

**EQUIPPING THE SAINTS**  
**20/20 Vision in 2021**  
**LESSON STUDY: *Simplicity of the Gospel***  
**April 24, 2021**

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**GET PREPARED, GET PREPARED, JESUS IS GOMING SOON.**

**The Gospel Simplified: Jesus In, Satan Out**  
**SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 2:19, 1 PETER 2:11**

“<sup>19</sup> Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; <sup>11</sup> Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

**Ready or not here He comes.**

1. Rev. 22:12-14: “<sup>12</sup> And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. <sup>13</sup> I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. <sup>14</sup> Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

**We need saving faith, a faith that will hold on to God’s promises.**

**“Faith is trusting God—believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus, instead of our own, it leads us to choose His way. In place of our ignorance, it accepts His wisdom; in place of our weakness, His strength; in place of our sinfulness, His righteousness. Our lives, ourselves, are already His; faith acknowledges His ownership and accepts its blessing.... If we are willing to do His will, all His strength is ours. Whatever gift He promises, is in the promise itself....If we receive the promise, we have the gift. Education p. 253.**

**“As a shield from temptation and an inspiration to purity and truth, no other influence can equal the sense of God’s presence.... This thought was Joseph’s shield amidst the corruptions of Egypt. To the allurements of temptation his answer was steadfast: “How ... can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?” Genesis 39:9. Such a shield, faith, if cherished, will bring to every soul.” Education p. 255.**

2. Isaiah 54:17: <sup>17</sup> No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.”
3. Isaiah 40:30-31: <sup>30</sup> Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: <sup>31</sup> But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

**What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ?**

4. Luke 9:23: “And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”
5. Gal. 2:20: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

**To become a disciple of Christ is to deny self and follow Jesus through evil as well as good report.... Every darling indulgence that hinders our religious life must be cut off.... Will we put forth efforts and make sacrifices proportionate to the worth of the object to be attained?.... Thus by acquaintance and association with Christ we may become like Him, the one faultless Example. Communion with Christ—**

**how unspeakably precious! Such communion it is our privilege to enjoy if we will seek it, if we will make any sacrifice to secure it.” Maranatha p. 74.**

6. Jer.29:13: “And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”
7. Prov 2:3-5: <sup>3</sup>Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; <sup>4</sup>If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; <sup>5</sup>Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.
8. Matt. 6:24: “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

**To be prepared for his second coming, we must know him.**

9. John 17:3: “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

**Only by knowing God here can we prepare to meet Him at His coming.... But many of those who profess to believe in Christ do not know God. They have only a surface religion. They do not love God;.... Only by knowing Christ can we know God. And as we behold Him, we shall be changed into His image, prepared to meet Him at His coming.... Now is the time to prepare for the coming of our Lord. Readiness to meet Him cannot be attained in a moment’s time. Preparatory to that solemn scene there must be vigilant waiting and watching, combined with earnest work.... All they have and are is consecrated to the Master’s service. Thus they prepare to meet their Lord; and when He comes, they will say, with joy, “This is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us.... We will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” Maranatha p. 76.**

**While we are waiting for our Lord to return, we are in his workshop. The end is near. Probation is closing.**

10. John 14:1-3: “<sup>1</sup>Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.”
11. Rev. 22:17,21: “<sup>17</sup>And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. <sup>21</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

**We believe without a doubt that Christ is soon coming.... When He comes He is not to cleanse us of our sins, to remove from us the defects in our characters, or to cure us of the infirmities of our tempers and dispositions. If wrought for us at all, this work will all be accomplished before that time. When the Lord comes, those who are holy will be holy still. Those who have preserved their bodies and spirits in holiness, in sanctification and honor, will then receive the finishing touch of immortality. But those who are unjust, unsanctified, and filthy will remain so forever. No work will then be done for them to remove their defects and give them holy characters.... This is all to be done in these hours of probation. It is now that this work is to be accomplished for us.... We are now in God’s workshop. Many of us are rough stones from the quarry. But as we lay hold upon the truth of God, its influence affects us. It elevates us and removes from us every imperfection and sin, of whatever nature. Thus we are prepared to see the King in His beauty and finally to unite with the pure and heavenly angels in the kingdom of glory. It is here that this work is to be accomplished for us, here that our bodies and spirits are to be fitted for immortality. Maranatha p. 80.**

**Everyone’s destiny will be sealed.**

12. Rev. 22:11,12: “<sup>11</sup>He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. <sup>12</sup>And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

**Website: <http://chenani22.adventistchurchconnect.org/>**