Chapter 1 Fifteen Prologue

This part of the study on Dispensations, Seasons and Times offers a holistic approach to exposition and understanding of Biblical Prophecies concerning the End Times.

Prologue

The invasion by Babylon of the Church has produced an outcome: the incidence of a vast majority of Christians who are oblivious of the End Times. This is partially attributed to the fact

i. Most so-called authorities on the end times veered into date setting such as the Jehovah Witnesses and late Harold Camping which brought odium and suspicion to the topic

ii. Most ministers of the gospel have steered away from teachings on the End Times either because they are busy seeking wealth or are afraid to be branded as alarmists. There are those who love the Lord to the degree that they steer clear of the subject matter.

The outcome of this situation is tragic: saints march into the depth of the end times blindfolded by Ignorance!

Matthew 15:14 (KJV) 14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch

iii. Because of lack of adequate spiritual preparation, most saints tend to be anxious, agitated, fearful and worried when they hear passionate teachings of the End Times

Because of ignorance, they are not able to see or understand the signs and even care less what unfolding global and local events mean. This ought not to be so!

A. Introduction

Some researchers estimate that teachings, preachings and declarations concerning End of the Age take up nearly a third of the entire New Testament texts. Studying to show ourselves

approved concerning the certain future is not an option unless we want to emulate the Pharisees and Sadducees.

> **Matthew 16:1-4 (KJV)** 1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. 3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

This course will plug the gaping hole. We will trust Holy Spirit Who teaches all things to bring forth the depth of revelation in the Word on the subject matter and reveal to us the meanings of unfolding global events so that that day shall not overtake us like a thief as it would to those outside the Commonwealth or those who are careless with their Faith.

> **1 Thessalonians 5:1-5 (KJV)** 1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

B. Divine Assurance and Security of the Remnant

One of the most precious gifts we receive from our heavenly Father is His Peace which passes all understanding, even in the midst of storms of the end times!

> **Romans 5:1 (KJV)** 1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 14:17 (KJV) 17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Assurance of Peace

John 14:1-3, 27-28 (KJV) 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

John 16:33 (KJV) 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Philippians 4:7, 9 (KJV) 7And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Colossians 3:15 (KJV) 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

2 Thessalonians 3:16 (KJV) 16 Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

Hebrews 13:20-21 (KJV) 20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the

everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

C. Our part in maintaining His Peace:

1. **Emulate Yeshua, Jesus to love righteousness and hate iniquity.**

With this disposition, grace is released for us to abstain from all appearance of evil as He fills us with His Holiness.

Hebrews 1:9 (KJV) 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

1 Thessalonians 5:22 (KJV) 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

2. **Live in love.**

Ephesians 5:1-2 (KJV) 1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.

2.1. Love Elohim with all your heart, mind and might and the brethren as yourself.

Matthew 22:37-40 (KJV) 37Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

John 13:34-35 (KJV) 34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

2.2. Do good to all humans – without discrimination, starting with fellow saints, irrespective of their denominations

Galatians 6:9-10 (KJV) 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

2.3. Occupy our allotments – utilise all the gifts and callings vested in us with all His Grace in us to be focused on and productive in Kingdom Business that is committed to our trust

Luke 19:11-13 (KJV) 11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. 12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

Matthew 6:33-34 (KJV) 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Seeking first the Kingdom includes:

3.1. Deliberately giving space in the heart for Yeshua to be Sovereign indeed. Refuse to engage in anything until the leading or confirmation of Holy Spirit is clearly known

Romans 8:14 (KJV) 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

3.2. The primary Kingdom Business of being witnesses to those within our spheres of influence so that they can see us, be convicted of our better lifestyles, hear the message of salvation and be saved or have no excuse on the last day if they reject it.

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 (KJV) 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

The same passion and singleness of eye with which Yeshua engaged with the business of seeking and saving the lost is what we are called to walk in Luke 19:10.

3.3. Engagement with the process of ensuring that those who are saved are challenged to become disciples of Yeshua. Those who are disciples are further challenged to mature into a state of being sons of Elohim in the earth realm. Be also involved in the process that will ensure that saints are Trained, Equipped, Activated and Released to function as the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek.

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV) 9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

3.4. Impacting our environments, all persons and things within our spheres of influence need to be impacted with practical demonstration of the loving life of our King, His compassion and pattern of His Kingdom to the degree that our engagement ensures a catalytic transformation of them from inside out.

Saints need to demonstrate His mercy and compassion towards all humans especially those who are suffering; are on the margins of society and the most vulnerable.

Matthew 25:31-40 (KJV) 31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And

before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

3.5. Be intentionally separated and deliberately unspotted by the world and its cancerous spirit.

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) 15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

James 4:4-6 (KJV) 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. 5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore

he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

James 1:27 (KJV) 27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

3.6. Seek peace and walk in it, avoiding strife, tension and quarrels. These can distract

2 Timothy 2:22 (KJV) 22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Hebrews 12:14 (KJV) 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

James 3:16-18 (KJV) 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

1 Peter 3:10-12 (KJV) 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

D. Assurance of entire sanctification which preserves us by His Grace, till the end

Saints, His Grace is sufficient for us to walk in these realities of Kingdom life! He never leaves us to face the uncertainties of life in the earth realm with our own devices! He loves us and is for us! It is therefore critical that we do not approach the End times in our own strength or in fear, Otherwise religiosity and dead works will be prevalent. We need to surrender to His dealings and enter His rest so that

He can perfect us to live lives that are well pleasing in His sight.

> **Hebrews 4:9-11 (KJV)** 9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. 11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.
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> **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 (KJV)** 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

He Who graciously blessed us with New Life in Yeshua has undertaken to preserve us from the destruction that will come upon the world.

> **1 Thessalonians 5:4-11 (KJV)** 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.
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> **Romans 5:9 (KJV)** 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Assignment

(1). Please discuss 3 promises of Divine Assurance to the Remnant which ministered most to you.
(2). Kindly share 4 things saints can do to maintain the Peace we receive as a gift from Yahweh