

THE SPIRIT'S CALL (Revelation 3:22)

Revelation 1:1-3; 22:7, 20 Notice that God says “the time is at hand.” It has been some two thousand years since John wrote those words. We who trust in God's word must feel that we are moving swiftly to the consummation of God's eternal program. The Spirit tells us to prepare now for eternity!

THE CALL TO DRAW NEAR

Hebrews 10:19-22 “Drawing near” is not a physical act. It can be done standing still, while in a hospital bed, or while sitting in a church pew. It is directing our heart into the very presence of God.

Hebrews 10:14 Notice in verse 19 “therefore”. This directs us back to the truths said before. God has “perfected us”, that is to say He has given us 'the condition of complete excellence, or without defect.'

Hebrews 10:17 Do we stay away from drawing near because of our past or present sins? God promises that He will not call them to our remembrance ever again because He forgives and forgets!

Hebrews 10:22 Notice God wants us to draw near in sincerity of heart, without “an evil conscience” because when our conscience reminds us constantly of our sins it is “The Old Man” of the flesh and Satan reminding us of our unworthiness, it is not God reminding us, He doesn't see any sin in us!!

I Peter 3:18 We are reminded that we can draw near to God because Christ died for our sins.

Hebrews 4:16 To obtain the mercy and grace we need every day we need to draw near to God.

THE CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

Hebrews 10:23 All believers are called to be faithful. In God's economy or program being faithful does not automatically mean being successful. To be faithful is to be true to the gifts, abilities and opportunities God gives us and to leave the results with Him.

Hebrews 10:25 Believers are called by God to attend church services for the edification and for the spiritual growth we all need in order to become mature believers and faithful servants of Christ.

Hebrews 9:14; Romans 12:1 The Spirit calls every believer to be faithful in service for God. Our basic and most reasonable act of obedience is to give ourselves totally to God for whatever He wants.

I Corinthians 12:4-7 We are called to utilize the spiritual gifts that God gives to us within the local body of believers (the church). If we are not faithful in using our gift the general church body suffers.

Luke 16:10-13 We are called to be faithful with the money God allows us to use. The bible tells us that the love of money is “the root of all evil”, it does not tell us that money is fundamentally bad. We are to be faithful in paying bills, in tithing, in giving to others, in helping the church and missionaries.

Acts 1:8 All believers are called as ambassadors, ministers, and a faithful witnesses for Jesus Christ.

THE CALL TO PREPARE

Hebrews 10:24; II Corinthians 6:14-17; James 1:27 We are all called to prepare spiritually every day because we do not know the day or the hour of His coming. We are to spur each other on in Christ.

Matthew 25:19 We are to walk in the Spirit and be filled with the Spirit while waiting for Him.

Genesis 6:13-22; 41:54; Matthew 24; Acts 11:28-30 We are called to prepare physically for 'the last days'. God's prophecies tell us what is coming and how to prepare our families and church. Jesus Himself has warned us of wars, famines, earthquakes and weather disasters coming our way.

Luke 16:1-9 We are called to prepare financially for the last days. We are not told to hoard our money but we are to make use of the common sense and spiritual knowledge God gives us. Do not depend on the government when disaster comes, when the dollar fails, or when the banks close.