

The Time Is Short

“What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.” (1 Corinthians 7:29-31)

Friend, do you know that we are counting toward the end? We are at the end of times; we are approaching the end of everything. About 2000 years ago our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ appeared as a man, born to a virgin and grew up as a child, and shared in our humanity: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.” (2 Corinthians 8:9) Jesus Christ said, “I have come so that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10:10b) Jesus took our sins and He paid the price of our unrighteousness. He died on the cross and gave His life for us. “God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21) After Christ’s death on the cross He was buried, but on the third day He rose from the grave to fulfill what is written: “The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations.” (Luke 24:46-47) “After His suffering, He showed Himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke to them about the Kingdom of God.” (Acts 1:3) After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11)

Surely the Lord Jesus Christ is coming again to judge the world and to take us, we who belong to Him and are ready at His coming, to the place that He has prepared. Jesus promised: *“In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” (John 14:2-3)* For all of us who are patiently waiting and are ready to meet Him in the air, it will be a glorious day. But it will be a dreadful day to those who are away from Him; to those who walk according to their own ways and personal wish and motives. Likewise it will be a drastic day for those who are living the ungodly life and are involved in the wickedness of this world – those who practice immorality, idolatry, witchcraft, corruption and injustices in this world. They will experience the great tribulations. *“For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now- and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no-one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.” (Matthew 24: 21-22)*

Certainly the coming of Jesus is imminent. The time of waiting is now short and even becoming shorter every day. What is said in the Scriptures are obviously happening:

- 1) **Those who have wives should live as if they had none:** Many families are breaking down. Husbands neglect their wives and children while they are involved in worldly affairs. This is not what God desires. It is God’s command for husbands to love their wives and also not to neglect their commitment to Christ. Husbands should not only give pleasure to their wives but to give pleasure to God. They should not be busy with family affairs only but must prepare their children spiritually at the coming of the Lord.
- 2) **Those who mourn as if they did not:** If we received Jesus as our Lord and Savior we have eternal life so nothing should cause us to mourn. While we are waiting for His second coming we should rejoice: *“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)*
- 3) **Those who are happy as if they were not:** We are happy if we get new or better jobs; we are happy if we receive scientific certificate or we are qualified for high positions, wealth or estates. But if we know the truth and we accept the fact that all these will perish and will end, such things will never make us happy. Instead we have but only one reason to be happy: *“But rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)*
- 4) **Those who buy something as if it were not theirs to keep:** We who trusts in the Lord and awaits for His coming has no more desire to collect material things. God provides our needs and we are satisfied. We desire to glorify God rather than to be enslaved by material riches. *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)*
- 5) **Those who use the things of the world as if not engrossed in them:** While we are living in this world we work a secular job and we use the things of this world. But we should not allow these things to pull us away from God and to drown us. We should not embrace the futile worldly desire, *for this world in its present form is passing away.*

My dear and beloved: The hour has come for us to wake up from deep slumber. Our salvation is now and our complete sanctification is far nearer than when we first believed. The night is nearly over and the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

My Prayer: *“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me eternal life. Lord, I commit myself into your mighty hand. Sanctify me and lead me to eternal glory. I want to live with You and to live for You. Help me to be prepared and ready at Your coming. Thank You, Lord, for your love and your faithfulness. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*