In the Hour of JESUS
Second coming

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Second Coming of Jesus

The event which the church is eagerly looking for is the second coming of Jesus. The most exciting and special occasion for a bride on her wedding day, which can never happen in her life again, is nothing but to meet her bridegroom. In the same way, leaving this sinful world and joining the LORD to live with HIM forever, is the most exiting, special and wonderful thing than everything else, for God’s people.

People, who are washed by the blood of Jesus and have experienced the forgiveness of sin, speak about the second coming of Jesus and say that they are waiting for the same. Many books are written and extensive preaching is made admonishing about the second coming of our LORD Jesus and that we should be ready to face it. But, obviously, it seems that, many Christians do not have proper knowledge of the “extent of preparation” which is required to meet the LORD.

Therefore, it is very important and necessary to have proper knowledge about the extent of preparation that we should make in order to be resurrected and meet our LORD Jesus in the mid air in His second coming. Jesus has told parables particularly to elucidate the seriousness of the event. The parables in 22nd, 24th and 25th chapters of the gospel according Matthew speak about these things.

* Parable of a certain king, who made a marriage for his son in 22nd chapter.
* Parable of the fig tree in 24th chapter.
* Parable of the 10 virgins and 10 talents in 25th chapter.

Carefully observing the portions in the bible that speak about the second coming of our LORD, we see, words like ‘awake’, ‘know’, ‘look up’ and ‘be ready’ are found repeatedly. Therefore if we have the revelation of the truth on the basis of the word of God, about, what is meant by ‘to be awaken’?, what is meant by ‘looking up’?, what to ‘know’?, how to be ‘ready’?, we will definitely be resurrected in HIS coming and be blessed.

Know!

Since the beginning of the world, GOD wants everyone, should have right and proper understanding about Him. HE said through HIS prophets that “people perish for lack of knowledge”.

Isaiah 1:
3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master’s crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

Hosea 4:
6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge.

Some think that ‘once we get saved, it is enough, it does not matter however we live, GOD will somehow admit us into heaven for HE is very compassionate. This knowledge is absolutely wrong! Perhaps there is any kind of teaching like this, it is a cult and demonic (doctrines of devils).

1 Timothy 4:
1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.

When we commit an error, it is scriptural, that, GOD will warn us and chasten us (chastening does not mean ‘to strike us with any disease or accident’ but ‘to correct and discipline by punishing’, that is, ‘to allow trials and testing’ and passing us through crisis so that we will learn to be better Christians and avoid errors in the future). Nevertheless, committing sin, thinking that HE will forgive us, is willful sinning (Presumptuous Sin).

Hebrews 10:
26 For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

It is nothing but taking God’s grace lightly and sinning with boldness, haughtiness and pride.

Romans 6:
1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?.

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

If we willfully commit sin, GOD can not forgive us for it is contrary to HIS nature.

2 Timothy 2:
13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

GOD promised Abraham and his descendents the land of Canaan. With HIS mighty hands
HE delivered them from Egypt, to bring them up unto the promised land. Nevertheless, we should know that, He did not allow, one whole generation of that people, in to the promised land for they have sinned. The same GOD is unchanging and remains same even today.

James 1:
17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

In the same way, those who are waiting for the coming of LORD JESUS, should know very clearly, the terrible fact, that, you will miss the promised heaven, the promised land, if lived in sin in that hour of HIS coming, even though you are a born again believer.

Telling the ‘parable of the fig tree’, JESUS says ‘know’. Here it is obvious that we should discern and know the signs of the nearing end of the world.

Mathew 23:
32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:
33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

We can divide these signs in to three groups:

1. Signs that are revealed in the nature.
2. Signs among the people of the world.
3. Signs among the people of God.

**Signs in the nature.**

Nowadays, the entire nature seems to have intolerably risen against man because of his sinful deeds. Natural calamities like famine, flood, earthquake and tsunami have become common in these days.

Luke 21:
10 Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:
11 And great earthquakes shall be in diverse places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there

Mark 13
24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,
25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

Fear suddenly strikes our mind, when we give heed to news about sky bodies like Sun, Moon and stars appearing in the news papers. Let us understand and perceive that these things are the signs of the end of the age, happens before the coming of our LORD JESUS, according to HIS own words.

Luke 21:
25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;
26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

**Signs among the people of the world**

Wars, ethnic violence, internal conflicts are found everywhere in this world today.

Mathew 24:
6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

“Nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom” means civil wars caused by rising of one ethnic group against the other with in a nation. Many examples of these things can be seen in the newspapers in these days. These are the signs among the people of this world, indicating that, as the end approaches, they become more selfish, licentious, behaving inhumanly like animals, leaning towards unrighteousness, forsaking good. Knowledge is increasing. This knowledge is for nothing but destruction. Whatever man has invented is proving to be more destructive than constructive. Technology is developing in a very fast pace, everything is speedy today.
Daniel 12:

4 But thou, Oh Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Traveling has been increased to a very great extent. People are very busy. Time passes unnoticed. Speed of time is not increased but mind is engaged so much that the time passes without notice. There are so many things in this world to put man in too much tension, excitement, busyness and entertainment. He can hardly think about his spirit. People are going down to such an horrible state, trying to fulfill the desires of their flesh and mind, deceived by the entertainments provided by TV channels, movies and other media, that, they can never think about their own spirit.

Another important thing is “unrighteousness”. Today, such a situation has rose up in the world, that, it is very difficult to find characters like justice, morality, sincerity and purity in people’s life. Anybody behaving sincere are mocked by others as if they are fools (this is the condition of the society in India). Obscenity is being pictured as modernity. In the name of sex-education, attempts are made to depict extramarital relationships are sinless and acceptable. Recently it appeared in a daily news paper, about a decree given by prestigious Allahabad High Court (Allahabad High Court is next to supreme court in India), saying, if a man and a woman mutually consent to stay together, they can do so and need not have marriage binding. You can just imagine, where the modern world is heading towards.

“Unrighteousness” is everything contrary to righteousness. Now many things which were considered unrighteous in the law of a nation, until recently, are liberalized and legalized by putting modernity, new culture and inevitable requirement of the body (like food is a necessity of the body), as lame excuses.

2 Timothy 3:

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times 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.

The world has accepted the things, which are sin for God’s people, as modernity or new culture, and therefore it hates people who lead holy life and preach the same to others.

Mathew 24:

9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name’s sake.

It is already happening in forward countries like U.S.A. I have heard many American Christian preachers saying, that, they are apposed by media (that is, Radio, TV, and News Papers) people.

These preachers preach against abortion, extramarital relationships and gay marriages and consider these activities as sin. That is why they are apposed and accused by the media that they are creating extremities in people’s mind regarding natural things of human life. We should be aware of all these things which are the signs seen among the people of this world.

**Signs among the people of God**

2 Thessalonians 2:

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition

1 Timothy 4:

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.

When persecutions rise against the church, nominal Christians (means, those who are Christians for the name’s sake and living according to the world in their real life) will forsake Christianity. This is called **falling away**. Indications are there, that this is going to happen very soon. The Greek word used here is “**apostasia**” from which the English word “apostasy” is derived. The meaning of this word is ‘the state of having rejected ones religious beliefs’. Many born again Christian believers may also do this. Any Christian believer can possibly reject his/her faith willingly.

Hebrews 6:

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were
made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of
God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

The verses, “and they shall never perish”, which JESUS said in John 10:28 and “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?” in Romans 8:35 does not apply to such believers. Some argue, quoting the above verses, that a person, once got saved, can never depart from his/her faith. But these words are applicable only to those believers who do not want to reject their faith willingly. Many nominal Christians and immature believers shall fall away from their faith and betray real believers.

Mathew 24 :
10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.
The word used in original tongues for “offended” here is “skan-dal-id'-zo” which means “stumbled (transitively) or enticed to sin, apostasy or displeasure”. And in Revised Standard Version, it is “many will fall away”. In American Standard Version, it is “shall many stumble”. In young’s Literal Translation, it is “shall many be stumbled”. So it is obvious that many will forsake their faith and fall away in the last days.

Mathew 24 :
12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Many Christian believers, looking at the situation in this world, say “this Godly life is impossible to live”. But if you really want to live this Godly life you have to run the race looking unto JESUS.

Hebrews 12 :
1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every
weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross.
If you look either at anybody else or at something else, your race is interrupted and ultimately you will have to quit. You should know that the destination is terrible eternal hell, if you quit the race. Then it is inevitable to run and you should look unto JESUS while running in order to finish the race successfully. You need not panic, because, it is truly difficult but possible to run this race, if you stand on the promises of our LORD JESUS.

Mathew 28 :
20 lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Another sign, which should be carefully observed among the people of GOD is, rising of false prophets. These false prophets are infallibly present throughout the church history.

Mathew 24 :
11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.
2 Peter 2 :
1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you,
who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves
swift destruction.
1 John 4 :
1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets
are gone out into the world.
Jude 4 :
4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation,
ingodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus
Christ.
But at the end of the age, vexation caused by them is extremely large and many will be deceived by them.

Observing all these things, we should perceive that, this is the final hour of that last day. When the leaves of the trees start falling we say ‘it is FALL (autumn)’. When wind starts blowing from the west we say ‘it is monsoon, rainfall has begun (rainy season in South Asia)’. In the same way, when we see these signs, we should know that, the coming of our LORD JESUS and the end of the age is very near.
Awake

Let us try to understand, the meaning of “living awakened” and the things which are to be careful about. JESUS said “Behold, I come as a thief” (Revelation 16:15). HE did not mean that HE will come secretly. Because HE is not coming to steal anything, instead, HE comes majestically with a proclamation, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trump of God.

1Thessalonian 4:
16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.
Then ‘coming as a thief’ does not mean secret coming but ‘coming unexpectedly’ or ‘coming in an unknown time’.

Luke 12:
39 And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.
40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Revelation 3:
3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

If we observe the above words, obviously we can understand that, HE will not come secretly or invisibly. But HE comes with a shout publicly.

Revelation 1:
7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him.

Mathew 24:
27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

HIS appearance will be so public but nobody is able to know the day and the hour in which it is going to happen. Therefore we should be awakened and watchful all the time.

1 Thessalonians 5:
6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

In this verse the word “sleep” does not mean physical sleep which is essential for our body. This is a kind of spiritual sleep. While we sleep, our body lies like a corpse with out any activity. In the same way, we are spiritually sleeping if we are not involved in any spiritual activity. That is, to refrain from spiritual activities like prayer, meditation in the word, praise and worship, witnessing and thanks giving. When we give more importance to material things or physical pleasures, spiritual activities decline and ultimately come to a standstill. This is nothing but spiritual the sleep what the word of GOD is talking about.

Luke 21:
34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Notice that this verse is meant for saints who are living a holly life. The word of GOD is admonishing us through the above verse that, we should not be reckless and lethargic regarding our spiritual life, even though we are not living in sin. The word ‘surfeiting’ is meant by ‘spending time in parties and functions and eating more than what actually is needed for nourishment’. After attending a party, where you ate little more, try to pray after you come back to home. You will not be able to pray and you will feel something heavy in your spirit. That is what JESUS refers to as “hearts being overcharged”. Then what ? stop attending parties?. Not necessarily !!. It is up to anybody’s personal decision. But, in the middle or after a party and little too much eating, if the HOLY SPIRIT inspires you to pray or to read the word, and you obey immediately, it implies that you are not sleeping and you are alert in your spirit. Otherwise, if JESUS comes at the time when you are in a party, you are unaware of it and you will be in great danger of loosing your salvation and going to hell.

I have heard an interesting story about world renowned preacher Pastor Benny Hinn. Once he was invited by a family for a dinner. While they were talking about so many things in the word of GOD, time passed through, and it was about 2 O’clock in the afternoon. So they asked Pastor Benny Hinn to get up for the dinner. But Pastor Benny being used to pray exactly at 2 O’clock denied the food and went to his room for prayer. This is what is meant by being awakened in the spirit. Whenever the HOLY SPIRIT inspires you to pray, you must be alert and ready to do it with out
much delay. And your physical needs like food, sleep should not hinder your prayer or any of your spiritual activity.

“Cares of this life” means looking at people around us and be worried, trying to live like them. This is also called “pride of life”, in the Bible.

1 John 2:
16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

1 Timothy 6:
6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.
7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.
Prosperity really means to have everything sufficient and not having surplus. If we have any thing more than necessary, needless thoughts will be generated in our minds which may lead us to spiritual decline and sleep.

The word of GOD says:
1 Thessalonians 5:
4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that day should overtake you as a thief.
5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

Those who are in darkness sleep, means live in sin. To such, that day of the LORD becomes a day of perdition. But to those who, are in light, are awake, and are involved much in spiritual activities, that day will not be like thief in the night but will be a day of joy unspeakable full of glory, giving never fading crown of life. Therefore let us not sleep in the spirit but be sober and awaken.

1 Peter 5:
4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Peter 1:
8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:
9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

Look up
Looking up does not mean, to come out of your house and look up to the sky. Word of GOD says “seek those things which are above”, means to set our mind on heavenly things, spiritual things.

Colossians 3:
1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. {affection: or, mind}

Romans 8:
6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. {to be carnally...: Gr. the minding of the flesh} {to be spiritually...: Gr. the minding of the Spirit}

Spiritually minded means setting our mind on spiritual things. Spiritual things are nothing but, prayer, reading the word of GOD and meditating, praise and worship, witnessing, singing spiritual songs and so on. As the day of the LORD is nearing, the HOLY SPIRIT is inspiring us to do these things more and more. This is the high time and very necessary to pray without ceasing, to be filled with the spirit all the time according to the word of GOD.

Ephesians 6:
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Ephesians 5:
18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;
20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

1 Thessalonians 5:
17 Pray without ceasing.
If we seek things which are above and set our minds on them, we will be
caught up to meet the Lord in the mid air in HIS coming or else, if we set our minds on the things of this world, we will be in this world to suffer terrible perdition. Therefore let us set our minds on the things above. “Godliness is profitable unto all things”.

While you are engaged in Godliness, spiritual edification and growth, if a problem or a sickness strikes, you will pray holding on to the promises of GOD and be delivered. And at the same time if the LORD appears, you will be resurrected and be with the LORD with glory and joy in ecstasy. Such a joy can not be found in any material things of this world or in any pleasures of mind and body or through entertainments that this world can give. It is the fullness of joy or perfect joy which has no side effects in it eventually.

_Psalms 16:_

11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

On the contrary, if you are totally engaged only in the things of this world and have no time for your spiritual needs, you will also come across problems. Then you will go seeking for human help, to a doctor or to a lawyer or to a banker. And while you are in a hectic situation in the midst of all these vexation and turmoil, if the LORD appears, you will be left on this earth in terrible distress. If that happens only torment and gnashing of teeth will be left for you to eternity. It is true what the word of GOD says in the bellow verses:

1 Timothy 4:

7 But refuse profane and old wives’ fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.
8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. (little: or, for a little time)

The word of GOD is admonishing us saying “Give yourself to exercising godliness”.

Be ready (be prepared)

While redeeming Israelites from the Egypt, GOD sent ten plagues up on Egyptians. When the tenth plague, killing the first born came, GOD commanded the observation of the Passover festival in order to rescue Israelites from the destroyer. There, they had to eat the Passover in hurry, being ready to go.

Exodus 12:

11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover.

Because they were leaving the Egypt and journey to the promised land of Canaan, Egypt was no more their home land thereafter. In the same way, after we are redeemed from the blood of our Passover Lamb, JESUS CHRIST, this world which is denoted by that Egypt, is not our home land anymore. We are the citizens of heaven.

Philippians 4:

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: {conversation...: or, we live or conduct ourselves as citizens of heaven, or, for obtaining heaven}

Therefore we should live in this world as if, we are ready for a journey. Because this world is not our habitation after our salvation. So let us live in this world, looking forward for the redemption of our body and the eternal home which is in heaven.

We prepare a suitable dress for the occasion while preparing for a journey or to attend a special celebration, party. In the same way, we have to prepare a suitable dress for the better land.

Revelation 22:

11 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.
1 Corinthians 4:

4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. {know: or, I am not conscious of any fault}

According to the above verses, for we do not actually know, the level of righteousness required by the LORD. Nobody can consider themselves righteous in their own understanding. Therefore, let no one think that either he or she has already become holy enough to reach the mark, but try to become more holy and more righteous. This is the dress that we have to prepare, “the robe of righteousness”.

Let us see ‘the parable of the marriage feast of a King’s son’ told by LORD JESUS in Matthew 22: 1-14. There the king comes inside the dining place to see the guests and finds a man sitting without a
wedding garment, and he commands his servants to throw that man out side. Here we can understand that, GOD is as much righteous as HE is gracious. Therefore, before entering into heaven we must have put on the suitable dress, and, that dress must be prepared now, while we are in this world. Otherwise, without the robe of righteousness you will be forbidden entering heaven and will be cast away into the darkness.

Revelation 16:
15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

Revelation 19:
8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. (white: or, bright)

Righteousness, here, is meant by doing right things what the word of GOD says. That is the right walk before GOD. We can see many things about right conduct of a Christian believer in 5th, 6th and 7th chapters of the gospel according to Matthew and in 12th chapter of the epistle to Romans. It should not be just in words, but, must be shown in action. For example; suppose, you know that a Christian brother is in need of money and you have enough money to help him, but you say to him consoling words like ‘I will pray for you’, ‘GOD bless you’ and so on, and also if you pray for him as you said, it can not become righteousness before GOD, because ‘faith without action is dead’.

James 2:
26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

James 2:
24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.
Real love is to help those who are in trouble and not just saying good words. Many who did that way will enter into God’s kingdom in the day of the LORD and be blessed of the Father. But those who lived for their own self and spoke only words of consolation will go to the lake of fire.

Matthew 25:
34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.
46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matthew 7:
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.

Our LORD JESUS had told one parable to explain the extent of preparation for HIS coming. It is the parable of ten virgins (Matthew 25:1-13). There are some most important points in this parable, which are to be very carefully observed.

Point 1:
All these ten women were virgins. Virgins mean holly, blameless and spotless.

Ephesians 5:
27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

So they are all born again Christian believers, who are washed by the blood of JESUS. This is the primary qualification required to enter heaven.

Point 2:
Those virgins had lamps in their hands and the lamps were lit up and burning. The flame in the lamp indicates the spirit of man.

Proverbs 20:
27 The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.
(candle: or, lamp)

Luke 12:
35 Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning;
According to the word of GOD, in these verses, our spirit is compared with the flame or lamp. The lit up and burning lamp indicates the life in the spirit (means full of spiritual activity). The spirit of a born again believer is living (like the lamp, burning). Those who are not born again can not inherit the kingdom of GOD according to JESUS.
John 3:
3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. {again: or, from above}
4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?
5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Point 3:
Among those ten virgins five were wise. These five took sufficient quantity of oil with their lamps. This oil is not only a sign for the HOLY SPIRIT, because this oil is a fuel, which is present in side the lamp and helps burning. Therefore this oil represents every thing that is required to make our spirit living and buming. These things are nothing but prayer, reading the word and meditation, listening to the preaching of the word, witnessing, praise and worship and spiritual conversation (speaking to one another in spiritual matters).

Colossians 3:
16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:
19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Malachi 3:
16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

Deuteronomy 6:
7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. {teach: Heb. whet, or, sharpen}

LORD called those five virgins wise, for they knew that their lamps should be burning till the arrival of the bridgroom, and therefore, they took sufficient quantity of oil with their lamps. These five wise virgins signify those who read the bible regularly and get first hand revelations from the word, pray with out ceasing and be filled with the SPIRIT always. LORD considers such people who are diligent regarding their spiritual lives and prefer GOD first in their lives, wise and blessed.

Matthew 5:
3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
A person who is called ‘Poor in the spirit’ is one who is deeply sensible of his spiritual poverty and wretchedness. Being destitute of the true riches, he is trembling and alive to the necessities of his soul, shrinking with fear lest he should perish without the salvation of God. LORD does not seem pointing to financially or materially poor people here. HE obviously had spiritual poverty in view. Poor people toil very hard to supply their necessities. In the same way the one, who has recognized his spiritual poverty, work hard diligently, eagerly to supply the necessities of his spirit (holiness, humbleness, fruit of the spirit and so on). They are really blessed because their reward is not perishable money or wealth but salvation which is invaluable and eternal and results in incomparable joy. And they inherit the everlasting, never perishing indestructible glorious place called heaven.

Matthew 6:
33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

John 6:
27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

The followers of the school of thought, found in the above verses, will grow in their spirit and become matured Christians. Such a person does not depend on others always like dependent children do. Because they are not feeding on milk but on hard food, and capable of taking right steps with right decisions on their own with the guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT. Therefore spirits of such people are in fullness (live and buming) in spite of any circumstances and they will be caught up when the LORD comes.
Point 4:

We see, in the scripture, that those virgins went asleep. This sleep denotes our daily duties in which we have to be engaged to meet the necessities of our physical body. Waiting for the second coming of the Lord does not mean that, we should sit in a corner and pray, leaving aside all other works. There are many things we need to do every day. Our job, house hold work, journey, daily duties to meet the necessity of our body, cleaning etc., are the works in which we need to be involved daily while we live in this material world. Nevertheless, it is possible to be alert in our spirit. The HOLY SPIRIT of GOD equips us with all the necessary tools for this purpose.

While we are engaged in some work, it is our mind which is working. But in the spirit we can be praising or worshiping GOD. The LORD has equipped us with the gift of tongues. While speaking in tongues we need not shout and make noise all the time. We can speak inwardly.

1 Corinthians 14:
2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.
14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.
28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God.

If you carefully observe the above verses, it is obvious that while speaking in tongues it is our spirit which prays and therefore we can be engaged in some physical work through our mind while praying in the spirit. That is, we can be doing some work physically at the same time we can be praying or praising in the spirit (if you like to have further more information about the gift of speaking in tongues you can read the book “WHY TONGUES”, written by Rev. Kenneth E Higgins).

Without these tools, it is impossible to do what the word of GOD says in the following verses:

1 Thessalonians 5:
17 Pray without ceasing.
Ephesians 6:
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.
Ephesians 5:
18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;
20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the high time to do these things according to the word of GOD.

Ephesians 5:
16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
So, let us stop spending time for unwanted things and arguments and crave for the gift of tongues and prepare for the coming of the LORD. The gift of tongues is given for our personal edification.

1 Corinthians 14:
4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself

Some have wrong conception about the gift of tongues. Bible says “... forbid not to speak with tongues” (1 Corinthians 14:39). Therefore, brethren, if we are living like those five wise virgins, we will surely be resurrected and enter the kingdom of GOD in the second coming of our LORD JESUS.

Point 5:

Remaining five virgins were called foolish. Christian believers, who are reckless and lethargic regarding their own spiritual lives and prefer material necessities more than spiritual edification and growth, are denoted by these foolish virgins. Those who always struggle to gain only material things that are required for the worldly life and does not try to become rich in Godliness, are foolish in the sight of GOD.

Luke 12:
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?
21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Notice that, though they were holy and spotless (virgins) could not face the bridegroom because their lamps were extinguished and were rejected because they were late. Through this illustration we come to know that, it is not enough to be just saved once, but our salvation should
be worked out (maintained or endured to the end), otherwise we will be left in this earth and go to hell.

Matthew 24 :
13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

1 Peter 4:
18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Philippians 2:
12 ¶ Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

1 Timothy 4:
7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

Those foolish virgins also signify, Christian believers who are still spiritually babes lacking knowledge in the word of GOD, immature and weak in faith. Instead of praying personally and getting answers to their problems, such believers will go to others and ask them to pray for them. There is nothing wrong in asking others to pray but prior to that we must have personally wrestled in prayer to get the answer. Such believers, who are denoted by foolish virgins, always depend on other’s prayers, other’s faith, other’s knowledge of the word and other’s revelations.

Hebrew 5:
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.

1 Corinthians 3:
1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

Some boast about themselves that they have lived 20, 30, 40 years of spiritual life. But when they have a small headache, they will go to the pastor and ask for prayer. It is not wrong to desire for the prayers of men of GOD. But asking God’s servants to pray, just for small things, implies immaturity of your spirit. Perhaps you might have lived 30 years of spiritual life, but, just your body have grown 30 years old and your spirit is still young, and in the same level as it was, when you were just born again. If you are so, you are a good example for those foolish virgins. Such will make use of revival meetings and Sunday worships just to ignite their spirits again and again and will not grow from glory to glory. They will try to do the same thing in the day of the LORD. Those foolish virgins went to buy oil from the sellers and as they went the bridegroom came and they were left out. In that hour of the Lord’s day there will be no time to seek for anybody to pray for us. In that hour we must have grown to such a height that we will be able to pray personally as the HOLY SPIRIT leads and get in to trans, ecstasy, fullness of the spirit, in order to be caught up and be with the LORD in heaven forever.

1 Thessalonians 4:
17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Point 6:

Matthew 25:
6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

1 Corinthians 15:
52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:
16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

All the verses mentioned above tell us one thing, that is, in the hour of the coming of the LORD there will be a shout or an alarm. And as we see that all of those ten virgins rose up by hearing the alarm, we perceive that every believer will hear that alarm sounding in their spirits.

We can say, on the basis of these verses, that, the event of the coming of the LORD begins with this shout or alarm. So, let us try to understand what is meant by this shout or alarm? That shout will not say ‘I am coming again’, ‘coming soon’ or ‘HE comes’, instead, it is “HE has come” or “Behold, the bridegroom comes”. It denotes present tense and not future tense. Therefore, it is
obvious that this shout is nothing but the alarming voice of the HOLY SPIRIT which sounds in the spirit of every believer. This can happen only in that hour of that day and never before that. Therefore the word of GOD says: “.......Walk in the Spirit.......” (Galatians5:16). Walking in the spirit means to follow the voice of the HOLY SPIRIT who speaks in our spirit and obeying immediately to do some spiritual activity like praying, reading the word, praising etc., as HE inspires us to do.

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

If we are able to hear and perceive the voice of the HOLY SPIRIT in our hearts and obey immediately then only we will be able to hear that shout or alarm in our spirits, become ready, get resurrected and be with HIM forever as God’s children. Those who are unable to hear the alarm can not be ready and will be left on this earth to be punished in the lake of fire.

Point 7:
Mathew 25:
7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
“Trimmed their lamps” is meant by trimming and arranging the wick of the lamp so that it will glow with full brightness. In Greek the word ‘KOSMEO’ is used for ‘trimming’. This word has got meanings like ‘decorate’, ‘adorn’, ‘garnish’ and ‘put in proper order’. These meanings show that we have to be transformed from the natural realm in to a state of trance, in to spiritual realm and to fullness of the Spirit. But those, who are already dead and rested in the LORD, do not need such a transformation because they have already freed from this body and are in the spirit and will be resurrected prior to us.

1 Thessalonians 4:
16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Romans 6:
7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

We should know and understand that this is the most important and precious occasion in our life. Because in that one hour, if we just be little negligent and reckless, know that, our plight will be as worst as those five foolish virgins.

Romans 12:
11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.

This is the hour in which we should be more diligent and awakened than in any other moment of our life. No body knows which day and hour it is. It can be known only in that hour. Therefore you should be diligent, sober and vigilant and should not be a bit reckless and negligent, each and every day, regarding your spirit.

Those wise virgins had enough oil therefore they prepared their lamps so that it burned with full brightness and when the bridegroom appeared they went in with HIM. But the foolish ones, though they trimmed, their lamps were extinguishing for lack of oil. So, they went to the sellers to buy oil. Before they could come back, the bridegroom came and the door was closed.

Whoever is matured in their spirits, engaged in the edification, feeding their spirits enough, will get in to fullness of the Spirit (trans) and be resurrected in that hour. They do not need any revival meeting or prayer meeting to get in to fullness of spirit. But whoever is spiritually immature and is still a baby Christian, will seek somebody for prayer or some revival meeting to get in to fullness of the Spirit. Such people can be revived only while praying with others or attending some revival meeting or attending Sunday worship. Therefore they will go searching for somebody to get prayed for or any revival meeting or any pastor or any worship gathering, like those foolish virgins went to buy oil. But we understand, through this parable of ten virgins, that, there will be no time to seek somebody’s help and we have to help ourselves in that hour. This parable of ten virgins is being told purposefully that we should be aware of what is going to happen in that very hour of HIS coming.

The foolish virgins ask wise virgins to share their oil. But wise virgins, denying, say “there may not be enough for us and you”. One may think that these wise virgins are selfish in denying to share oil with others! Certainly not! It actually shows their responsibility regarding their lamps and meeting the bridegroom. Perhaps, if they had shared their oil, there would have been an embarrassing situation that no body would be there to meet the bridegroom because all of their lamps might have been extinguished. So it was their responsibility, to see that such an embarrassing situation should not arise, and that was the reason for refusing to share their oil. Because in that hour
of that day of the LORD, everyone has to give full attention for the salvation of their own soul. Therefore, it is very important to know that, there will be nobody to help us regarding our salvation in that very hour of HIS coming. Bible says in the book of Ezekiel 14:14 to 16, that, though three great Godly men like Noah, Daniel, Job were present in that day, they would have just saved their own souls and could not save even their own families through their Godliness.

**Resurrection of the body:**

We should know that it is our body which has to be resurrected in that hour. Because, the bible says that we are already resurrected in our spirit.

Colossians 2:

1. Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Colossians 3:

1. If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Corinthians 5:

1. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

All these verses which are mentioned above say that we are already transformed and have become new persons in our spirit. Therefore in the day of the LORD our mortal body also will put on immortality. So in that hour our whole body has to be transformed into glorious body.

If you have attended any healing meeting, remember the rime when the man of GOD prays for the healing at the end. The whole area will be filled with the presence of GOD and both, the person who prays and those who want be healed will be in the spiritual realm being revived in the spirit at that instance. Then only, the healing can take place. Because this work is done entirely through the power of the HOLY SPIRIT and therefore, such a revival, presence of GOD and spiritual atmosphere is necessary. In a healing meeting only a part of the body will be healed, that is, the sick part of the body becomes healed or restored back to its original healthy condition. But in that hour of the coming of the LORD, just think, how much more anointing, revival and spiritual atmosphere is required when our whole body has to be transformed from mortality to immortality and from natural to glorious.

Those who are living matured spiritual life, can began to pray and get in to spiritual realm, in any moment, immediately when the HOLY SPIRIT inspires and will be resurrected in that hour. At the same time, if any body needs a prayer meeting or Sunday worship or another person’s prayer, in order to get in to spiritual realm, in that critical hour, such will be rejected as those foolish virgins were.

**Be Lead by the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD**

Nobody needs to be disappointed, thinking that it is very hard to prepare so much to meet the LORD in HIS coming. It is really impossible for man but everything is possible for GOD. Once, when JESUS explained HIS disciples, how difficult it is, for the rich people, to enter in to God’s kingdom, disciples said “Who then can be saved?” then JESUS answered and said “this is impossible with men; but with God all things are possible”.

Matthew 19:

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Notice what JESUS had said to HIS disciples. We can understand through the words of JESUS, that, we can not prepare ourselves with our own strength for HIS coming. Therefore a helper, who is the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD Himself, is promised and given to us.

2 Corinthians 3:

18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Eliezer (Genesis 15:2), Abraham’s servant, goes in search of a girl for Isaac, finds Rebekah, adorns her with precious ornaments of gold and brings her to Isaac the son of a rich man Abraham, that he may accept her as his own wife (24th chapter of Genesis). In the same way HOLY SPIRIT will adorn the church with HIS gifts and fruits and presents it before the Lamb of GOD, to be HIS wife.
Revelation 21:
9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.

It is the responsibility of the HOLY SPIRIT. Our responsibility here is just obedience. Just as Rebekah obeyed and went behind Abraham’s servant, we should also be lead by the HOLY SPIRIT and obey HIS voice immediately, in order to meet our bridgroom in that hour, with out any wrinkles and spots. This is not an impossible task, because we have a helper who is the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD Himself.

John 14 :
16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.
17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

That day, when Eliezer, Abraham’s servant, asked Rebekah for water, she not only gave him water immediately but also went swiftly to bring water for his camels, for he had made a decision that the girl who will do so will become Isaac’s wife. So also the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD takes those who obey HIS voice immediately and proceed swiftly to do whatever HE asks, and adorns them with HIS gifts (the power of GOD) and fruits (the characteristics of GOD), and presents them before the Lamb of GOD to be HIS wife forever, in HIS coming.

Galatians 5 :
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

1 Corinthians 13 :
4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;
6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

Ephesians 4 :
7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.
Romans 12 :
6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

1 Corinthians 12 :
8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

Therefore, with the help of the HOLY SPIRIT, being washed by the blood of JESUS and HIS word, living a holy life, let us prepare ourselves for the resurrection in the hour of HIS coming, which happens absolutely unexpectedly.

May GOD bless you. Amen.

Matthew 25:
6 ......Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.
OUR VISION

• Every Christian should live a true Christian life very diligently and seriously.
• Every true Christian should preach the gospel through witnessing life, because it is the only powerful and effective way to preach the gospel in this chaotic world.