

Faith Fight Podcast – Look Up! The Time Is Coming!

God is using this pandemic of COVID 19 to get our attentions. There is no more important time to get your life right with Jesus than now. I am currently doing a small group bible study on the book of Revelations and TRUST ME... You don't want to be left behind on the earth when the tribulation occurs.

The bible says that no man can know the time or the hour of Jesus' return (Matthew 24) In this episode I'm going to just go over some verses from the bible that show you that the time is coming close for Jesus return.

*Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God." - **Luke 12:13-21***

If you are living in North America, you are probably feeling the worlds economy grinding to a halt. In the past two weeks, we see that those people who have put their trust in their money are in fear because it is disappearing right before their eyes. Some people who have put their trust in their jobs and as a result of social distancing and people not being able to go out and buy anything, businesses are laying off their employees. We see in this verse that the word of God calls these people fools for placing their trust in anything other than God. Let this be a wake up call for all of us that our trust should be in Him alone and not in any of the worlds systems because at any moment Jesus can come back for his church and all the things that you trusted in would not be able to help you at that time.

*Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father^[d] is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. – **1 John 2:15-17***

For years, society has put an emphasis on acquiring things. Greed has been the focus and people have grown to love money and the world more than God. This applies to Christians as well. As this virus caused people to self-isolate themselves, and for economies to slow all the way down, let's make sure to reprioritize our motives. Do not be focused only on the things of the world out of greed because we are seeing those things pass away now. Let's focus on doing the will of God which last forever.

*See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire." – **Hebrews 12:25-29***

God has been trying to get the attention of many people for a long time. If you know of anyone who's life is not right with Jesus, please do what you need to do so that they can receive salvation. What is happening now is that God is shaking this world... the kingdoms of this world that are not on solid foundations will crumble and fall. Again this is a wake-up call for those who need to come to know Jesus as their saviour.

*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. – **Matthew 24:14***

Most churches this Sunday had to make a change in their worship services to comply with the Governments regulations on social distancing. As a result they had to take their worship services to an online platform. But we can see what this actually does. Though most churches have an online component to their ministry, now all members of that churches are forced to watch and can interact with the church service online. What this actually does is help spread the gospel to more people and places in two ways. 1. Simply more people would share the message as they are watching it so more people will be exposed to the message of the Gospel from that Sunday. And secondly, the algorithms of most social media platforms promote content that has high engagement and viewership. So this will cause more people to see what those platforms consider as "popular" at that moment in time and also be exposed to the message of the Gospel.

No more than now do I believe that Jesus is coming back for his Church. I don't know the day or the hour... but I can see signs and the bible says that when we see these signs that we need to look up. We need to make sure we reach out to our unsaved family and friends and try our best to be there to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. Let's pray that this happens now.

Weekly Prayer Plan – Look Up! The Time Is Coming!

How to Use this Template:

Download and save this document to begin using at the beginning (Monday) of every week. Every week will have different bible verses to meditate on based on the Faith Fight Podcast episode topic for that week. Determine the time and place that you will devote to prayer. The below structure is set for one hour and is only used as a guide. You can adjust your timing if necessary.

Time: _____

Place: _____

5 min – Drawing Near To God

5 min – Confession

10 min – God-Centered Petitions

10 min – Intercessory Prayer

10 min – Personal Petitions

15 min – Meditation

5 min – Praise, Thanksgiving & Closing

1. **DRAWING NEAR TO GOD** - Matt. 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”

God the Father is the focus of all our prayers. We should never forget what a privilege it is to bend our knees on earth and reach almighty God in heaven.

2. **CONFESSION** - Matt. 6:12 “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us”

When we repent and forgive others, we maintain fellowship with God. But if we hold grudges, that fellowship is broken. God loves to answer our prayers when the lines of communication are not disrupted.

3. **GOD CENTERED PETITIONS** Matt 6:10 “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.”

Prayer should reflect a desire to align ourselves with God’s goals and purposes, not to get Him to follow our plans.

4. **PERSONAL PETITIONS** Matt 6:11 “Give us today our daily bread.”

We are dependent upon the Lord for our needs and He wants us to come to Him with our requests.

5. **MEDITATION Joshua 1:8** “Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

Meditation is thinking about the word of God to understand what it means in the context of the scripture and how it can apply to your life today. The Word of God is powerful enough to still be relevant in your life today even though it was written thousands of years ago.

Read through the scripture passages for today as listed below:

Meditational Verses

Monday: Hebrews 12:25-29

Tuesday: Matthew 24

Wednesday: Luke 12:13-21

Thursday: Matthew 25:1-13

Friday: 1 John 2:15-17

Saturday: Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday: 2 Peter 3

Once you have read the scripture for today, write down your answer to the questions below or any other insight/revelation that you receive in your prayer journal.

1. Is there a promise to claim?
2. Is there a lesson to learn?
3. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
4. Is there a command to obey?
5. Is there a sin to avoid?
6. Is there a new thought to carry with me?

6. **PRAISE & THANKSGIVING 1 John 5:14-15** “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

We can end our prayer time with confidence that God has heard our prayer and will answer in His perfect timing. Demonstrate your faith in Him by showing thanks before you see the answer to your prayers.