God is calling us to do in times of suffering. He is calling us to stand firm in Him and to persevere. We must be prepared to suffer what we must but never to let go of Him or to compromise our faith in Him. And if you feel like you can't do this, remember that we have the Holy Spirit who lives within us and who strengthens us and helps us to endure.

Do everything you can to invest deeply in your relationship with God. Make sure that it's rock solid. Fill your heart with the word of God and memorise it. Spend time in prayer, practice listening for His voice and seek Him. All this will just build an incredible immovable foundation in your life that will enable you to persevere through times of suffering.

### 3. DEVELOP AN ETERNITY PERSPECTIVE

2 Corinthians 4:17 says, *“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all”*.

Remember always to keep an eternity perspective. Never forget that this life is fleeting, and it's temporary. And we need to view our lives and the suffering we endure through this lens. The only permanent thing is eternal life. We can bear hardships and persecution, knowing that they are temporary and that all eternity with God awaits us.

### 4. YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN YOUR SUFFERING

Romans 8:35 says, *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?”*

We can stand firm during times of suffering because we know that the Lord our God is with us. Knowing this strengthens us. It reminds us that no matter what, we will never face things alone. The Lord stands with

us to comfort us, provide for us and lead us every step of the way. This gives us enormous comfort and peace.

## 5. SUFFERING REFINES US

Romans 5:3 says, *“Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us”*.

In times of suffering, we begin to press into God more profoundly than before. And as we do this, God shapes us and refines us. If we keep the right attitude, it can be a time of God moulding us to be more like Jesus.

## 6. SUFFERING FOR YOUR FAITH IS A BLESSING

1 Peter 3:14 says, *“But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.”*

We must always remember that we are blessed when we suffer for our faith. Our Jesus suffered the most unimaginable death and paid the highest price for our

salvation. We need to see it as an immense privilege and blessing to suffer for following Him.

And finally, let's end this chapter by looking at what Jesus said about persecution and suffering.

Matthew 5:10-12 says, *“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”*

Jesus said we are blessed when we are persecuted and that there is a great reward in Heaven for us. Let us stand strong in Him and persevere to the end!

## SO HOW DO WE PREPARE?

As we begin to conclude this book, we want to look at how to prepare for what's coming. Please understand that these preparations will mostly be spiritual because ultimately that's the best way to prepare ourselves. What's coming is a spiritual war of epic proportions and we need to prepare our hearts for it. However, there may also be some physical preparations we can make. This list is by no means extensive, it's just some ideas to get you thinking along the lines of being more self-sustaining.

### SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

This is the most crucial way in which we can prepare. Make sure that you have a strong relationship with the Lord. And if you have not yet received Jesus as your Lord and Saviour then please seriously consider this. Time is running short and all eternity with God in Heaven is at stake. You can find a resource here to help you [become a Christian](#). Remember that He is the sure foundation on which we stand. He is the one who will

keep us standing firm and help us to persevere. But this will only happen if He is the foundation on which you have built your life.

So invest deeply in your relationship with God. Make sure you spend quality time with God daily and have a strong prayer life. Take the time to study the word and memorise as much of it as you can. Remember, a time may come when the Bible is banned. We may not be able to access or read it freely. So this is the season to fill your heart with the Lord and ensure you stay close to God.

## **PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS**

We should remember that we can prepare physically for what is to come, but we may not be able to use this preparation. We can't predict the type of control and restrictions the Antichrist will bring with the New World Order. However, we firmly believe there is wisdom in preparing however we can.

The physical preparations we can make are as follows:

### **1. GET OUT OF DEBT**

We understand that times are tight financially for so

many of us, and we often feel like we are just getting by every month. However, we want to encourage you to keep a wartime mentality now. Find ways to save wherever possible. Try to pay off your debt and avoid taking out any more debt. An example of this would be rather pay off your existing car and keep it instead of upgrading to a newer car and shackling yourself with more debt. Live below your means and pay your debt off.

## **2. LEARN TO GROW VEGETABLES**

We can't predict what things will be like under the Antichrist system for the children of God who refuse the mark of the beast. However, it's wise to learn how to grow some basic vegetables.

Some important things to remember here are that you can grow vegetables no matter the size of your property. Even living in a tiny flat, you can grow them in containers on a balcony. So invest time now in learning how to grow essential vegetables like spinach, potatoes, butternut, onion, carrots, and some herbs like parsley, basil, etc. A beneficial free online course that can help you with this can be found with [Soil for Life](#). We have done this course and it's excellent as has helped us establish our own little vegetable garden.

### **3. TRY TO LOOK AT OFF-THE-GRID SOLUTIONS**

We understand that everyone's budget and means are different. However, we encourage you to try to go off-grid in whatever capacity you can. If you can have a borehole drilled, invest in that, but if not, try to get water tanks to harvest rainwater. And go solar in whatever capacity you can. Whether it's simply a solar hot water geyser or whatever you can afford, try to do as much as you can within your budget.

### **4. BUILD A COMMUNITY**

It's essential to find like-minded people you can connect to and work with. There is strength in a community where everyone can work together and help each other. In particular, you will need people you can barter fresh produce or services to get things you need.

# 10

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## WHAT NOW?

The issues we have discussed in this book have been weighty and could leave you feeling afraid and depressed. However, we want to remind you that in Jesus we have **tremendous hope** for what's to come in eternity! The end times and the tribulation can be likened to crawling through a dark tunnel. It's dark, cold and downright scary at times and you may even wonder how you will make it through. But at the end of that tunnel is the most glorious reward of all – all eternity with God in Heaven!

Revelation 21: 9-27 describes what's to come as follows:

*“One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a*

jasper, clear as crystal. 12 It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. 13 There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. 14 The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. 16 The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia[c] in length, and as wide and high as it is long. 17 The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits[d] thick.[e] 18 The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. 19 The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.[f] 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass. 22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to

shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. 25 On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. 26 The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. 27 Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life”.

Whether you believe the things described in this verse to be literal or symbolic we can all agree that we have the most indescribable future awaiting in Christ!

Revelation 22:1-5 says,

“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever”.

Can you imagine seeing God face to face without anything to separate us from Him again for all eternity? It's impossible to get our minds around the indescribable joy of being with Him for all eternity.

We will live with Him in the perfectly restored Eden that the Devil corrupted through Adam and Eve. In Christ, God is restoring it all back to its fullness and perfection. This is the end of the story, the picture we need to keep firmly etched into our minds and hearts so that we always remember the incredible hope and future we have in God.

## *SO HOW DO WE NAVIGATE THESE LAST DAYS OF TRIBULATION?*

### **STAND FIRM AND DON'T COMPROMISE**

One of the most important things we are going to need to do is to stand firm without compromising. It can be so easy to feel daunted and overwhelmed when you hear this. And you may even be wondering how it will be possible to do this under the intense pressure that is to come. A story in scripture that has been a

tremendous encouragement to us in this regard is the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found in Daniel 3.

Daniel 3: 16-18 says, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

Ultimately under severe pressure and facing dire consequences, these three men who loved God refused to worship the statue. They were thrown in the fiery furnace but God delivered them. It’s an immensely powerful encouragement to us as believers in this hour. But have you ever wondered what enabled these men to choose to stand firm and without compromise? It was this simple truth ... they feared God more than they feared man and what would happen to them.

Proverbs 9:10 says, “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom”

Matthew 10:28 says, “Do not be afraid of those who

kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell”.

In this hour we need to have a deep reverence and fear of God. We need to understand that man can only destroy our body but God is able to destroy body and soul. Keep your eyes fixed on God and eternity with Him. Start preparing your heart now to fear God above all and to walk in His ways because all eternity with Him is at stake.

## **SHARE THE GOSPEL**

Finally, the second critical thing that we need to do is to share the gospel with others. Time is running short now and every day is a day closer to the return of the Lord. We must never lose sight of the fact that we are called to share the gospel. In fact, this is our highest calling in this hour. We need to intentionally be praying and asking God to open opportunities for us to share the gospel. We need to make it our priority to share the gospel with the lost.

Matthew 28:16-20 says, *“Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some*

doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Sharing the gospel is one of the most critical things we can do in this hour. Take every opportunity to do this. Live out your faith and share your faith with words and deeds wherever you can. Always remember that the only thing we can take to Heaven is people! So let's ask God to give us compassion for the lost and to fill us with a passion to reach them with His love. This is the most urgent call of this hour. We are the [salt and light](#) of this world and the hands and feet of Jesus – let's lead many to Christ! [How will they know if we don't tell them?](#)

We know that we are living in the 11th hour now. Our world has forever changed since March 2020; we need to be awake and aware of what's happening.

Keep your eyes on Jesus as never before, invest deeply in your relationship with Him, prepare yourself

spiritually and physically in whatever capacity you can and reach the lost. And most of all, be alert and awake so that you do not receive the mark of the beast and will stand firm for Jesus as we await His return.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

We have a website with some resources to help you share the gospel as well as some blogs of encouragement for this final hour before the return of Jesus.

[www.11thhour.online](http://www.11thhour.online).