FRIDAY - MARCH 27 PaS HOUSTON VIRTUAL

THIS ABOUT PREPARATION

ABRAHAM'S PROMISE and it's Time for Fulfillment

Genesis 12:1-3

1 Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: AND IN THEE SHALL ALL FAMILIES OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED.

Genesis 22:15-18

15 And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven **the** second time,

16 And said, **BY MYSELF HAVE I SWORN,** saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

18 AND IN THY SEED SHALL ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED; BECAUSE THOU HAST OBEYED MY VOICE. Hebrews 11:8-13

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of THE SAME PROMISE:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, **because she judged him faithful who had promised.**

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH, NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE PROMISES, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Hebrews 11:39-40

39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, RECEIVED NOT THE PROMISE:

40 GOD HAVING PROVIDED SOME BETTER THING FOR US, THAT THEY WITHOUT US SHOULD NOT BE MADE PERFECT.

Galatians 3:6-29

6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, THE SAME ARE THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM.

8 AND THE SCRIPTURE, FORESEEING THAT GOD WOULD JUSTIFY THE HEATHEN THROUGH FAITH, PREACHED BEFORE THE GOSPEL UNTO ABRAHAM, SAYING, IN THEE SHALL ALL NATIONS BE BLESSED. 9 SO THEN THEY WHICH BE OF FAITH ARE BLESSED WITH FAITHFUL ABRAHAM.

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 THAT THE BLESSING OF ABRAHAM MIGHT COME ON THE GENTILES THROUGH JESUS CHRIST; THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH.

15 Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but GOD GAVE IT TO ABRAHAM BY PROMISE.

19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, **till the seed should come to whom the promise was made;** and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 FOR YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF GOD BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS.

27 FOR AS MANY OF YOU AS HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST HAVE PUT ON CHRIST.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: **for ye are all one in Christ Jesus**. 29 **AND IF YE BE CHRIST'S, THEN ARE YE ABRAHAM'S SEED, AND HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE**.

Romans 4:13-25

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24 **BUT FOR US ALSO,** to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

THE GREATEST PROMISE OF ALL WAS CHRIST DYING TO TAKE AWAY SINS: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

WITHOUT HIS SACRIFICE **EVERYTHING** ELSE IS MADE IRRELEVANT.

NO OTHER SINGLE EVENT IN HISTORY HAS THE ABILITY TO DO THAT.

Romans 3:23-25

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness **for the remission of sins that are past**, through the forbearance of God;

Hebrews 9:11-14

11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

THE SECOND GREATEST PROMISE, WHICH IS ONLY MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FIRST, WAS THE COMING OF HOLY GHOST WHICH INCLUDES THE LAST DAY OUTPOURING.

Luke 24:45-49

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, BEHOLD, I SEND THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Acts 1:1-5

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, BUT WAIT FOR THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER, WHICH, SAITH HE, YE HAVE HEARD OF ME.

5 FOR JOHN TRULY BAPTIZED WITH WATER; BUT YE SHALL BE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY GHOST NOT MANY DAYS HENCE. Acts 2:1-4

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:14-17

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS IN THE LAST DAYS, SAITH GOD, I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH: and

your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Acts 2:22-39

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death:because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and HAVING RECEIVED OF THE FATHER THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY GHOST, HE HATH SHED FORTH THIS, WHICH YE NOW SEE AND HEAR.

34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 FOR THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU, AND TO YOUR CHILDREN, AND TO ALL THAT ARE AFAR OFF, EVEN AS MANY AS THE LORD OUR GOD SHALL CALL.

ABRAHAM'S PROMISE IS GUARANTEED BY GOD'S OATH MADE AGAINST HIS OWN DEITY

Hebrews 6:10-20

10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

13 FOR WHEN GOD MADE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM, BECAUSE HE COULD SWEAR BY NO GREATER, HE SWARE BY HIMSELF,

14 Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.

15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

16 FOR MEN VERILY SWEAR BY THE GREATER: AND AN OATH FOR CONFIRMATION IS TO THEM AN END OF ALL STRIFE.

17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, CONFIRMED IT BY AN OATH:

18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

DANIEL'S PRAYER OF REPENTANCE WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING AND POSITIONING THE HEBREWS TO BE ABLE TO RECEIVE THE PROMISE MADE BY GOD FOR THEM TO RETURN TO JERUSALEM FROM BABYLON.

Daniel 9:1-6

 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;
 IN THE FIRST YEAR OF HIS REIGN I DANIEL UNDERSTOOD BY BOOKS THE NUMBER OF THE YEARS, WHEREOF THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JEREMIAH THE PROPHET, THAT HE WOULD ACCOMPLISH SEVENTY YEARS IN THE DESOLATIONS OF JERUSALEM.

3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

4 And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;

5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

ALL PREPARING AND POSITIONING TO RECEIVE GOD'S PROMISES REQUIRES THE FOUNDATION OF BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE REPENTANCE.

IN THE BIBLE, THERE WERE ALWAYS TWO DIMENSIONS OF REPENTANCE: PERSONAL AND CORPORATE

IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR EACH OF US TO REPENT INDIVIDUALLY

WE MUST REPENT AS A BODY — BOTH LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY.

MOSES OFTEN REPENTED FOR ISRAEL AND PLEADED WITH GOD TO SPARE THEM.

DANIEL "REPENTED" FOR/WITH ISRAEL EVEN FOR THINGS HE WAS NOT PERSONALLY GUILTY OF

EVEN AS THE MAN CHRIST JESUS PREPARED HIS PEOPLE, ISRAEL, FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST TESTAMENT, HE IS USING THE BODY OF CHRIST TO PREPARE THIS WORLD FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THIS COVENANT.

THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SON OF GOD WAS REQUIRED FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD IS REQUIRED FOR THE SECOND TIME.

FAITH FOR THE PROMISE REQUIRES THE WORKS OF PREPARATION

NO PREPARATION = NO FAITH

BY FAITH IN GOD'S WARNING, NOAH WAS MOVED WITH FEAR AND PREPARED "AN ARK"

Hebrews 11:6-7

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7 BY FAITH NOAH, BEING WARNED OF GOD OF THINGS NOT SEEN AS YET, MOVED WITH FEAR, PREPARED AN ARK

to the saving of his house;

by the which he condemned the world,

and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

PREPARED (*Strong's Greek Dictionary*) = g2680. kataskeuazo: from 2596 and a derivative of 4632; **to prepare thoroughly (properly, by external equipment;** whereas 2090 refers rather to internal fitness); **by implication, to construct, create:** — build, make, ordain, prepare.

AV (11) - prepare 6, build 3, make 1, ordain 1;

PREPARED (*Thayer's Greek Lexicon*) = g2680. kataskeuazo:

- I. to furnish, equip, prepare, make ready
 - A. of one who makes anything ready for a person or thing
 - B. of builders, to construct, erect, with the included idea of adorning and equipping with all things necessary

THE DAYS OF NOAH

Matthew 24:36-39

36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Luke 17:25-30

25 But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.

26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;

29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

THE ONLY WARNING TO NOAH'S WORLD OF THE IMPENDING FLOOD WAS THE WORD OF WARNING PREACHED FOR 125 YEARS.

2 Peter 2:4-5

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

5 And spared not the old world, BUT SAVED NOAH THE EIGHTH PERSON, A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

1 Peter 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, WHEN ONCE THE LONGSUFFERING OF GOD WAITED IN THE DAYS OF NOAH, WHILE THE ARK WAS A PREPARING, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

THE WORLD HAD NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES – THEY DO NOW!

Romans 3:9-18

9 What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; 10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips:

14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:

15 Their feet are swift to shed blood:

16 Destruction and misery are in their ways:

17 And the way of peace have they not known:18 THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.

Psalms 36:1-4

1 The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, **that there is no fear of God before his eyes.**

2 For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.

3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, and to do good.

4 He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way that is not good; he abhorreth not evil.

THE LORD GOD IS BRINGING THE FEAR OF GOD BACK TO THIS WORLD. WHY? NO FEAR OF GOD = NO CONVICTION OF SIN, NO CONVICTION OF SINS = NO REPENTANCE

Proverbs 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: **AND BY THE FEAR OF THE LORD MEN DEPART FROM EVIL.**

Matthew 10:27-28

27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.

28 AND FEAR NOT THEM WHICH KILL THE BODY, BUT ARE NOT ABLE TO KILL THE SOUL: BUT RATHER FEAR HIM WHICH IS ABLE TO DESTROY BOTH SOUL AND BODY IN HELL.

Jude 1:22-23 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And **others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire;** hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

IT IS GOD'S LOVE THAT PROVIDED SALVATION; BUT IT IS MAN'S FEAR OF GOD THAT FIRST BRINGS HIM TO SALVATION!

EVERY KNEE WILL BOW AT HIS NAME. EVERY TONGUE WILL CONFESS THAT HE IS LORD!

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 THAT AT THE NAME OF JESUS EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, OF THINGS IN HEAVEN, AND THINGS IN EARTH, AND THINGS UNDER THE EARTH;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

"BOWING AT HIS NAME" DOES NOT MEAN THAT EVERYONE WILL BE SAVED. BUT IT DOES MEAN THAT EVERYONE WILL ADMIT THAT GOD IS OVER ALL AND THAT HE RULES IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN.

Daniel 4:16-17

16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him. 17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: **to the intent that the living may know that THE MOST HIGH RULETH IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.**

THE LORD IS BRINGING THE FEAR OF GOD TO THIS WORLD BUT FIRST HE MUST BRING THE FEAR OF GOD BACK TO THE CHURCH.

Romans 11:19-24 19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. 20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. BE NOT HIGHMINDED, BUT FEAR: 21 FOR IF GOD SPARED NOT THE NATURAL BRANCHES, TAKE HEED LEST HE ALSO SPARE NOT THEE. 22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. 23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again.

24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

2 Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, PERFECTING HOLINESS IN THE FEAR OF GOD.

2 Corinthians 7:9-11

9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, YEA, WHAT FEAR, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

Hebrews 12:28-29

28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, WHEREBY WE MAY SERVE GOD ACCEPTABLY WITH REVERENCE AND GODLY FEAR:

29 For our God is a consuming fire.

WHO PREACHES THE FEAR OF GOD ANYMORE?

THE FEAR OF GOD WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE FIRST CHURCH'S HARVEST.

WE CANNOT HAVE OUR PROMISED HAVREST WITHOUT IT!

Acts 2:42-43

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

Acts 10:1-2

1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band,

2 A devout man, and **one that feared God with all his house**, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

Acts 10:34-35

34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Acts 13:16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, **Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.**

Acts 13:26 Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and WHOSOEVER AMONG YOU FEARETH GOD, TO YOU IS THE WORD OF THIS SALVATION SENT.

IT IS TIME FOR PREPARATION

NOAH PREPARED AN ARK. WE MUST PREPARE OUR "ARK"

OLD WINE SKINS OR NEW? OLD WINE OR NEW?

IF WE CHOOSE TO KEEP THE OLD WINE SKINS, WE LIMIT GOD TO ONLY GIVING US "OLD WINE"!

THE LAST DAY OUTPOURING IS CALLED, "NEW WINE"!

Matthew 9:16-17

16 No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse.

17 Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

WE MUST NOT FOLLOW THE RICH FOOL'S PATTERN: BUILDING BIGGER BARNS THAT TAKES TOO MUCH TIME

Luke 12:16-20

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, **The ground of a** certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And HE THOUGHT WITHIN HIMSELF, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 AND HE SAID, THIS WILL I DO: I WILL pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all MY FRUITS and my goods.

19 AND I WILL SAY TO MY SOUL, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. 20 BUT GOD SAID UNTO HIM, THOU FOOL, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

NOTICE, He said "I" or "MY" 12 TIMES!

THIS NOT ABOUT THE SIZE OF "OUR HARVEST"!

OUR WHOLE FOCUS MUST CHANGE: NO MORE TERRITORY NO MORE ME, MY, MINE NO MORE TAKING OWNERSHIP OF WHAT BELONGS TO GOD

WE MUST "MULTIPLY" SHIPS THAT'S MUCH MORE EASILY DONE

Luke 5:1-11

1 And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,

2 And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: NEVERTHELESS AT THY WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET.

6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.

7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in

the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they

began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken:

10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.

11 And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

WHO GOT THE GLORY FOR THE CATCH? JESUS!

OUR MINISTRY STRUCTURE MUST BE IMMEDIATELY ABLE TO MINISTER IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCE OR ENVIRONMENT and IT MUST BE ABLE TO ADAPT AND ADJUST ALMOST INSTANTLY.

DO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN "SCRAMBLING" TO FIND AWAY TO MINISTER TO THEIR CHURCHES DURING THIS CRISIS THINK THAT IT WOULD BE ANY EASIER TO TAKE IN A 5,000 SOUL HARVEST IN ONE WEEKEND?

WOULD THE "STRESS" UPON OUR STRUCTURES BE LESS?

THE ANSWER? TRAINING AND EQUIPPING THE LABORERS FOR THE LORD'S HARVEST!

ON A WHEAT FARM, THE SAME PEOPLE WHO PLOWED THE GROUND, SOWED THE SEED, REAPED THE HARVEST, AND PROCESSED THE SHEAVES UNTIL THE GRAINS OF WHEAT WERE READY TO USE, STORE, OR SELL! THE FOCUS OF OUR PREPARATION MUST BE ON MULTIPLYING MINSTERS/LEADERS AND MATURING SAINTS FOR THEIR MINISTRY.

THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED BY FOCUSING ON TRAINING AND EQUIPPING THE LORD'S LABORERS

Hebrews 5:12-14

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Ephesians 4:11-13

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Ephesians 4:12 (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition)

12 His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church),

2 Timothy 3:14-17

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:17 (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition)

17 So that the man of God may be complete and proficient, well fitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 3:17-18

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

THERE IS ONE THING THAT WE CAN BE ABSOLUTELY SURE OF: GOD IS NOT GOING TO POUR OUT HIS PROMISES ON AN UNPREPARED CHURCH!

WHY? NO PREPARATION = NO FAITH!

OVERCOMING THE ADVERSARY AND PREVAILING OVER THE GATES OF HELL

OUR ADVERSARY'S MOST EFFECTIVE TOOL IS THE SPIRIT OF INIQUITY

2 Thessalonians 2:6-10

6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

NOTE: IT IS CALLED THE "MYSTERY" OF INIQUITY BECAUSE SATAN'S MOST EFFECTIVE METHODOLOGY IS SUBTILTY.

THE WORD "MYSTERY" MEANS "COVERED" OR "HIDDEN"

NOTHING APPEALS TO THE FLESH OF MAN MORE THAN BEING IN CONTROL AND RUNNING OUR OWN LIVES ACCORDING TO OUR OWN WILL – INIQUITY!

EVEN IN THE CHURCH!

Matthew 7:21-23

21 Not every one that saith unto me, LORD, LORD, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, LORD, LORD, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 AND THEN WILL I PROFESS UNTO THEM, I NEVER KNEW YOU: DEPART FROM ME, YE THAT WORK INIQUITY.

THEY CALLED HIM LORD BUT HE WASN'T THEIR "LORD"

LORD (*Strong's Greek Dictionary*) = g2962. kyrios; from κροςkuros (supremacy); **supreme in authority, i.e. (as noun) controller;** by implication, Master (as a respectful title): — God, Lord, master, Sir. AV (748) - Lord 667, lord 54, master 11, sir 6, Sir 6, misc 4;

LORD (Thayer's Greek Lexicon) = g2962. kyrios;

I. he to whom a person or thing belongs, about which he has power of deciding; master, Lord
A the possessor and disposer of a thing

A. the possessor and disposer of a thing

- 1. the owner; one who has control of the person, the master
- 2. in the state: the sovereign, prince, chief, the Roman emperor
- B. is a title of honour expressive of respect and reverence, with which servants greet their master
- C. this title is given to: God, the Messiah

WE CAN'T CALL HIM LORD BUT BY THE HOLY GHOST

1 Corinthians 12:3 ...and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

ONLY THE HOLY GHOST CAN ENABLE US TO COMPLETELY SURRENDER OURSELVES AND OUR WILLS TO HIM!

OUR FLESH AND HUMAN WILLS WANT TO LIVE OUR LIVES PAIN FREE, PROBLEM FREE, PRESSURE FREE, AND PERSECUTION FREE.

IT IS NOT THE WILL OF GOD FOR THAT TO BE THE CASE.

THE FIRST HUMAN CONDUIT THAT THE FATHER USED TO SPEAK SAUL (PAUL) TOLD HOW MUCH HE WOULD SUFFER FOR THE NAME OF JESUS

Acts 9:15-16

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

FINALLY THE MESSAGES TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES WERE PREPARATION FOR THEIR ENDTIME PURPOSE. IN PREPARATION THE LORD CALLED FOR CHURCHES TO REPENT.

ALL SEVEN OF THESE DIFFERENT TYPES OF "CHURCHES" CAN BE FOUND IN THE EARTH **RIGHT NOW!**

WE MUST REMEMBER

THAT WHILE THE WORD OF GOD USES THE WORD "CHURCH" TO LABEL THE SEVEN GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE BEING ADDRESSED IN THE MESSAGES OF REVELATION 2 AND 3,

TWO OF THOSE "CHURCHES" WERE IN DANGER OF BEING LOST FOREVER — EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE CALLED "CHURCHES" BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD!

OF THREE OF THE OTHER FIVE CHURCHES, HE HAD "SOMEWHAT AGAINST THEM."

ONLY TWO OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES DID HE HAVE NO MESSAGE OF CORRECTION FOR THEM!

WE CAN CALL ANYTHING WE LIKE "CHURCH," BUT THAT DOESN'T GUARANTEE IT'S OR IT'S MEMBERS' SALVATION!

PLEASE CONSIDER THAT THE ENTIRE BOOK OF REVELATION WAS ADDRESSED TO ALL SEVEN OF THE CHURCHES, INCLUDING THE TWO WHO WERE IN DANGER OF BEING LOST!

Revelation 1:4-6

4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD CONCLUDED THE MESSAGE TO EACH CHURCH WITH THIS ADMONITION:

Revelation 2:7 HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES;

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD EITHER IMMEDIATELY BEFORE OR AFTER THIS ADMONITION TO "HEAR" ALSO GAVE THOSE WHO WOULD OVERCOME A SPECIFIC PROMISE.