

i think today we are to talk about the "suddenlies". suddenlies of our God but also the suddenlies of the enemy as he works to disrupt all of God's plans.

that's why it's so important not only to get ready, but to stay ready. even the Father says that "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever". gen 6:3 there will be coming a day when the door is closed. a day when the Holy Spirit will no longer attempt to tug at your heart strings and try to convince you of the truth. "therefore I also gave them up to statutes that were not good, and judgments by which they could not live. eze 20:25 but what did Jesus say? "I am the way, the truth, and the life." john 14:6

we know that the devil is always ready at the door to cause chaos and destruction wherever he may; in lives and in nations. he is now the ruler of this world. if he can't entice someone to his side, then he will seek to fill one with doubt and fear. these are his weapons. they are not God's.

it is amazing how things can change in a moment. and with them changes the priorities in one's life. will war suddenly break out? will disasters happen? will illness or even death suddenly occur? will things or provisions that were taken for granted suddenly be out of reach? things beyond our control but which affect our lives closely can happen without notice. sure there may be times when a situation is gradual and expected. there are also those times when we are not expecting and caught totally unaware. it is then we must be fully established.

there will be a shaking. even God said "but now He has promised, saying, "yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven."" heb 12:26 we must all go through the fire that tries our faith. even as earth and heaven and lives are shaken, will your remain resolved in your stand? have you grown your confidence and faith enough that you may also say "for this reason i also suffer these things; nevertheless i am not ashamed, for i know whom i have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what i have committed to Him until that day." 2 tim 1:12

that is why it is so important to live as though it were your last day. are there unsettled matters or things still unforgiven? none of us know what tomorrow may bring or how much time is allotted us. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 cor 6:2 see to these matters today. forgive to be forgiven. bless to be blessed. give to be given. love to be loved. and yes, we love even when hated. let your life and actions be lived this time forward without regret. and do it with grace. you may be the only witness someone ever receives of Jesus. will your actions be convincing to them or the opposite?

i have a friend who is always saying things like; "life is good"; "a beautiful day"; "God is good". positive remarks that help one believe that the light is not far behind the darkness. that good is not far behind bad. that God will triumph over all the works of evil in the end. i pray that would be oozing from all of us who know where our confidence lies.

"for this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near Him." psalm 32:6 He is talking about the godly here. where will the ungodly be? surely beyond even hearing. yes, we must all get ready and stay ready. there are appointed times. appointed "suddenlies". by the enemy and by our God. the radio talk show host dennis prager did a video called "no safe spaces". the only safe space is to be living in His will; having a heart of obedience; a urgent desire to please Him in all you do.

do you have sin in your life? plead the blood. it is the only thing weighty enough to cover it all. sin must be accounted for in God's books. "for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." rom 6:23 and indeed all have sinned and fallen short of His glory. even a "neutral" life has sin. even a "good" person. sin must be atoned for; by you or by Jesus. have you let Him pay the price or will you? have you received this "gift of God"?

"to those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation." heb 9:28 are you eagerly waiting His appearance? are you not only watching but expecting. the labor pains have begun and we are all feeling them. "shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" isa 66:9 was the nation of israel not reborn in a day? so shall we all who love His appearing.

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