

THE RAPTURE

Pastor Grant Williams March 7, 2018 Part 9

1 Thessalonians 4:17 KJV

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

During this series, we have studied the writings of the prophets from the Old Testament and the apostles writings in the New Testament. Both testaments reveal the revelation of Jesus coming to earth, dying on the cross, ascending, and returning for the saints dead or alive who are righteous.

The last 2 weeks we have seen the pattern or the foreshadowing of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament in the story of Abraham and Isaac. The foreshadowing of the first communion and tithe as Abram brought all that he had to Melchizedek.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the New Testament church regarding Melchizedek because they knew about him but now Paul was giving them the revelation of the information.

Hebrews 5:1-14 AMPC

1 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in things relating to God, to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

2 He is able to exercise gentleness and forbearance toward the ignorant and erring, since he himself also is liable to moral weakness and physical infirmity.

3 And because of this he is obliged to offer sacrifice for his own sins, as well as for those of the people.

4 Besides, one does not appropriate for himself the honor [of being high priest], but he is called by God and receives it of Him, just as Aaron did.

5 So too Christ (the Messiah) did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed and exalted by Him Who said to Him, You are My Son; today I have begotten You;

6 As He says also in another place, You are a Priest [appointed] forever after the order (with the rank) of Melchizedek.

7 In the days of His flesh [Jesus] offered up definite, special petitions [for that which He not only wanted but needed] and supplications with strong crying and tears to Him Who was [always] able to save Him [out] from death, and He was heard because of His reverence toward God [His godly fear, His piety, in that He shrank from the horrors of separation from the bright presence of the Father].

8 Although He was a Son, He learned [active, special] obedience through what He suffered

9 And, [His completed experience] making Him perfectly [equipped], He became the Author and Source of eternal salvation to all those who give heed and obey Him,

10 Being designated and recognized and saluted by God as High Priest after the order (with the rank) of Melchizedek.

11 Concerning this we have much to say which is hard to explain, since you have become dull in your [spiritual] hearing and sluggish [even slothful in achieving spiritual insight].

12 For even though by this time you ought to be teaching others, you actually need someone to teach you over again the very first principles of God's Word. You have come to need milk, not solid food.

13 For everyone who continues to feed on milk is obviously inexperienced and unskilled in the doctrine of righteousness (of conformity to the divine will in purpose, thought, and action), for he is a mere infant [not able to talk yet]!

14 But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law.

My job as a minister of the gospel is to bring revelation to the information in order to bring transformation... a transformed life is the identification of a spirit filled follower of Christ.

So how can I be ready for the Rapture? How can I stay awake or alert? What must you and I do to be on guard and not just on the defensive but moving forward, on the offense with the Sword of the Spirit?

Righteousness or being right according to God's Word or commands is, and will always be, the true believer or follower of Christ's aim. We have the Promise from God Himself within the pages of the Bible and the stories of the righteous being caught up or raptured and escaping God's wrath. From those who lived by faith are those who please God and will be with Him for eternity.

Genesis 5:21-24 AMPC

21 When Enoch was 65 years old, Methuselah was born.

22 Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God after the birth of Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters.

23 So all the days of Enoch were 365 years.

24 And Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God; and he was not, for God took him [home with Him].

Hebrews 11:1-9 AMPC

1 Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

2 For by [faith—trust and holy fervor born of faith] the men of old had divine testimony borne to them and obtained a good report. 3 By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible.

4 [Prompted, actuated] by faith Abel brought God a better and more acceptable sacrifice than Cain,

because of which it was testified of him that he was righteous [that he was upright and in right standing with God], and God bore witness by accepting and acknowledging his gifts. And though he died, yet [through the incident] he is still speaking.

5 Because of faith Enoch was caught up and transferred to heaven, so that he did not have a glimpse of death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For even before he was taken to heaven, he received testimony [still on record] that he had pleased and been satisfactory to God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].

7 [Prompted] by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign, took heed and diligently and reverently constructed and prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family. By this [his faith which relied on God] he passed judgment and sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir and possessor of righteousness (that relation of being right into which God puts the person who has faith).

8 [Urged on] by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went forth to a place which he was destined to receive as an inheritance; and he went, although he did not know or trouble his mind about where he was to go.

9 [Prompted] by faith he dwelt as a temporary resident in the land which was designated in the promise [of God, though he was like a stranger] in a strange country, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs with him of the same promise.

James 2:26 AMPC

*26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, **so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.***

The New Testament Church was given the revelation of what was already spoken of in the Old Testament. From the prophets and all those who were righteous regarding their faith, the Old Testament was always speaking of what it would look like at the Time of the End.

Jude 14-15 AMPC

14 It was of these people, moreover, that Enoch in the seventh [generation] from Adam prophesied when he said, Behold, the Lord comes with His myriads of holy ones (ten thousands of His saints)

15 To execute judgment upon all and to convict all the impious (unholy ones) of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed [in such an] ungodly [way], and of all the severe (abusive, jarring) things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.

There was another foreshadowing of what the judgment of righteous men or women will be at the end of time... those who have been righteous will be raptured or caught up together because of how they lived. Remember, faith without works is dead (James 2:26)

2 Kings 2:1-15 AMPC

1 When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were going from Gilgal.

2 And Elijah said to Elisha, Tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel. But Elisha replied, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they went down to Bethel.

3 The prophets' sons who were at Bethel came to Elisha and said, Do you know that the Lord will take your master away from you today? He said, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.

4 Elijah said to him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho. But he said, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they came to Jericho.

5 The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said, Do you know that the Lord will take your master away from you today? And he answered, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.

6 Elijah said to him, Tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan. But he said, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And the two of them went on.

7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood [to watch] afar off; and the two of them stood by the Jordan.

8 And Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they divided this way and that, so that the two of them went over on dry ground.

9 And when they had gone over, Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you. And Elisha said, I pray you, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.

10 He said, You have asked a hard thing. However, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you—but if not, it shall not be so.

11 As they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire parted the two of them, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

12 And Elisha saw it and he cried, My father, my father! The chariot of Israel and its horsemen! And he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

13 He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.

14 And he took the mantle that fell from Elijah and struck the waters and said, Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? And when he had struck the waters, they parted this way and that, and Elisha went over.

15 When the sons of the prophets who were [watching] at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha. And they came to meet him and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

God will do the same thing (word) for you and I at the time of the Rapture of the Church as well if we are righteous or doing what is right habitually.

John 8:51 AMPC

51 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone observes My teaching [lives in accordance with My message, keeps My word], he will by no means ever see and experience death.

Remember what Jesus said early in His ministry, we have studied this throughout this series and our past series that Jesus commands us to be righteous. To be obedient to His Word and there is a reward for those who do.

John 5:19-29 AMPC

19 So Jesus answered them by saying, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, the Son is able to do nothing of Himself (of His own accord); but He is able to do only what He sees the Father doing, for whatever the Father does is what the Son does in the same way [in His turn].

20 The Father dearly loves the Son and discloses to (shows) Him everything that He Himself does. And He will disclose to Him (let Him see) greater things yet than these, so that you may marvel and be full of wonder and astonishment.

21 Just as the Father raises up the dead and gives them life [makes them live on], even so the Son also gives life to whomever He wills and is pleased to give it.

22 Even the Father judges no one, for He has given all judgment (the last judgment and the whole business of judging) entirely into the hands of the Son,

23 So that all men may give honor (reverence, homage) to the Son just as they give honor to the Father. [In fact] whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, Who has sent Him.

24 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, the person whose ears are open to My words [who listens to My message] and believes and trusts in and clings to and relies on Him Who sent Me has (possesses now) eternal life. And he does not come into judgment [does not incur sentence of judgment, will not come under condemnation], but he has already passed over out of death into life.

25 Believe Me when I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, the time is coming and is here now when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear it shall live.

26 For even as the Father has life in Himself and is self-existent, so He has given to the Son to have life in Himself and be self-existent.

27 And He has given Him authority and granted Him power to execute (exercise, practice) judgment because He is a Son of man [very man].

28 Do not be surprised and wonder at this, for the time is coming when all those who are in the tombs shall hear His voice,

29 And they shall come out—those who have practiced doing good [will come out] to the resurrection of [new] life, and those who have done evil will be raised for judgment [raised to meet their sentence].

Don't let the things of life distract you, good or bad, from what God wants you to do. He has a plan for your life and for such a time as this you and I were created.

Esther 4:14 AMPC

14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance shall arise for the Jews from elsewhere, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this and for this very occasion?

Don't get in a rut, don't become comfortable and unprofitable like the workers who were given the talents to use to multiply the Kingdom of God. These talents were given to them by God.

There was a warning that the Apostle Paul gave to the Church regarding the time in which we are living.

2 Timothy 3:1-5 AMPC

1 But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]. 2 For people will be lovers of self and [utterly] self-centered, lovers of money and aroused by an inordinate [greedy] desire for wealth, proud and arrogant and contemptuous boasters. They will be abusive (blasphemous, scoffing), disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy and profane. 3 [They will be] without natural [human] affection (callous and inhuman), relentless (admitting of no truce or appeasement); [they will be] slanderers (false accusers, troublemakers), intemperate and loose in morals and conduct, uncontrolled and fierce, haters of good.

4 [They will be] treacherous [betrayers], rash, [and] inflated with self-conceit. [They will be] lovers of sensual pleasures and vain amusements more than and rather than lovers of God.

5 For [although] they hold a form of piety (true religion), they deny and reject and are strangers to the power of it [their conduct belies the genuineness of their profession]. Avoid [all] such people [turn away from them].

Don't get sidetracked by feelings, emotions and offenses that others do. Be alert and guard your heart with the signs of His soon return. Things will change, God says so....

Isaiah 43:19 AMPC

19 Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Don't let your old natural man, the way you used to be, stop you from being who God wants you to be. Don't let those external things shape who you are as a new creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 AMPC

17 Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!

2 Corinthians 6:17 KJV

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord;

John 14:15 KJV

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Righteousness, obeying His commands is a big deal! How do I do it, how can this old natural person in me change.

Ephesians 4:22-24 AMPC

22 Strip yourselves of your former nature [put off and discard your old unrenewed self] which characterized your previous manner of life and becomes corrupt through lusts and desires that spring from delusion;

23 And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude],

24 And put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness.

What are we renewing our minds to? How do I work on becoming more righteous? How do I increase my faith?

2 Peter 1:1-4 KJV

*1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God** and our Savior Jesus Christ:*

*2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the **knowledge of God**, and of Jesus our Lord,*

*3 According as his divine power **hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him** that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

*4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the **divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

The Righteousness of God is our nature; it's His DNA coming into us. This nature is there through the Holy Spirit to teach us and show us our **conduct to align with our new nature**. Before we came to Christ (born again) **we acted differently (hopefully you're different now)**.

When I joined the Air Force – my nature changed – I no longer wanted to go to college to play basketball – I wanted to serve my country, travel the world, go to college. But I soon found out that my conduct needed to change in order to get all the benefits of this new nature.

Everything started to change, the way I acted, the way I talked, my way of thinking; it was for the team instead of for me. I was not thinking like my old nature, sometimes my conduct needed to be reminded/reprimanded – but my conduct over time changed and to this day I'm a different man because of it.

But once you are born again your nature is changed, we don't have 2 natures you have one or the other. The nature of iniquity (sin/bad behavior before God) or the nature of righteousness. So we just found out we are the righteousness of God and now we are finding out with that righteousness there comes some privileges:

- Answered prayer
- Speaking to mountains
- Operating by faith
- Peace in your life

2 Peter 1:2-3 KJV

*2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the **knowledge of God**, and of Jesus our Lord,*

*3 According as his divine power **hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him***

Let's read this story in the book of Matthew about righteousness, faith, being separate from the way others are thinking. This is a story about coming out from other believers, increasing your faith, leaving pettiness behind...

Matt 14:22-26 KJV

22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

Now let's stop right here. So here's a situation where Jesus is coming to them – coming to their rescue supernaturally. He's coming to them in a way they don't recognize, because He is not walking according to the flesh but according to the sSpirit. He is not walking to them in a natural way that they would expect.

Rom 8:1-2 KJV

8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

So you and I after we are born again – born anew there is no condemnation – condemnation has to do with accusation, sentencing, feeling of guilt and shame as a result of the life that we lived before. The reason why is, when you get born again – what you have been declared is righteous. Righteous is also a legal word that means acquitted. It means now you have been declared just like you never did it. So now you and I have to walk in this reality.

Now, we have to walk by faith and not by sight...how does faith come?

Romans 10:17 AMPC

17 So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

John 1:1 AMPC

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

What we found in 2 Peter Chapter 1, is that **faith is established by righteousness.** Meaning that the platform of righteousness is what faith is built on. Unless we take righteousness and let it possess us, it's very difficult to walk in the kind of faith that will put you out on the water like this.

What we need to realize is that we have been called to operate in the supernatural. You can't get there (in the zone so to speak) if you're feeling unrighteous. So what we have to do is, we have to let go of the old stuff and not let the enemy accuse us or make us feel guilty of the things in the past so we can move on for the future.

So what is God's plan for you and I? His plan is for you and I to walk in perfect fellowship. Perfect fellowship means there is no division or separation or petition – nothing between you or God – you and God are one.

Greater is HE that is within you than he that is within the world – when you meditate and meditate on a scripture you will believe it and the revelation of that scripture comes through.

Now, the first thing that Jesus did before this act of the supernatural is – He went up to pray. Prayer is not just some scattered shot (buck shot) you aren't just sending something up, prayer is you and I communicating with God. See we are praying in line with the will of God, praying the Word, we are communicating with God.

We are interesting people, we get down in our knees to pray but we don't wait long enough to get an answer. We need to wait upon the Lord and hear Him speak. **What you need is a Word from God**, one word can change your whole life, because your purpose is revealed and it all makes sense.

Jesus was waiting on the word from God, and when He got the word He could go walk on water and/or do what He needs to do. Look what it says in verse 27...

Matt 14:27 KJV

27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid

What did Elisha say to his servant when the king's army surrounded him and his servant?

2 Kings 6:14-18 AMPC

14 So [the Syrian king] sent there horses, chariots, and a great army. They came by night and surrounded the city.

15 When the servant of the man of God rose early and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was around the city. Elisha's servant said to him, Alas, my master! What shall we do?

16 [Elisha] answered, Fear not; for those with us are more than those with them.

17 Then Elisha prayed, Lord, I pray You, open his eyes that he may see. And the Lord opened the young man's eyes, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

18 And when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, Smite this people with blindness, I pray You. And God smote them with blindness, as Elisha asked.

Fear is not from God, fear is the opposite of faith... Fear tolerated is Faith contaminated. If God says you can, you can. If God says I will, He will. Paul wrote in ***Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.***

Romans 8:31 KJV

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Malachi 3:6 KJV

6 For I am the Lord, I change not;

Deuteronomy 31:8 AMPC

8 It is the Lord Who goes before you; He will [march] with you; He will not fail you or let you go or forsake you; [let there be no cowardice or flinching, but] fear not, neither become broken [in spirit—depressed, dismayed, and unnerved with alarm].

1 John 4:18 KJV

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Let's get back to what is happening with Peter. He is stepping out in righteousness, with trust, in faith...

Matt 14:28 KJV

28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me (command me to) come unto thee on the water.

Why did Peter ask this? Eccl 8:4 KJV - Because where the word of a king is there is power –if it's of God it will be done.

Matt 14:29 KJV

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

Let's stop right there, Peter here is challenging his own potential, he's saying if that is You, tell me to come to You on the water. I call that a righteous thought. It's amazing how unrighteousness destroys initiative, it destroys initiative – in other words you don't think of anything that no one else thinks of. We don't ever want to get out of the box. We want to make everyone happy about where we are when we are there so let's stay right here in the box.

What I'm saying is Peter got out of the boat – he got out of the box – he said I'm coming out of the fear of failure, he said I'm coming out of the comfort zone. I'm coming out of the inferiority complex – I'm coming out. He's coming out of his plan or what he thought he could do in the natural.

Everyone likes you to be just right where they are at –don't make them look bad...You can hang around the same friends who might not talk right, maybe do things you don't really agree with and are afraid to change because you don't want to lose their friendship. You are afraid to better yourself or be more righteous, change you conduct.

I can just imagine what they others felt and spoke about Peter when he left: Relieved - so they spoke negative, jealous - had to make him look like a trouble maker. We need to come out of the way of thinking as well because they are becoming like you or you are becoming like them...take captive every thought.

You and I need to come out of the old way of thinking:

- o Nothing is going to change (w/God all things are possible)
- o My wife/husband will never change (do what you're supposed to do)
- o I don't have time (He is the master of time)
- o My life is to hectic (we serve a God of order)
- o I don't have the energy (if the same spirit/raised Christ from death)
- o M family won't change (no, you won't - stop w/excuses and pray)
- o I can't be healed (He is the healer)
- o I'm comfortable...(Get ready not to be)
- o I'm trapped at my job...(Nothing is impossible for God)
- o Depression... (The Joy of the Lord is my strength)
- o Confusion (He is not the author of confusion)

So what Peter did was he got out of the boat and what he was doing was manifesting the potential that you and I have in us.

Because if you look at the life of Jesus and Jesus was the Righteous One but he also came to show us and demonstrate to us what a righteous person could do.

He did things like this: He was fearless in the face of storms in Mark 4. When this storm pops up and the disciples fearing say Lord we are going to die – Lord wake up, don't you care about us? He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea in verse 39 *“peace be still.”*

Mark 4:39 AMPC

*39 And He arose and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, Hush now! **(Peace) Be still** (muzzled)! And the wind ceased (sank to rest as if exhausted by its beating) and there was [immediately] a great calm (a perfect peacefulness).*

Notice he rebuked the wind first, Why? Because satan was behind the storm and Jesus was master over satan. He was master because he was the son of God but also as one who knew his rights as royalty in the kingdom of God.

So, since He knew He was master over the devil and all of his forces. He had no sense of lack. He had perfect fellowship with God, **He had no sense of inferiority** in the face of death, disease, in the face of trouble and He was absolute ruler over the laws of nature. That's what helped enable Him to walk on water. He had no sense of condemnation, shame or guilt. None at all. **He was living and doing what was right prior to the storm.**

Jesus came to show you how to do it – not to show you and now you can't do it, but to show you so you can do it. Jesus said the things that I do, the things that I do you shall do too. You see what has happened is that the Church has turned its back on its mission as a training center for reigning.

It has come down to entertaining more than training- it has turned into something that God never wanted it to become. We need to be disciplined in order to be a witness.

Think about it, the people in the Church are still immature, from pastors, teachers, leaders etc. They are still habitually sinning, living in fear of losing their job, lying, acting like the world. We need to cut that out – that is not acting like royalty, that is not possessing Kingdom mentality.

We need to be thinking like royalty, Kingdom mentality – an aristocratic mindset says I can do what He says I can do. I'm a child of God, I'm a joint heir with Jesus Christ.

Nothing is impossible with God, when my nature changes and righteousness is my way of living, I think differently and I act differently. Faith without works leads to death.

We need to get away from entertaining and get back to training, this needs to be the place where you come in and you learn what Jesus did and how to do what Jesus did and why Jesus did it. If you've been going to church your whole life and nothing has changed – your still the same person, struggling with the same thing – then it's time to do something different – because that's the definition of insanity.

Well how do I know it's not working?

Because Christians are still getting divorced

Because the Youth are turning away from God

Because the ungodly in this country are in authority

Because Christians have the same addictions as the world

Because the Church isn't filled

If we are not transforming our neighborhoods and our families the Church is preaching the wrong message...Jesus is coming and you are not promised tomorrow and neither is anyone else. Too many Christians are trying to be happy, take it easy, stay in their comfort zone, trying to just get by...

Those 12 spies (I'll call them preachers) went into Canaan and 10 of them came back and preached something God didn't say. They said we can't take it – God didn't say that. God said I'm with you now go in there and get that land. **They said we are grasshoppers. God said you're more than conquerors!**

Philippians 4:13 KJV

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Let's get back to Matthew 14... Remember, Peter's walking on the water right now...

Matt 14:30 GNT

30 But when he noticed the strong wind took his eyes off of the word, stopped believing the word, stopped reading the word, stopped acting on the word (faith without works is dead), he was afraid and started to sink down in the water. "Save me, Lord!" he cried.

There are things in your life that are going to distract you, that will come up and take your eyes off of the Word. Circumstances and people will come up to you to distract you.

People want you to stay down where they are – as long as you are in the boat they won't mess with you, you're not making them feel inferior or guilty. You're not being salt, not agitating.

You're just like everyone else, insane doing the same thing over and over and not having any power to overcome the storms in your life. But as soon as you take a step out to walk on water it means no longer doing what you've always done. The insanity is over.

When revelation comes forth and you see things differently, your conduct has changed, you received a word from God... One Word can change your whole life.

We need to have revelation, a conduct change and it's through the knowledge of HIM. That knowledge of His Word and the Revelation of His Word tells you and I that He is coming and He is coming soon! Don't let your current circumstances, feeling and emotions change you destiny - He is doing a New Thing in your life, just open your spiritual eyes and see.

Isaiah 43:19 AMPC

19 Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19 KKJV

19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

