

Message preached on Sunday Morning, June 1st and 8th, 2025

2 Timothy 3:1-5

1 This know also, that in the *last days perilous times shall come*.

(AMP) – "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]."

NOTE: Things will be tough...in the world.

- 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
- 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
- 5 **Having a form of godliness**, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

THIS SOUNDS HORRIBLE! How will we ever make it through such bad stuff?

NOTICE: vs. 5 – Having a form of godliness.

IN OTHER WORDS: They are not godly.

BELOVED: This is NOT talking about the church...this is talking about the world. The world will be a mess... the world is a mess.

This is talking about the world and religion...those with form and formality over the reality of Christ.

This description given by Paul of people in the last days sounds like the people who are living NOW.

Churches existing now!

THIS COULD BE MY WHOLE SERMON> Does it describe you?

In the last days...BELOVED: Jesus is coming soon!

QUESTION: How soon? Very soon! We are closer today than ever before!

2 Timothy 3:8,9 (Exodus 7:11)

- Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.
- 9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was. **BELOVED:** What I believe, with my whole heart, is that God is going to show off for HIS people, in these last days, the same what God showed off for Israel and Moses in that day.

Egypt was in perilous times...Goshen was prospering.

Egypt was frustrated...Goshen was enjoying God's power.

Egypt was experiencing death...Goshen was escaping. Not in a time of despair...but a time of greatest health and greatest financial increase.

THINK ABOUT IT: Moses had Aaron cast his rod down and it became a snake, Jannes and Jambres rod's became snakes...

Exodus 7:12 – But Aaron's rod swallowed theirs up.

UNDERSTAND: In these last days there will be a lot of churches doing a lot of things that may look good... but it will be swallowed up by the glory.

The Glorious Church

Ephesians 5:25-27

- 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as *Christ also loved the church*, and gave himself for it;
- 26 That *he might sanctify and cleanse it* with the washing of water *by the word*,
- That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

IMPORTANT: As much as Paul is giving us directions how to operate in a marriage...he is giving light to our relationship with Christ. Bride and groom!

Why is that totally important?

The first activity in heaven, after the rapture of the church, is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb...our coming together with Christ (in heaven), the place He has prepared for us.

Vs. 26 – One of the keys for marriages was the purification and preparation for the marriage. Especially with kings.

In Esther we see she was prepared for her marriage to the king by "Six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odors, and with other things for the purifying of women;"

NOTICE: It wasn't something that happened AT THE TIME of the marriage, but long before...in preparation/purification, etc.

THEREFORE: vs. 27 – the bride is being presented to the Groom...

So, before THAT happens there will be a purification...preparation that comes to the BRIDE through THE WORD. Not through fragrances...but through the Word.

What is the purpose of this preparation/purification?

So that at the time of being presented to the Groom...the bride is looking AS GOOD AS SHE EVER HAS.

Vs. 27 – "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

NOTE: This is talking about the RAPTURE...just before the Marriage Supper.

IMPORTANT: While we are feasting, celebrating and rejoicing for seven years...the tribulation will be going on down here, and all those selfish people that are mentioned in 2 Timothy will be left to deal with each other.

"Glorious" - splendid or splendor - magnificent and splendid appearance, grandeur.

HEBREW: To be weighted down with all that is good (copiousness, honor).

THEREFORE: In the time before the rapture of the bride of Christ, there will be a purification and preparation process going on...through the Word, to get the church GLORIOUS and ready for Jesus.

I want to point out two more things from vs. 27 – "...without spot or wrinkle."

- * Glorious brings the point of prosperous (not me saying it).
- * Without SPOT (blemish, stain)...which brings out the point of being holy and righteous.

 We are NOT living in a time to be more lax with our morals...but to tighten them up...be right before God.
- * Without wrinkle.

Really is dealing with age and being worn down. No wrinkles!

He is coming back for a church that is revving up...not winding down.

BELOVED: Here is what I want us to understand...Jesus is NOT coming back for a church that is old, worn out, barely hanging on...if it weren't for the rapture, the church would cease to exist.

He is not coming back for a church full of truce breakers, lovers of themselves, liars and mean people...but a GLORIOUS, REVED UP body of believers that He takes to himself.

HISTORY has always taught this as happening on the way up...that THIS gloriousness happens in the twinkling of an eye.

REMEMBER: That is not how weddings took place...is was a long thing that happened.

(Daniels 70 weeks...which was like 490 years)

Then what is 6 months? 1 year?

We will be a glorious church ON THIS EARTH, when Jesus comes to take us to Himself.

APOSTLE CALLAHAN: "The church, how it is when He returns, is the church that will be presented to Jesus."

Not a dingy, sickly, broke group that ALL THE SUDDEN, on the way up, becomes glorious.

REMEMBER: It only happens through the Word. Only! Not through savings or effort, but only through the Word.

<u>Habakkuk 2:14</u> – "For the earth shall be filled with *the knowledge of the glory of the LORD*, as the waters cover the sea."

EARTH – Not just America, not just American and Europe...the earth.

FILLED – How do you know something is filled full? When it is running over!

QUESTION: What will the earth be filled with?

ANSWER: The knowledge of the glory of the LORD.

UNDERSTAND: It doesn't mean that where the knowledge of the glory is...that the glory will be there. *It* simply says they will know about the glory.

QUESTION: How will they know?

- 1.) The Word...obviously. It will be preached.
- 2.) They will see the manifestation of the glory.

<u>Psalm 31:19</u> (**NLT**) – "How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world."

They will see the church coming into its finest hour...its purest hour... its most alorious hour.

NOTE: It has not happened yet. It has happened in locations...but not across the world.

They will see the power of God...healing...gifts of the spirit...Holy Spirit moves...wealth...health, etc...happening in the church.

IMPORTANT: It doesn't mean that people will accept it...just know it.

How many reject God's blessings and glory upon His people, they call it greed, etc.

Mark 4:21,22

- And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?
- For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad.

NOTE: Mark 4 is about the Word. So the candle is obviously the Word...the light is the effect of the Word being lit.

Are we going to light the candle and then through a bucket over it? No! Let it shine!

Matthew 5:16 – "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Vs. 22 – If it is in the Word...it will be revealed...in revelation and in manifestation!

The revelation and manifestation of His GLORY isn't coming from how high you jump or how loud you sing... *only by the Word.*

Daniel 12:1-4

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and *there shall be a time of trouble*, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at *that time thy people shall be delivered*, every one that shall be found written in the book.

BELOVED: This is talking about the time of the rapture...end times...even the tribulation.

And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Daniel seeing those who have been dead and buried raised up...some to everlasting life and some to everlasting contempt.

NOTE: There are two judgment seats: Bema (for Christians...after rapture); Great White Throne (for sinners...end of tribulation).

NOTICE: Daniel is seeing things happening in the end times...and he notices something about those who are walking as wise.

And they that be wise **shall shine as the brightness of the firmament**; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

NOTE: There will be a group walking in wisdom...and they will SHINE! Bright!

WHY? Vs. 4 – knowledge shall increase (Word).

YOU MAY SAY: Well, that will be on our way up!

Read the rest of the verse: "and turn many to righteousness and make them shine."

UNDERSTAND: Once Jesus comes back and raptures the church...our soul winning days are done. *So do it now!*

Those who are SHINING will be soul winners because of their SHINING!

REMEMBER: Romans 2:4 – goodness of God leads to repentance.

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: *many shall run to and fro*, and *knowledge shall be increased*.

VERY IMPORTANT: The church has always been what it is today...but it hasn't always known it. The more Word...the more we will know!

2 Corinthians 4:6 – "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

(PASSION) – "For God, who said, "Let brilliant light shine out of darkness," is the one who has cascaded his light into us—the brilliant dawning light of the glorious knowledge of God as we gaze into the face of Jesus Christ."

1.) God spoke it...light was.

2.) God gave it to us (through Jesus)...it is.

3.) The more we gaze into His face...the more it shines.

BELOVED: It is our job to LET it shine!

2 Peter 1:2-4

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, NOTE: It comes down to the Word.

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:

THINK CLEARLY: Life (God kind of life) and godliness.

* Days of heaven on earth.

* On earth as it is in heaven.

QUESTION: How does it come?

ANSWER: Through knowledge of Him (Word).

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*. We are not those that are being talked about in 2 Timothy 3...we have escaped that stuff and are SHINING!

Finally...

<u>Isaiah 60:1-5</u> (Prophetic word concerning the last day church)

1 **Arise, shine**; for thy light is come, **and the glory of the LORD** is risen upon thee.

NOTE: You can't arise and shine if you don't have the shine in you.

You can't shine if you don't know the shine is in you.

THEREFORE: You must know the Word.

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

GROSS DARKNESS – 2 Timothy 3

Glory is on the church (Ephesians 3:21).

This is why the world doesn't like you...think about you sleeping in darkness and someone comes and turns on a bright light!

3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

HERE IT IS...soul winning; turning many to righteousness...BECAUSE OF THE GLORY!

4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

NOTE: Watch 'em come in...sons and daughter of the Lord.

Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because *the abundance of the sea* shall be converted unto thee, the *forces of the Gentiles* shall come unto thee

"Abundance of the sea" - masses of people

"Forces" - wealth and riches of the world will come to you.

(can't do much without money)

Conclusion

So, what are you saying, Pastor Thad?

- 1.) Perilous times are coming!
- 2.) So is Jesus!
- 3.) Perilous times for the world...GREATEST times for God's people (Bride of Christ).
- 4.) It all comes by the Word. No word...no glory!

The Word changes you on the outside when you GET IT (revelation) on the inside.