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Bible Explorations Newsletter

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FEAST OF TABERNACLES 2020

What a wonderful week it was! We had 6 presentations a day, except the two Sabbaths we had 5. They were watched by many via our live zoom broadcast and YouTube, Roku, etc. We do not have them available on DVD however, if you want to see them, go to our YouTube channel, www.BibleExplorations.com/YT and you can find them all there! They are listed by the speaker's name and also in various playlists. If you want any powerpoint slides from LuAnne Larson's talks (health, emergency dental care, etc.) you can email her or Bible Explorations (LuAnne is WranglerLuAnne@gmail.com). For Charmaine's you can email Bible Explorations (info@BibleExplorations.com) or go to our facebook group page for Bible Explorations.

Clinton Schultz began each morning with a great talk

about knowing Jesus more. They were very spiritual and a great way to begin each morning.

Solomon Khunou from South Africa had 8 must watch talks (see his article in this newsletter). We had 2 from Hein de Wit also from South Africa, one about finances for Christians today. Shama Stock had 6 that are great for kids, but also adults, helping understand the Revelation Mountain. Be sure to watch those and also see her website for a lot of great things for kids at RevelationForKids.com.

We also had presentations from Wayne Wright, Abel Camacho, Keith Bond, Melissa Jordan, Charmaine Vierra (2 were food demos from Enoch's Oasis in Nevada), Lem Ramirez, and Randy Brehms, too. It was a very spiritual and educational packed week!

Hopefully by our next camp meeting (Passover April 26, 2021 through May 3, 2021) we will be able to be live in Terra Bella again! If for some reason we are not, we WILL have it via zoom again! We also continue to have our prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings (5 p.m. Pacific) on zoom and for now Sabbath School and Church, too. Just go to www.BibleExplorations.com/zoom to find us!

We learned a lot this week. Time is short and we need to spread His word to a very hungry, scared and desperate world. Please continue to support Bible Explorations with prayers and donations as this old

world winds down! His coming is soon, we want everyone to have the chance to know Him and be ready.

STUDY OF REVELATION 11

By Elder John VanDenburgh with Ellen White

“Until Christ shall appear in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory, men will become perverse in spirit, and turn from the truth to fables. The church will yet see troublous times. She will prophecy in sackcloth.” 4T594 (Rev 11:3)

“And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.” Rev 11:3 (KJV) (1260 days)

“Let all who would understand the meaning of these things read the eleventh chapter of Revelation.” Letter 158, May 10, 1906.

“Solemn events before us are yet to transpire. Trumpet after trumpet is to be sounded, vial after vial poured out one after another upon the inhabitants of the earth.” 7BC982 (Rev 11 is 6th trumpet)

NOTE: Both trumpet after trumpet and vial after vial refer to events before us. If the vials refer to the 7 last plagues, then the sounds yet to transpire refer to the 7 trumpets.

“...the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution,...all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.” (Ed. 228 *May I suggest similar and more complete?*)

Speaking of the coming destruction of cities she wrote: “Let all who would understand the meaning of these things read the eleventh chapter of Revelation. Read every verse, and learn the things that are yet to take place in the cities. Read also the scenes portrayed in the eighteenth chapter of the same book.” Letter 158 May 10, 1906.

Evidently, the same things that happened to France during her revolution will be going on in the cities of the world, as the loud cry of Revelation 18 and the trauma of the 6th trumpet (Rev. 11) is being repeated with world-wide emphasis. (Similar and more complete.)

Taking her advice to read every verse of Chapter 11 will no doubt give us a lot more insight regarding things that are yet to take place.

“It cannot now be said by the Lord’s servants, as it was by the prophet Daniel: ‘the time appointed was long.’ Dan 10:1 It is now but a short time till the witnesses for God will have done their work in preparing the way of the Lord.” 6T406

Probable synopsis: originally, in reference to the time of the French Revolution, Ellen White named the two



witnesses (Daniel & Revelation) as the Old and New Testament. In the rest of this chapter she wrote considerably of the two tables of the Law. In MS10, 1900 she calls Daniel and Revelation two witnesses.

Some say the two witnesses are the Word and the Holy Spirit. Actually, all are correct. The old and new Testament are the Word, and the Holy Spirit inspired these writings as well as the preaching of them. The final remnant of the church witness of them with force, and the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation shed the most light on their work, as well as the message to be preached. Their witness will confirm the fact that God’s people are to keep the two tables of the Law and have the faith of Jesus.

It appears that two lampstands are predominately Smyrna and Philadelphia with a faithful remnant of the other five grafted in. Smyrna, who will have a crown of life, and Philadelphia will understand, as no other group, the promise of His quick coming. Thank God, two lampstands remain intact as Revelation 11 draws very near to the close of probation.

Verse 6 is a reference to Moses and Elijah. Their experience does parallel the two final witnessing forces in the remnant church. Both were faithful teachers of God’s law and grace. Moses died on the verge of entering the promised land, and was resurrected in a special resurrection. (Jude 9) (Dan. 12:2) Elijah, on the other hand, did not die at all. He was translated.

MORE THAN DANIEL AND REVELATION

Ellen White talked on many Scriptures in addition to Daniel and Revelation that will have last day applications:

“Habakkuk 2:1, 2; 2:3-20; Zephaniah 1:1-3; Zechariah 1:1-4, 14; Malachi 1:1-4 quoted. “These scenes will soon be witnessed, just as they are clearly described. I present these wonderful statements from the Scriptures for the consideration of everyone. The prophecies recorded in the Old Testament are the word of the Lord for the last days, and will be fulfilled as surely as we have seen the desolation of San Francisco.” Letter 154, May 12, 1906

“I ask our people to study the 28th chapter of Ezekiel. The representation here made, while it refers primarily to Lucifer, the fallen angel, has yet a broader significance. Not one being, but a general movement is described. One that we shall witness.” Special Testimonies Series B No. 17, p. 30; 4BC1162

“(2nd Thess 2:7, 8; Ezek 28:2, 6-10 quoted) The time is fast approaching when this scripture will be fulfilled. The world and the professedly Protestant churches are in this our day taking sides with the man of sin...the great issue that is coming will be on the seventh-day Sabbath.” RH April 19, 1898; 3RHA561

Note her futuristic remarks regarding 2 Thessalonians and Rev. 12 and 13:

“...And Satan unites with Protestants and Papists (obviously future), acting in consort with them as the god of this world, dictating to men as if they were the subjects of his kingdom, to be handled and governed and controlled as he pleases. If men will not agree to trample under foot the commandments of God, the spirit of the dragon is revealed. They are imprisoned, brought before councils, and fined. ‘He causeth all,



both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.’ ‘He had power to give life unto the

image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.’ Thus Satan usurps the prerogative of Jehovah. The man of sin sits in the seat of God, proclaiming himself to be God, and acting above God.” Letter 28, 1900; Maranatha, The Lord is Coming, page 191.

NOTE: The future tense is even more prevalent in the following paragraph. Here she ties the 12th, 13th, and

14th chapters together, putting them all in the future tense.

“The remnant people of God are to endure persecutions. ‘And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus.’ They are to give the warning message against the power represented by ‘the beast’. The prophet says of this power, which represents the Papacy: ‘There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindred and tongues and nations, and all that dwell on this earth shall worship him whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. The remnant church of God is to give the warning of the third angel to the world: ‘If any man worship the beast and his image and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation.’” ST June 18, 1894; 3STA 125, 126.

“The Sabbath question will be the issue in the great conflict in which all the world will act a part. (Rev. 13:4-8, 10 quoted). This entire chapter is a revelation of what will surely take place. (Rev. 13:3, 15-17 quoted) MS88, 1897; 7BC1106.

The scenes of the betrayal, the rejection, and the crucifixion of Christ have been re-enacted, and will again be re-enacted on an immense scale.” RH January 10, 1900, 5BC1106.

TIME TO REMEMBER, TIME TO DECIDE, WHICH DEALS WITH MALACHI 4:4, 5

By Ted Schultz

When the law was given the people feared for their lives. The leaders of the tribes came to Moses saying, “If we hear the voice of the LORD our God any more we shall die. Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear it, and do it.” Deut. 5:25, 27. The Lord heard and granted their request and instructed the people to go to their tents. Moses was instructed to remain and

write the law as the Lord delivered it to him. “But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess it.” Deut. 5:31. We see then that Moses was the writer of the law but Christ was its author. “He [Moses] wrote all the words of the Lord in a book, that they might be referred to afterward. In the mount he had written them as Christ Himself dictated them.” *Manuscript Releases*, Vol. 1, p. 114. These words were not just for ancient Israel. They are for us as well. “The words of Moses to Israel concerning the statutes and judgments of the Lord, are also the word of God to us.” *Signs of the Times*, March 21, 1895.

“In consequence of continual transgression, the moral law was repeated in awful grandeur from Sinai. Christ gave to Moses religious precepts which were to govern everyday life. These statutes were explicitly given to guard the ten commandments. They were not shadowy types to pass away with the death of Christ. They were to be binding upon men in every age as long as time should last. These commands were enforced by the power of the moral law, and they clearly and definitely explained that law.” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, Ellen G. White Comments, Vol. 7-A, p. 1104.

A false exaltation of Christ

“Christ, to enforce the will of His Father, became the author of the statutes and precepts given through Moses to the people of God. Christians who extol Christ, but array themselves against the law governing the Jewish church, array Christ against Christ.” *Review and Herald*, May 6, 1875.

The 1888 controversy

The matter of the law of Moses and the law of God was one of the controverted issues at the time of the 1888 General Conference session in Minneapolis. In 1886 General Conference president G. I. Butler published his book *The Law in the Book of Galatians* in which he writes of “the abolished law of Moses.” E. J. Waggoner responded to Butler’s book by publishing his book *The Gospel in the Book of Galatians*. Though Waggoner did not release his book until after the 1888 conference he did speak on the subject at the conference. “At 9 a.m. Elder E. J.



Waggoner gave a lesson on the law and the gospel...He stated incidentally that ‘the law of Moses’ and ‘the law of God’ were not distinctive terms as applied to the ceremonial and the moral laws...Appeals were made...to put away all spirit of prejudice and opposition...” *1888 General Conference Bulletin*, October 19, 1888, page 2. Waggoner, in his book, labored to clarify the confusion that was coming in at the time about the law of Moses. “The moral law was spoken by the Lord with an audible voice, from the fire and smoke of Sinai. The ten commandments are *all* that were given in this manner (Deut. 5:22), and *they alone* were written on tables of stone by the finger of God. The ceremonial law was given in a more private manner. This certainly forbids any confusion. Both the moral and the ceremonial law, however, are, as we have seen in the texts quoted, said to have been given by the hand of Moses, and both were written in the book of the law. But there is still this distinction, that the ceremonial law was written *only in the book*, while the moral law was written on the tables of stone, with the finger of God, and also in a book. That the term, ‘law of Moses,’ does sometimes refer to the ten commandments, will be evident to anyone who will carefully read Deut. 4:44 to 5:22 and onward; Josh. 23:6, 7; 1 Kings 2:3, 4; 2 Kings 23:24, 25, etc. See also ‘Great Controversy,’ [S.O.P.] vol. 2, pp. 217, 218, beginning with the last paragraph on page 217. On the other hand, the term ‘the law of the Lord’ is applied to the ceremonial ordinances. For instance, see Luke 2:23, 24. Thus the terms, ‘the law of Moses,’ and ‘the law of the Lord,’ are used interchangeably of both laws.” *The Gospel in the Book of Galatians*, p. 35. (Italics are Waggoner’s).

The law and the gospel are to be blended

Waggoner’s blending of the law and the gospel did not go unnoticed by Ellen White. Repeatedly she gave endorsement to Waggoner’s and Jones’ messages. “The Lord in His great mercy sent a most precious message to His people through Elders Waggoner and Jones. This message was to bring more prominently before the world the uplifted Saviour, the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. It presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God. Many had lost sight of Jesus. They needed to have their eyes directed to His divine person, His merits, and His changeless love for the human family. All power is given into His hands, that He may dispense rich gifts unto men, imparting the

priceless gift of His own righteousness to the helpless human agent. This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel's message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure." *1888 Materials*, pp. 1336, 1337.

Amazingly, this most precious message given by means of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was declared to be fanaticism and a delusion. "Some felt annoyed at this outpouring, and their own natural disposition was manifested. They said, 'This is only excitement; it is not the Holy Spirit, not showers of the latter rain from heaven.' There were hearts full of unbelief, who did not drink in of the Spirit, but who had bitterness in their souls. On many occasions the Holy Spirit did work; but those who resisted the Spirit of God at Minneapolis were waiting for a chance to travel over the same ground again, because their spirit was the same. Afterward, when they had evidence heaped upon evidence, some were convicted; but those who were not softened and subdued by the Holy Spirit's working, put their own interpretation upon every manifestation of the grace of God, and they lost much. They declared in their heart and soul and words that this manifestation of the Holy Spirit was fanaticism and delusion." "But all the universe of heaven witnessed the disgraceful treatment of Jesus Christ represented by the Holy Spirit. Had Christ been before them, they would have treated him in a manner similar to that in which the Jews treated Christ." *Special Testimonies for Ministers and Workers*, Series A, No. 6, pp. 19, 20.

Despising heaven sent light

Just as the Israelites despised the statutes and judgments of the Lord, so modern Israel despised both the men and the message that God sent at the beginning of the loud cry and the latter rain in 1888. "I would speak in warning to those who have stood for years resisting light and cherishing the spirit of opposition. How long will you hate and despise the messengers of God's righteous? God has given them His message. They bear the word of the Lord....But



there are those who despised the men and the message they bore.

They have taunted them with being fanatics, extremists, and enthusiasts. Let

me prophesy unto you: Unless you speedily humble

your hearts before God, and confess your sins, which are many, you will, when it is too late, see that you have been fighting against God....Your turning of things upside down is known of the Lord. Go on a little longer as you have gone and you are lost." *Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 96, 97.

In 1888 the third angel's message was beginning to sound under the mighty power of the loud cry and the latter rain. There were two important things in play at that crucial time. First, the Holy Spirit was moving upon the hearts of the people. Second, the very message that was to be given during the latter rain and the loud cry was being given. These two gifts from heaven must be working together to prepare a people for the second coming of Jesus. But perhaps too often there has been prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit without the proper recognition that there are simply certain conditions to be met before that outpouring takes place. Those conditions are spelled out in the Word. "My doctrine shall drop as the rain." Deut. 32:2. The teachings of God's Word will play an indispensable role in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Not understanding the conditions as pointed out in the law, many came to regard the working of the Holy Spirit as "excitement," "fanaticism," and a "delusion." While it is true that we do not receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit through our obedience, it is equally true that we will not receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit without obedience. "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." Acts 5:32. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19. *(To be continued...)*

COVID-19 LESSONS FOR THE END-TIME-REMNANT by Dr. Pula Solomon Khunou

Today, at the time of writing this article, my home country of South Africa has exceeded more than 200 days of a national lockdown and I believe that this is the case with many other countries around the globe. As our planet is holding its breath with uncertainty, the little flock of the end-remnant can learn vital lessons that will be beneficial in preparing us for the days of the end. Indeed the Covid-19 experience is a dress rehearsal of what shall be just before the Son of Man comes.

I must, however, clarify from the onset that the purpose of this article is not to discuss whether covid-19 is a man-made virus, part of a plot by the illuminati to subdue to the world, a world depopulation agenda or even whether the covid-19 vaccines if and when they are tried will be part of the mark of the beast. The purpose of my short discussion is to draw lessons from as well as highlight parallels from this pandemic that are beneficial to us as a remnant people who I believe are living at the days of the end and are preparing for the second coming of Yeshua.

Lesson #1: The people shall be caught unaware

As it was with the beginning of the covid-19 crisis so shall it be with the soon to be experienced crises just before the second coming of Yeshua. The first lesson is that the people, yea the whole world will be caught unaware. Matthew 25:1-5 in the KJV captures this lesson of unpreparedness by saying “Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. ²And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. ³They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: ⁴But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.”. Notice that ALL slumbered and slept. Applying it to the end-times we can say all (both the saved and the lost) will not be aware of the exact date of the approaching crises.



Lesson # 2: Things will happen rapidly

Those living in the period that ushers in the coming of the bride-groom Yeshua, will be overwhelmed and caught “unaware” because things will happen at such a rapid pace that someone who fell in a coma at the start of the “end” days will not be able to recognize the world when he wakes up six months later. Ellen White captures these sudden movements by the following statement: “*The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.*” (Testimonies Vol 1, p11) Indeed, who would have thought that in a space of 3½ months (from Mid-February 2020 to end of May 2020) almost all countries on earth would be under lockdown, with restricted domestic and international travel? No one knew that in such a

short space of time we would willingly give up our civil liberties, our right to assemble freely, our right to worship and even our right to trade and make a living without even putting up a fight? Our loss of freedom during covid-19 was rapid and what is alarming is that we willingly gave up those freedoms. It seems as if “someone” was testing to see how fast they can control the mind of earth’s citizens without firing a single shot. In a similar fashion people in the end –time will willingly give up everything because they were told to do so.

Lesson # 3: The economy and means of livelihoods can be devastated in an instant

The rapid pace of the way how things happened at the beginning of the pandemic is a dress rehearsal of how in the end times we will not be able to buy or sell as we wish (see Revelation 13). Under Covid-19 the world was told what was essential and what was not. In South Africa were even told who could sell and what items he could sell! Many “financially independent” individuals were instant paupers because they could not trade or make a living. Their livelihoods were at the stroke of a pen or a single pronouncement.

Lesson # 4: Covid-19 exposed many to be over-dependent on the state

Lesson 3 is actually closely related to lesson 4. Due to the financial ruin of the world discussed above, it has become clear that many are over-dependent on the state. Many of us are over dependent on the state and the “system” that lulls us into a false sense of security saying, “Peace and safety,” while destruction is at hand (Thessalonians 5:1-3). The troubling questions that also serve as lessons during Covid-19 were as follows:

- (i) Are the remnant people financially self-sufficient? This is an important issue because many are likely to receive the mark of the beast because they will need to “take care” of their families (earn a living) and so receive the mark willingly
- (ii) Do we have humble homes in the country as advised by the inspired writings?
- (iii) Do we have the skills and means to survive for months without employment or having to compromise our faith? Furthermore, is our knowledge of the health message able to sustain us even without modern medical facilities or medical insurance that is controlled by the systems that will soon deny the “defaulters” the right to medical care?

Lesson # 5: Covid-19 is a reminder that the end-time remnant must get out of debt

The experience of the fast eroding middle-class found in the developed and developing world is a reminder that the end-time remnant should get out of debt and do so fast. Many people experienced psychological trauma during the lockdown due to debt in addition to the covid-19 crisis itself. The end-time remnant was long counselled by Ellen White to avoid debt, yet it took the Covid-19 crisis to remind us of this ideal as we prepare for “the” real crisis of the close of this earth’s history. A few quotes of hers suffice to drive home the need of a debt free life:

Shun debt as you would shun leprosy

“There must be a strict regard to economy or a heavy debt will be incurred. Keep within bounds. **Shun the incurring of debt as you would shun leprosy.**”— Ellen G. White, *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 272.1

Owe no man anything

“Make a solemn covenant with God that by His blessing **you will pay your debts and then owe no man anything** if you live on porridge and bread. It is so easy in preparing your table to throw out of your pocket twenty-five cents for extras. Take care of the pennies, and the dollars will take care of themselves. It is the mites here and the mites there that are spent for this, that, and the other, that soon run up into dollars. Deny self at least while you are walled in with debts...Do not falter, be discouraged, or turn back. Deny your taste, deny the indulgence of appetite, save your pence and pay your debts. Work them off as fast as possible. **When you can stand forth a free man again, owing no man anything, you will have achieved a great victory.**”— CS p. 257.

Count the cost

“**There are men who do not move wisely.** They are anxious to make a large appearance. They think that outward display will give them influence. **In their work, they do not first sit down and count the cost, to see whether they are able to finish what they have begun.** Thus they show their weakness. They show that they have much to learn in regard to the necessity of moving carefully and guardedly. **In their self-confidence they make many mistakes. Thus some have received harm from which they will never recover.**” CS 273.1

Lesson # 6: Covid-19 is a reminder that we need to be spiritually prepared for the coming crisis: Using the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25,

we can safely say many Christians had no reserve oil in their lamps when the lockdown was implemented worldwide. Remembering that the parable of the ten virgins is about preparedness or lack thereof of the



Church when the Bridegroom (the Lord) returns for His Bride and wedding party (His people), we now need to wake up from our slumber because next

time it will not be a Covid-19 “dress rehearsal”, but the real thing! If anything sunk into my mind during the lockdown, it was the need for me to be spiritually prepared to stand alone during the time of Jacob’s trouble, which is yet to come.

The spiritual condition of the church during the hard lock down was very telling. There were many missed opportunities to reassure the world about the ever-present God and his self-sufficiency. We missed an opportunity to capitalize on the three angel’s message and to correct the current false doctrines that speculate about the mark of the beast. We failed to leverage on our health message that is so compatible with the current health advice from the secular governments on staying healthy during the lock down. Missed opportunities!

Lesson #7: Covid-19 presented future possibilities for correcting present failure

In as much as Covid-19 exposed the lack of preparedness of most if not all of us – from national governments to churches and individuals – it also presented future opportunities of correcting our mistakes. I can think of a few such opportunities.

- **Opportunity to re-evaluate our spirituality and prepare for the future crisis:** Fortunately Covid-19 is not the very end of the world. It could be the beginning of the birth pangs. Even a casual reader of the Bible can realize that there will be many other crises yet to come so the present one is just but the beginning. This then is our opportunity to “redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). We need to make haste and weep with bitter tears in order for us not to lose our place in the kingdom. We need to fill our reserve tanks of oil for our lamps and pray unceasingly for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Ellen White counsels, “*Impress upon all the necessity of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the sanctification of the members of the church so*

that they may be living, growing, fruit-bearing trees of the Lord's planting." (Testimonies, vol. 6 p.86). Should we fail to grab this window of opportunity, we may find ourselves joining the cry of regret in Jeremiah 8: 20, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

- **Opportunity to evangelize widely by use of modern technology:** The emergence of virtual sermons that can be preached without travelling has afforded us with an opportunity to preach wider and more cheaply than we did before Covid-19. The restraints by church boards that have to "vote" and "allow" a preacher to conduct evangelistic meetings in "their" territory have been broken. Preachers can no longer be "banned" from the pulpit or told when, where, to whom and what they must preach if technology such as Facebook, YouTube, Zoom, etc. is used to its fullest.
- **Opportunity to spend less recklessly and reprioritize lives:** with less travelling and its associated expenses, Covid-19 has taught us to "be still and know that he is God", to spend less money and to separate wants from needs, greed from need and like ants to "labor and save provisions for the winter" (*Prov. 6:6-8*).
- **Opportunity to home school:** To the doubtful and those who until now did not believe that home schooling is possible, Covid-19 has indeed proven that children can be taught from the safety of our homes; far from the influences of the secular world. Perhaps this can be a reassurance to those who are aspiring to "get out of the cities" that education in the country is possible.
- **Opportunity for house churches:** Being under more than 200 days of not stepping into a church building has been an opportunity to train the end-time remnant that house churches will soon be a permanent feature of our future. When church buildings and our institutions are taken over by the powers that be, home churches will be our only refuge – at least before we run to the mountains and solitary places. In light of this, we need to get used to having services at "home", to evangelize those that cannot enter a church building but can come to our homes. The Christian religion in general and Adventism in particular began with house churches, and I predict that it will end on house churches just before Yeshua returns to take us home.

In conclusion, we can say the Covid-19 pandemic changed the world forever. Within a few months

since it reared its ugly head who would have thought that we would be banned from attending church, a freedom outlined by the first amendment and in many constitutions of the free world, as our individual rights were systematically stripped away during an enforced quarantine? In America, it was reported that about one-third of the prison population was released, but business owners were incarcerated for working. This pattern was replicated around the world. Reacting to this double standard, one exasperated South African radio listener reacted, "I don't think it's a good idea. We can't release prisoners from prison then arrest people who are breaking the lockdown regulations. It does not make sense!"

We have seen the world economy sink to the lowest level since the Great Depression, while power-hungry dictators trample our freedoms, took advantage of the traumatized societies, in an extended crisis intended to crush the hope of the people. This, however, is not yet "it". The worst is coming and it will sweep away the unprepared. Covid-19 is a dress rehearsal for what is to come. In preparation for this future the words of Yeshua are of good comfort, "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, **Watch.**" (Mark 13:35-37 KJV).





Most of you know we are on Roku and our website 24/7. We are also live every Wednesday night (5pm Pac time) for prayer meeting and Sabbath mornings (9:45 a.m.) on Roku and YouTube and also on zoom. Join us at <https://zoom.us/j/84276933892>. Join us if you can on zoom, or just watch all of this live on YouTube, <https://m.youtube.com/BibleExplorations> or Roku or www.BibleExplorations.com. We look forward to "seeing" you all weekly! Call or email for more info. We are family and God is ALWAYS in control! Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread is April 26 through May 3, 2021.

