

The Signs Have Started, What Should I Expect, What Should We do?

Last month we saw how God uses the Sun and the Moon as His clock and signal for us. (Genesis 1:14-16 ^(AMP))

We also saw that God does not use our Gregorian, Mayan or any other calendar man created.

So when He gave us the Blood Moon event, He is saying be aware something is about to happen and what we should do about it.

Luke 21:25-28 ^(AMP)

²⁵ And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment *and* perplexity [without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring (the echo) of the tossing of the sea,

²⁶ Men swooning away *or* expiring with fear *and* dread *and* apprehension and expectation of the things that are coming on the world; for the [very] powers of the heavens will be shaken *and* caused to totter.

²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with great (transcendent and overwhelming) power and [all His kingly] glory (majesty and splendor).

The Day of Christ!

²⁸ Now when these things begin to occur, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption (deliverance) is drawing near.

Verse 28 holds the key for Christians... we are to "Look up and lift up your heads, because redemption is drawing near."

What is this "redemption" that is drawing near?

Joel 2: 27-31 ^(AMP)

²⁷ ... My people shall never be put to shame.

²⁸ And afterward I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

²⁹ Even upon the menservants and upon the maidservants in those days will I pour out My Spirit.

³⁰ And I will show signs *and* wonders in the heavens, and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke.

³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes.

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³² And whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered *and* saved...

2 Timothy 3 continues this theme and begins as a picture of a world that is consumed with self, isolation, fear and falsehood.

Today we can see this is the evil that floods the earth but the Word's image doesn't end there and leave us exposed. All Christians need to read very slowly the entire chapter and ask God to show them how it applies to their lives but due to time restrictions I will only focus on the end of the chapter.

Vs: 16-17 ^(AMP)

¹⁶ Every Scripture is God-breathed (given by His inspiration) and profitable for instruction, for reproof *and* conviction of sin, for correction of error *and* discipline in obedience, [and] for training in righteousness (in holy living, in conformity to God's will in thought, purpose, and action),

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

When we make the Word the final or highest truth and act on it we become "thoroughly equipped for every good work"! It is a key to the operation of "being equipped".

Allow me to put this in context and ask the question, "If I phoned you would you recognize my voice?" Some would say yes and some would say no... Your answer would be dependent upon how well you know me or my voice.

John 10:27 ^(AMP)

The sheep that are My own hear *and* are listening to My voice; and I know them, and they follow Me.

Years ago I heard a story about sheep herding that has stuck with me. I was told that the shepherds would always use the same staff to herd their sheep. These shepherds would personalize their staff with carvings and images that in turn affected the sound it made as it struck a hard object. The sheep would learn that staff's sound and if two herds became intermingled at a watering hole, the shepherds would just strike their staffs as they walked away and the sheep would only follow the sound of the staff they knew or the one they heard all the time.

The connection to now is we are going to have many voices and much information coming at us we will need to respond to? How will we know if what is occurring is "ringing true" like our shepherd's staff or is some other voice that satan is trying to deceive us with? It is really a question of faith or fear for our lives and how we are going to know how to respond in a situation.

Have you ever heard the statement, "That doesn't sound right?" In spending time with a person you also learn the ways and manners of that person. Remember I asked the question would you recognize my voice on a phone and then answered only if you spent time with me.

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In fact as you spend time with people you also pick up their nature. You will begin to start acting like them or even have their same attitude about things. This is also true in our relationship with God!

I then ask, what is God's attitude about the world today? Do you see God sitting on His Throne... wringing His Hands and worrying about satan or what he is doing?

Are we going to see Jesus coming to get the Church with an "ops" mission to extract us out secretly?

No! No! No!

Satan's mightiest stronghold when Jesus died was hell and when Jesus became alive or was "Risen from the dead" He put on Glory/Christ (Anointed with God's Power) triumphing over evil. Jesus in Glorious Dominion made a show of them openly and stripped satan of his power.

Today Jesus is the Lord of hell and any power that came from there. Today Jesus sits at the Right Hand of God having been given all Power and Dominion.

Matthew 28:18 ^(AMP)

¹⁸ Jesus approached and, breaking the silence, said to them, All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.

Satan is a liar and wants us to buy into his thoughts of fear so he can keep us from using the Authority and Dominion in faith that Jesus gave us to affect a change in the world.

Luke 10:19 ^(AMP)

¹⁹ Behold! I have given you authority *and* power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you.

We are to use God's Power to Dominate satan's activities around us!

1 John 4:4 ^(AMP)

⁴ Little children, you are of God [you belong to Him] and have [already] defeated *and* overcome them [the agents of the antichrist], because He Who lives in you is greater (mightier) than he who is in the world.

Even Jesus said...

John 5:30 ^(AMP)

³⁰ I am able to do nothing from Myself [independently, of My own accord—but only as I am taught by God and as I get His orders]. Even as I hear, I judge [I decide as I am bidden to decide. As the voice comes to Me, so I give a decision], and My judgment is right (just, righteous), because I do not seek *or* consult My own will [I have no desire to do what is pleasing to Myself, My own aim, My own purpose] but only the will *and* pleasure of the Father Who sent Me.

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We are back to hearing God Words or Voice and leaning on His Power to accompany our actions.

How do we get that Power... only by bending our knees to God's Will and Purpose.

As a Christian you can't be self serving and have Power from God. It doesn't work! (Mark 4:14-21)

Adam tried it and lost the Authority and Dominion given to him by God and became a slave to satan's will. It was at the point of Adam's self promoting will that he ate the Fruit of the Knowledge of Good and evil and became naked. What he lost was the Anointing (Christ) of God on his life. He was naked because he lost the Power of the Holy Spirit or Christ to have Dominion over satan's purpose of destruction.

In seeing man's separation from God in the fall we MUST then remember the moment Jesus died on the cross and what God did.

Mark 15:37-38 ^(AMP)

³⁷ And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed out His life.

³⁸ And the curtain [of the Holy of Holies] of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

God ripped the veil from the top to the bottom. God removed the barrier between us and Himself. God opened us to a close personal relationship like Christ Adam first had in the Garden.

When we become "born again" a relationship becomes available to us that includes receiving the Anointing Power or Christ unto/into us so we can again have complete dominion over satan's will. No longer open to his attacks against us or naked to his will against us. We are to be like Jesus after He was baptised by the Holy Spirit and just tear apart anything satan has as a stronghold.

Easy words here you might say but what about in the point of battle where it looks like your end is certain? How do or can we look at the situation from the perspective of God?

2 King 6:17 ^(AMP)

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.

When did the angels arrive, when the young man's eyes were opened? No, they were always there. Point being God's Protection and Power is always Present even if we don't see it!

Look at the example of Joshua. He was fresh to the role of leader and now 40 years older up against the Promised Land barriers... one barrier which happened to be real giants. As he was going into battle, as an old man, what did the Lord say to him?

Joshua 1:5-8 ^(AMP)

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⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. **(PROMISE!)**

⁶ Be strong (confident) and of good courage, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. **(PROMISE!)**

⁷ Only you be strong and very courageous, that you may do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. **(FAITH NOT FEAR RESPONSE = CHOICE!)**

⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe *and* do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely *and* have good success. **(our PERSONAL ACTION!)**

⁹ Have not I commanded you? Be strong, vigorous, and very courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Applying this to us today means we need to see a Promise, Choice and have a Person Action!

What does that look like? What is the goal or Promise we should have from God for our lives?

Ephesians 5:26-27 ^(AMP)

²⁶ So that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word,

²⁷ That He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things [that she might be holy and faultless].

Washed or dirt removed... the Action of placing God's Word as our highest Truth changes us!

Ephesians 2:5, 10 ^(AMP)

⁵ Even when we were dead (slain) by [our own] shortcomings *and* trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship *and* in union with Christ; [He gave us the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him, for] it is by grace (His favor and mercy which you did not deserve) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ's salvation).

¹⁰ For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

God freed us and made us alive in relationship with Him so we can do good works with Him!

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Philippians 1:6 ^(AMP)

⁶ And I am convinced *and* sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] *and* perfecting *and* bringing it to full completion in you.

God will do a good work if (key word "IF") we do not harden our hearts. Please stop and reflect on the verses Psalms 95:7-8, Hebrews 3:7-8, Hebrews 3:15, Hebrews 4:7 to see what this means more fully.

1 John 5:3-4 ^(AMP)

³ For the [true] love of God is this: that we do His commands [keep His ordinances and are mindful of His precepts and teaching]. And these orders of His are not irksome (burdensome, oppressive, or grievous).

⁴ For whatever is born of God is victorious over the world; and this is the victory that conquers the world, even our faith.

Keys to walking in Christ:

Harden not your heart but instead yield to God's Will, Purpose and thought. This is important!

Beware of unforgiveness and offense because these are the gateway into satan's traps.

Walk in the fruit of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-26) always... faith works by LOVE! (Galatians 5:6)

Continually charge ourselves up in our inner man by praying in the Spirit. (Jude 20)

Be the Light of God and put on Glory (Anointing/Christ) so the world can see God's Love and Power.

Actively separate light from darkness to show the world the way to escape their fear and confusion.

Be like Jesus who went about doing Good... or the Will of the Father without fear. God's Will for us in these last days is to be ready for Jesus' return and to be a Church that is without spot or wrinkle.

What does that look like?

Ephesians 5:1-2 ^(AMP)

¹ Therefore be imitators of God [copy Him *and* follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father].

² And walk in love, [esteeming and delighting in one another] as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God [for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance.

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In these last days as darkness abounds God's Light in the Church is to super abound. If we are going to walk in God's Power and Protection we will need to make the adjustment to be imitators of His nature and this means walking in Love.

Look up and get ready, something is about to happen and now is the time to be prepared!

Closing Prayer:

Philippians 1:9-11^(AMP)

⁹ And this I pray: that your love may abound yet more and more *and* extend to its fullest development in knowledge and all keen insight [that your love may display itself in greater depth of acquaintance and more comprehensive discernment],

¹⁰ So that you may surely learn to sense what is vital, *and* approve *and* prize what is excellent *and* of real value [recognizing the highest and the best, and distinguishing the moral differences], and that you may be untainted *and* pure and unerring *and* blameless [so that with hearts sincere and certain and unsullied, you may approach] the day of Christ [not stumbling *nor* causing others to stumble].

¹¹ May you abound in *and* be filled with the fruits of righteousness (of right standing with God and right doing) which come through Jesus Christ (the Anointed One), to the honor and praise of God [that His glory may be both manifested and recognized].