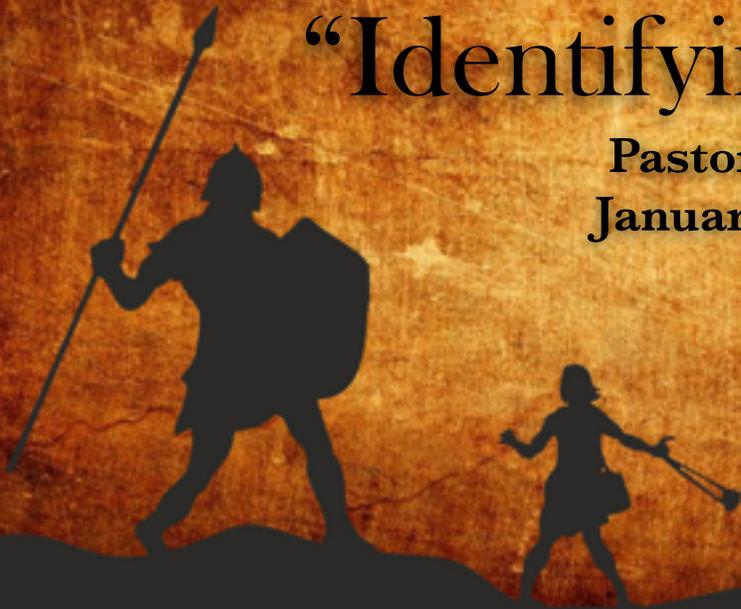


“Identifying The Giants”

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Tonight, I begin teaching a new series called “Identifying the Giants”. God’s Word says in the Last Days it would be “spiritually difficult” to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 3:1-5 KJV

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times (spiritually difficult) shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 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.

2 Timothy 3:1-5A AMPC

1 But understand this, that in the last days will come (set in) perilous times (spiritually difficult) of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].

2 For people will be lovers of self and [utterly] self-centered, lovers of money and aroused by an inordinate [greedy] desire for wealth, proud and arrogant and contemptuous boasters. They will be abusive (blasphemous, scoffing), disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy and profane.

3 [They will be] without natural [human] affection (callous and inhuman), relentless (admitting of no truce or appeasement); [they will be] slanderers (false accusers, troublemakers), intemperate and loose in morals and conduct, uncontrolled and fierce, haters of good.

4 [They will be] treacherous [betrayers], rash, [and] inflated with self-conceit. [They will be] lovers of sensual pleasures and vain amusements more than and rather than lovers of God.

5 For [although] they hold a form of piety (true religion), they deny and reject and are strangers to the power of it [their conduct belies the genuineness of their profession]. Avoid [all] such people [turn away from them].

These spiritual difficulties or attacks will be manifested through people and situations in our lives that the enemy uses to come up against God's people. From the beginning of time starting in Genesis, God's Word says that there were giants in the land which were the seed of the serpent or satan and they multiplied on the face of the earth trying to destroy God's people.

Note: The "things" in the Old Testament are often spoken of or related to the physical or natural realm. In the New Testament, the "things" are spiritual or of a super natural application and warfare.

Satan uses people and situations which are giants in our lives that you and I have and will be facing and encountering during these Last Days or End Of Days. These giants are found at our jobs, families, friends and at our churches. These giants or **things** are spirits that manifest themselves by repeating specific characters and personalities that the Bible identifies for us so God's Word can teach us to identify and conquer them.

Note: The word "thing" or "things" when used in the Bible refers to God's Word or Promises in God's Word. The Bible defines itself - "thing" is not what we think it is or should be but rather what God says it is and will be.

Romans 4:17 AMPC

17 As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations. [He was appointed our father] in the sight of God in Whom he believed, Who gives life to the dead and speaks of the nonexistent **things** that [He has foretold and promised] as if they [already] existed.

Matthew 6:33 AMPC

33 But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these **things** taken together will be given you besides.

These giants or evil spirits are not new. God reminds us in His Word and shows us in His Word what these giants or spirits will look like. They will also be increasing in number in the Last Days because satan knows that time is short, he knows we are living in the Last Days.

Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 KJV

9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 AMPC

9 The thing that has been—it is what will be again, and that which has been done is that which will be done again; and there is nothing new under the sun.

10 Is there a thing of which it may be said, See, this is new? It has already been, in the vast ages of time [recorded or unrecorded] which were before us.

One of these “things” found in God’s Word that we have, are, and will come up against and do war with is the spirit of Esau. He traded his inheritance, his blessing, his eternity for temporary fulfillment because had no thought about the eternal.

That same spirit is dealt with on a daily basis in all facets of our lives including the work place with people trying to move up the “ladder” any way they can. They live in desperation thinking that this is all they have. Maybe 70 years? So, they live moment by moment looking for something to satisfy their impulsive desires.

We will also encounter and probably already have dealt with a Jezebel spirit. That spirit is speaking flattering things to you while speaking falsely behind your back.

That spirit is known for engaging in immorality, idolatry, false teaching and unrepentant sin. It is set on destroying you.

During this series I will be going through specific characteristics, emotions, & actions that people have, are, and will take that we need to learn to identify and how to combat them in a Biblical way.

From pride, jealousy, anger, vindictive and hurting people, the enemy uses these things spoken of in the Word to stop God's people. These things are meant to harm, destroy and divide God's people and whenever you see division, that is the spirit of the antichrist.

We have to lay down the foundation for these giants which is natural and supernatural at the same time. The Bible tells us that fallen angels came into the daughters of men and produced a race of giants. Upon the death of these giants, they became the evil spirits that the New Testament speaks about.

After man fell in the Garden of Eden, God gave the first prophecy in the Bible.

Genesis 3:1-15 KJV

*1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:*

3 *But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.*

4 *And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:*

5 *For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

6 *And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

7 *And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

8 *And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.*

9 *And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?*

10 *And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

11 *And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?*

12 *And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.*

13 *And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.*

14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:1-15 AMPC

1 Now the serpent was more subtle and crafty than any living creature of the field which the Lord God had made. And he [Satan] said to the woman, Can it really be that God has said, You shall not eat from every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat the fruit from the trees of the garden,

3 Except the fruit from the tree which is in the middle of the garden. God has said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.

4 But the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die,

5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing the difference between good and evil and blessing and calamity.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good (suitable, pleasant) for food and that it was delightful to look at, and a tree to be desired in order to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she gave some also to her husband, and he ate.

7 Then the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves apronlike girdles.

8 *And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

9 *But the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, Where are you?*

10 *He said, I heard the sound of You [walking] in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.*

11 *And He said, Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?*

12 *And the man said, The woman whom You gave to be with me —she gave me [fruit] from the tree, and I ate.*

13 *And the Lord God said to the woman, What is this you have done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled (cheated, outwitted, and deceived) me, and I ate.*

14 *And the Lord God said to the serpent, Because you have done this, you are cursed above all [domestic] animals and above every [wild] living thing of the field; upon your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust [and what it contains] all the days of your life.*

15 *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her Offspring; He will bruise and tread your head underfoot, and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel.*

EN'MITY, noun - (Webster's Dictionary 1828)

1. The quality of being an enemy; the opposite of friendship; ill will; hatred; a fixed or rooted hatred

The carnal mind is enmity against God. Romans 8:7

The friendship with the world is enmity with God. James 4:4

The woman would have a seed that would crush the seed of the serpent. So, what was the seed of the serpent?

When we go back to before the creation of man we discover that the spirit world was created. God created angels before He created Adam.

When we read God's Word we find that there was an anointed cherub and that was satan. We also know that because of his pride and beauty, he fell.

Ezekiel 28:14-17 KJV

14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Ezekiel 28:14-17 AMPC

14 You were the anointed cherub that covers with overshadowing [wings], and I set you so. You were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire [like the paved work of gleaming sapphire stone upon which the God of Israel walked on Mount Sinai].

15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until iniquity and guilt were found in you.

16 Through the abundance of your commerce you were filled with lawlessness and violence, and you sinned; therefore I cast you out as a profane thing from the mountain of God and the guardian cherub drove you out from the midst of the stones of fire.

17 Your heart was proud and lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I lay you before kings, that they might gaze at you.

Then in the gospel of Luke we know and it is confirmed that Lucifer was cast out of heaven.

Luke 10:18 KJV

18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

When satan fell or was kicked out of heaven, God's Word said he took 1/3 of the angels with him.

Revelation 12:3-4 KJV

3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

It is clear 1/3 of the angels are fallen or have become demons. Since the number of angels is “innumerable”... One third includes a vast number of demons who have rebelled against God.

Hebrews 12:22 KJV

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable (countless) company of angels,

In Mark Chapter 5 we find a man named Legion was possessed by so many demons that they left him and controlled 2,000 pigs (Mark 5:9-13). Mary Magdalene was freed from seven spirits (Luke 8:2). Jesus also mentioned another account of seven spirits together at one time (Matthew 12:45; Luke 11:26).

We know that these are called “fallen angels” and God’s Word confirms that this literally happened in Biblical history. When you go from Genesis Chapter 3, the time of Adam, to Genesis Chapter 6, the time of Noah, you have about 1,658 years that have passed and this is what happened during that time.

Genesis 6:1-4 KJV

1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

Genesis 6:1-4 AMPC

1 When men began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them,

2 The sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took wives of all they desired and chose.

3 Then the Lord said, My Spirit shall not forever dwell and strive with man, for he also is flesh; but his days shall yet be 120 years.

4 There were giants on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God lived with the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

In the Hebrew text, the word for “sons of God” is B'nai Elohim. This term refers to direct creations of God or Angels of God. The angels are a direct creation of God. This word is also found in Job 1:6 and 38:7. Both passages mean angels of God.

Three Points Established from Genesis 6:1-4.

1. There were a race of giants on the earth.
2. These giants according to God's Word were born to the daughters of men.
3. It took the sons of God to come into the daughters of men to produce the race of giants.

The seed of the serpent or the seed of satan is the race of giants that came upon the earth and existed. (Genesis Chapter 3) The bible plainly teaches that these giants existed. Very large men, large in stature. They ranged in height from 12-18 feet tall.

Let's look at God's Word and establish this in our hearts and minds and know that this truly happened. We are going to go through several references in the Bible that speak of giants that used to live and exist in the Promised Land back in the time of Moses.

Numbers 13:33 KJV

33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Deuteronomy 2:10-11 KJV

10 The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims;

11 Which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims; but the Moabites called them Emims.

Deuteronomy 2:20-21 KJV

*20 (That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims;
21 A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; but the Lord destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead:*

Deuteronomy 3:11 KJV

11 For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man.

Depending on if the cubit measurement here was based on 18 or 25 inches (there's much debate with historians on what the length was at that time) King Og's bed was up to 18 feet long.

Deuteronomy 3:13 KJV

13 And the rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, being the kingdom of Og, gave I unto the half tribe of Manasseh; all the region of Argob, with all Bashan, which was called the land of giants.

In the time of Moses, the land of Bashan was called the Land of the Giants because there were so many giants in that area.

As you can see from the map on the following page, the Promised Land was surrounded by and full of giants. They were strategically placed to stop God's People from receiving the promise just as they are today.

Canaan is the term for a region approximating present-day Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, plus adjoining coastal lands and parts of Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

The Canaanites are mentioned extensively in the Bible, as well as in Mesopotamian and Ancient Egyptian texts.

The Bible says the land of Canaan was the Promised Land which God gave to Abraham and his descendants.



Joshua 12:4-5 KJV

*4 And the coast of Og king of Bashan, which was of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,
5 And reigned in mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, unto the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.*

Joshua 15:8 KJV

8 And the border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom unto the south side of the Jebusite; the same is Jerusalem: and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lieth before the valley of Hinnom westward, which is at the end of the valley of the giants northward:

When you go through God's Word you discover that at the time of Moses, these giants were literally all over the Promised Land. They were in the Gaza area, Jordan, Bashan which is far north as modern day Golan Heights. Some of the giants were called different names by the Canaanites and Amorites but all indicating the same area of land and group of people.

Hebrew Names Of The Races Of Giants

Anakims: Descended from Anak. They lived in the southern part of the land of Canaan, near Hebron.

Emims: One of the tribes of Rephaim. Powerful, populous and the name is translated as "the dreaded ones".

Rephaim: Time of Abraham, Moses. Og king of Bashan was of the Rephaim. Goliath was remains of the Rephaim. Area of Jerusalem

Avims: Early inhabitants of Palestine, sent by the King of Assyria to reinhabit the depopulated cities of Israel - Mediterranean area.

Zamzummins: Great, numerous and tall as the Anakim...name means - Tribes Making A Noise or Talk Gibberish - around area of Jordan.

The giants at this time in the Old Testament actually possessed the gates of the Holy Land. All the entrances into the Promised Land were blocked by a race of giants. Coming from the south through Gaza from Egypt there were giants there. To the east in Jordan where you have Amon, Moab and Edom, there were giants there as well.

The area of Bashan had roads coming into it from Lebanon and Syria where the giants were stationed along with the area of Jerusalem which was the land of the giants.

These giants who were the seeds of the serpent or satan were used to control the gates leading into the Promised Land and to destroy God's People. The children of Israel couldn't even possess the Promised Land when they broke free from Egypt bondage because the Bible says they saw the sons of Anak there.

Numbers 13:33 KJV

33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

They saw the giants and were intimidated by them. They saw themselves as small, they were tired, they were faithless even after just being freed from captivity and knowing God performed supernatural miracles for them.

The seed of the serpent, the offspring of satan or the giants hindered God's people all the way back from the time of the beginning. This goes back to before Noah and the flood.

Genesis 6:5 KJV

5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Genesis 6:5 AMPC

5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil continually.

Much of this wickedness and evil was because of the fallen angels which we will see in this series. These spirits are manifesting themselves today in the wickedness, evil imagination and thinking evil continually.

Isaiah 46:9-10 King James Version (KJV)

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,

10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose, As it was in the beginning so it will be at the end

The Prophet Isaiah is telling you and I to look back at the former “things” or Word. God’s Word tells us what it was like in the day of Noah... the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil continually.

Prophet defined by 1828 Webster’s Dictionary:

- 1. One that foretells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.**
- 2. a person illuminated, inspired or instructed by God to announce future events; as Moses, Elijah, David, Isaiah, etc.**

Jesus told us or foretold us what it would look like at the Time of The End or Last Days as well.

Matthew 24:37-41 KJV

37 But as the days of Noah 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.

40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

But, everyone sees these terrible things happening don't they? From wickedness, evil, prophecies from thousands of years ago happening in the days in which we live...why won't people believe that judgement is coming?

2 Peter 3:1-9 KJV

1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:1-9 AMPC

1 Beloved, I am now writing you this second letter. In [both of] them I have stirred up your unsullied (sincere) mind by way of remembrance,² That you should recall the predictions of the holy (consecrated, dedicated) prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [given] through your apostles (His special messengers).

3 To begin with, you must know and understand this, that scoffers (mockers) will come in the last days with scoffing, [people who] walk after their own fleshly desires

4 And say, Where is the promise of His coming? For since the forefathers fell asleep, all things have continued exactly as they did from the beginning of creation.

5 For they willfully overlook and forget this [fact], that the heavens [came into] existence long ago by the word of God, and the earth also which was formed out of water and by means of water,

6 Through which the world that then [existed] was deluged with water and perished.

7 But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been stored up (reserved) for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly people.

8 Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promises, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering (extraordinarily patient) toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance.

When you see division, God's Word being divided, changed or added to, that is the spirit of the antichrist. When you see governments and government officials trying to divide the land of Israel, that is the spirit of the antichrist.

I'm not trying to scare you, I'm preparing you for what is and what will be happening. Guard your hearts, fear not, don't be afraid or dismayed because God has told you what would happen. He has told you so you would not be afraid.

So, guard your hearts, take captive every thought and speak God's Word to combat the darkness. God's Words are light and they are life.

Proverbs 4:18-23 AMPC

18 But the path of the [uncompromisingly] just and righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines more and more (brighter and clearer) until [it reaches its full strength and glory in] the perfect day [to be prepared].

19 The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

20 My son, attend to my words; consent and submit to my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from your sight; keep them in the center of your heart.

22 For they are life to those who find them, healing and health to all their flesh.

23 Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life.

Proverbs 4:18-23 KJV

18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

I want to finish tonight by reading the book of Jude, it's only one chapter...you will see why we are closing with this book tonight after we conclude reading it.

The Book Of Jude

The book of Jude is a General Epistle (Apostolic Letter). The author is Jude the brother of James, both of whom are half-brothers of Jesus Christ. Jude wrote it circa 75 A.D. The purpose of this book is to address false teachings and to illustrate a contrast between the error of heresy and the truth of Jesus Christ. Jude consists of only one chapter. Jude asks the reader to recall how even after the Lord saved his own people out of the land of Egypt, he did not hesitate to destroy those who fell into unbelief, much as he punished the angels who fell from their original exalted status.

Jude AMPC

1 Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and brother of James, [writes this letter] to those who are called (chosen), dearly loved by God the Father and separated (set apart) and kept for Jesus Christ:

2 May mercy, [soul] peace, and love be multiplied to you.

3 Beloved, my whole concern was to write to you in regard to our common salvation. [But] I found it necessary and was impelled to write you and urgently appeal to and exhort [you] to contend for the faith which was once for all [a]handed down to the saints [the faith which is that sum of Christian belief which was delivered verbally to the holy people of God].

4 For certain men have crept in stealthily [[c]gaining entrance secretly by a side door]. Their doom was predicted long ago, ungodly (impious, profane) persons who pervert the grace (the spiritual blessing and favor) of our God into lawlessness and wantonness and immorality, and disown and deny our sole Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

5 Now I want to remind you, though you were fully informed once for all, that though the Lord [at one time] delivered a people out of the land of Egypt, He subsequently destroyed those [of them] who did not believe [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him].

6 And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place—these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day.

7 *[The wicked are sentenced to suffer] just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the adjacent towns—which likewise gave themselves over to impurity and indulged in unnatural vice and sensual perversity—are laid out [in plain sight] as an exhibit of perpetual punishment [to warn] of everlasting fire.*

8 *Nevertheless in like manner, these dreamers also corrupt the body, scorn and reject authority and government, and revile and libel and scoff at [heavenly] glories (the glorious ones).*

9 *But when [even] the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, judicially argued (disputed) about the body of Moses, he dared not [presume to] bring an abusive condemnation against him, but [simply] said, The Lord rebuke you!*

10 *But these men revile (scoff and sneer at) anything they do not happen to be acquainted with and do not understand; and whatever they do understand physically [that which they know by mere instinct], like irrational beasts—by these they corrupt themselves and are destroyed (perish).*

11 *Woe to them! For they have run riotously in the way of Cain, and have abandoned themselves for the sake of gain [it offers them, following] the error of Balaam, and have perished in rebellion [like that] of Korah!*

12 *These are hidden reefs (elements of danger) in your love feasts, where they boldly feast sumptuously [carousing together in your midst], without scruples providing for themselves [alone]. They are clouds without water, swept along by the winds; trees, without fruit at the late autumn gathering time—twice (doubly) dead, [lifeless and] plucked up by the roots;*

13 *Wild waves of the sea, flinging up the foam of their own shame and disgrace; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of eternal darkness has been reserved forever.*

14 It was of these people, moreover, that Enoch in the seventh [generation] from Adam prophesied when he said, Behold, the Lord comes with His myriads of holy ones (ten thousands of His saints)

15 To execute judgment upon all and to convict all the impious (unholy ones) of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed [in such an] ungodly [way], and of all the severe (abusive, jarring) things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.

16 These are inveterate murmurers (grumblers) who complain [of their lot in life], going after their own desires [controlled by their passions]; their talk is boastful and arrogant, [and they claim to] admire men's persons and pay people flattering compliments to gain advantage.

17 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions which were made by the apostles (the special messengers) of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

18 They told you beforehand, In the last days (in the end time) there will be scoffers [who seek to gratify their own unholy desires], following after their own ungodly passions.

19 It is these who are [agitators] setting up distinctions and causing divisions—merely sensual [creatures, carnal, worldly-minded people], devoid of the [Holy] Spirit and destitute of any higher spiritual life.

20 But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;

21 Guard and keep yourselves in the love of God; expect and patiently wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah)—[which will bring you] unto life eternal.

22 *And refute [so as to] convict some who dispute with you, and on some have mercy who waver and doubt.*

23 *[Strive to] save others, snatching [them] out of [the] fire; on others take pity [but] with fear, loathing even the garment spotted by the flesh and polluted by their sensuality.*

24 *Now to Him Who is able to keep you without stumbling or slipping or falling, and to present [you] unblemished (blameless and faultless) before the presence of His glory in triumphant joy and exultation [with unspeakable, ecstatic delight]—*

25 *To the one only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory (splendor), majesty, might and dominion, and power and authority, before all time and now and forever (unto all the ages of eternity). Amen (so be it).*

