

## 2,4,21 That Which Must Precede the Rapture

Tonight, we're going to look at the events that take place prior to the Rapture; but this time, instead of just listing them, we're going to break them down and show the implications for the Body of Christ.

We will touch on Laodicea, because we want to see what the Scriptures say about the Church as a whole, but there will be an emphasis on the Lord's sovereign care of the remnant, because I believe the majority of you are in that group.

Finally, as introductory, we need to look at this passage in Daniel 12:1-4;

“At that time Michael shall stand up,  
The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;  
And there shall be a time of trouble,  
Such as never was since there was a nation,  
Even to that time.  
And at that time your people shall be delivered,  
Everyone who is found written in the book.  
And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,  
Some to everlasting life,  
Some to shame and everlasting contempt.  
Those who are wise shall shine  
Like the brightness of the firmament,  
And those who turn many to righteousness  
Like the stars forever and ever. “But you, Daniel,  
Shut up the words, and seal the book  
Until the time of the end;  
Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

It has always been a pattern with the Lord to hold some things hidden until the right time for them to be revealed. The truths sealed in Daniel refer to events that take place during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week.

But there are also truths that were hidden in the councils of God and not revealed until Paul and the apostles. The ones we are most familiar with are the Mystery doctrines of the body of Christ and the rapture; there are several others we won't take time to mention now.

For our study, we just need to keep in mind that throughout history the Lord reveals His plans progressively over time. And even in the Church Age, as we saw in detail when we studied the seven churches of Rev. 2 & 3, you can see a progressive unveiling of doctrines that previous generations did not fully understand.

Much of the eschatology we understand now, living in the final generation of Church history, was unobservable to previous generations. These present-day, Church-age realities, like much of Israel's eschatology, were, in a sense, sealed until our time.

World conditions needed to be developed before what we see in the predictions of the epistles and in the book of Revelation would make sense.

So, at our time in history, we're seeing the complete unfolding around us of the formation of the kingdom of Antichrist, which is preceded by the removal of the Church and the restraining influence of the Holy Spirit within her, so that the Antichrist kingdom, in all of its satanic glory, can rise to global power without resistance from Spirit's restraining influence.

The "Great Reset", planned and described by the World Economic Forum, is the architectural design of this satanic kingdom. And now that Biden is in office and the government of America is fully controlled by globalists, the global "reset" will move swiftly into fulfillment.

Which, of course, is a signal of how incredibly near we are to being taken out of this world.



So, now let's look at the pre-rapture events we can see taking place. I'll include several additional passages that document each of these events in the transcript I send to you tomorrow.

#### First, the regathering of Israel to their land

The rapture could not occur until the Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled regarding Israel's regathering.

(Ezek. 36:24-25; 37:1-14; Isa. 11:11-12; Jer. 16:14-15)

The rebirth of Israel signals the final generation, the one which will see the return of Christ (Matt. 24:32-34).

“Learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So, you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors. Assuredly, I say to you, *this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.*”

The reestablishment of Israel as a nation, which happened in 1948, set the stage for the coming of the Antichrist; it started the clock ticking on the last generation of this age.

When the Holy Spirit’s restraining influence is removed at the rapture, the Antichrist is revealed. And when he signs the peace agreement with Israel, the “time of Jacob’s trouble”, also known as “the day of the Lord”, will begin.

(Dan. 9:27; 12:1; Jer. 30:7; Zeph. 1:14-16)

Second, the two “until(s)” of Eph. 4:13 & Rom. 11:25 must be fulfilled

(Eph. 4:13), “(the Church will grow) *until* we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”

(Rom. 11:25), “that blindness in part has happened to Israel *until* the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.”

The ingathering of the gentiles is the evangelistic work of the Holy Spirit through the Body of Christ to reach all who are to be added to the Church prior to the end of the Church age.

Paul tells us in Eph. 4, that while this ‘coming in’ of the gentiles is being accomplished, the Spirit is also working to bring the Church to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

When both of these are completed, the Church will be pulled out and the Antichrist will reign for seven years during the tribulation period described in Rev. chapters 6 through 19.

We also know that the majority of Christians living at this time, leading up to the rapture, will be in a Laodicean state of spiritual apostasy, and that only remnant will understand what's happening and be able to withstand the deception that is covering our world.

As we look at the next two events, we'll be able to get a better Idea of what the apostasy looks like and how we can avoid it.

So, third, the apostasy of the Church must happen before the rapture

(2 Thess. 2:3), "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will *not* come unless the falling away comes first "

(2 Tim. 3:4,7; 4:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; 2 Pet. 3:3-4)

We are watching an unfolding of deception coming at us from a thousand directions.

For example; since Satan is the author of confusion and wants us to reach a place where we are so disillusioned by the multitude of narratives being thrown at us, we don't know who to trust any more.

I got pulled into some of that too, but because I actually *want* to know the truth instead of just believe an appealing or popular agenda, I snapped out of it.

The enemy has successfully deceived millions of believers into praying for, and anticipating, Trump's re-election, hoping to defeat the democrats and make American great again.

But this was not God's plan, because the United States is under judgment and will never be great again.

With just this one political deception alone, not even listing all the others, think about how many Christians and Christian organizations sincerely believed what turned out to be false.

Prophets by the hundreds prophesied a victory for Trump with "thus saith the Lord" dogmatism. Listen to these passages;

"But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you." (2 Pet. 2:1)

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.” (1 Jn. 4:1)

Also the prayers of the Christian patriots and conservatives. These prayers were answered – the answer was “no”; when we consider 1 Jn. 5:14, we know why He answered that way;

“And this is the confidence we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to God’s will, He hears us.”

They weren’t praying ‘according to God’s will’. America is not going to be saved and all the prayers in the world won’t change that.

Why did so many people think they would? They were out of sync with what the Lord is doing and they seemed to have no interest in finding out.

This country is now in hyperdrive in embracing and even celebrating that which God hates; from infanticide to the abolishment of God’s creation of two genders, to the worship of idols, the rise of Satanism and the occult, and the subjugation of our people to the lies and deception of the virus and the vaccine, which are intended to instill fear and bring about blind submission to the Marxist government now in charge of our country.

And none of this would have happened if the Church in America had not lost its spiritual and moral preservative characteristics.

(Matt. 5:13) “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”

That’s exactly what’s coming to the Laodicean Church, as we’ll see in a minute.

As related to this “falling away”, the “apostasy”, that Paul describes in 2 Thessalonians, the majority of Christian’s are falling in step with these deceptions.

I’ve seen Christians “falling away”; believing the lies of the enemy, because fear has blinded them. Rather than pursue truth with courage, they are succumbing to the media’s narratives about the virus and the need for a “reset” of our societal systems, so we can all return to normal – which will never happen.

Fear is a powerful destroyer of spiritual life.

(Heb. 2:14-15) "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

(2 Tim. 1:7) "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

(Heb. 13:5-6) "God has said: "I will never leave you; I will never forsake you." So, we say with confidence: "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

Knowing God deeply and fully brings faith, and faith resists fear.

I need to pause for a few minutes and say something.

I believe that all we're looking at is important or I wouldn't be sharing it, but what I want to say for the next few minutes about faith is something, on a personal level for all of us, that I feel is especially important because of what most of us are going through.

An academic understanding of the Bible is not the same as a spiritual understanding.

The Pharisees knew the Bible better than anyone in Israel, and they crucified their Messiah.

So, we know that we need more than doctrine alone to know God.

What I'm going to share is something I've known 'academically' for a long time, but it only recently hit home in terms of personal, spiritual understanding.

And at the same time these things opened up, I realized how difficult it would be to explain; which reminded of me of a struggle Sparks had that I read one time in something he wrote about his understanding of the Church. He based his comments on Eph. 1:18;

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you. (Ephesians 1:18 NIV)

Here's what he wrote,

“The Holy Spirit’s illumination is a thing so difficult to explain to any who may not have experienced it. But to those who have seen it, it needs no explanation. It makes such a difference on all these matters. For example, in relation to understanding the church, you may read about it all in books, and still there may be no real expression of it. Then one day it was as though the heavens opened and the thing broke upon your spirit, and you saw it; and all kinds of adjustments became necessary in life. You can say, "I saw that the church was no denominational or national thing; I believed in the oneness of all believers..." yes, you can say all that! And yet there is something more. That something can only come by revelation. You can have the other information you’ve gained from books and messages, and it will just take you so far. But get that something more, and it will bring you into the realm of the conflict and cost; you are out in an altogether new realm. It is necessary to God’s end. It is one thing to say these things and point them out and emphasize them; you say: "How do you get it? We see what you mean, it is all quite clear, but we have not got it!" Well, if you really are of the undivided heart, if your heart is wholly set upon the Lord and have very definite dealings with the Lord about it; it may not be in a day, it may be slowly, steadily, quietly you begin to move into a new realm of understanding. And you find that your point of view changes; your standard of values changes; your insight changes. It may take months or years, but at the end of the time you say: "I am changed! Something has happened to me. I can no longer accept what I used to accept!" It may be like that, or it may come in a flash. How it comes does not matter very much, the fact is the importance of this thing – *spiritual illumination*.”

In Heb. 11 we have what’s sometimes called “the gallery of faith heroes”. But like I touched on last week, faith is never obtained by praying for or striving for faith.

If we know the object of our faith as someone absolutely trustworthy, faith is simply the automatic response to that knowledge.

Think of people you *want* to trust, but there’s just something about them you can’t really put your finger on that gives you pause when it comes to fully trusting them; to being completely at peace inside when you think of them.

Now think of someone you completely trust, no hesitation. Not only are they genuinely trustworthy as a person, but you know them well enough to fully realize that.

How hard is it for you to trust someone like that?

You don't have to wrestle within yourself to have faith in them; it's automatic and natural because of what you have come to know and understand about them over time spent with them.

You could actually sum up everything we see in Heb. 11 with this verse in Dan. 11:32;

“The people who know their God will be strong and take action.”

Jesus had complete trust and confidence in His Father even when He was abandoned by those He loved, scourged and crucified.

We say that that shows great faith. That's true, but what it also shows is a perfect knowledge of Who is Father is. Jesus knew Him; He knew that God was in control and He knew why those things must happen.

That's why we pray and study the Bible. So we can know Who God is; so we can know what He's like as a Person; and so we can see His real relationship with us by seeing His love and commitment to us;

And when we know fully why what's happening to us is happening, then things like faith, or the peace that passes understanding, and even gratitude in suffering, will no longer be a problem for us.

*So, in reality, our struggle with faith is not really a struggle with faith. What we're really wrestling with is deciding whether God is trustworthy or not.*

Ultimately, it all comes down to how well we know Him.

Do we believe the false grid placed in believer's minds by the enemy through superficial or even distorted Christianity, or have we received and taken to heart, the kind of teaching that provides an accurate and full understanding of Who God really is?

If believers are spiritual deadened, conditioned over time by the constant watered-down teaching of American churches, they will not only lack an inner assurance

and confidence in the Lord in times of pressure, they will also be unprepared for the overwhelming subtlety and power of Satan's deception in this final generation.

I recently had someone request to be taken off our DL for the Zoom studies because they refuse to support someone like me, who 's putting a question mark on the vaccine. They not only believe the vaccine is safe, but apparently, I'm a danger to others when I imply that people should question that safety and do some serious research on it.

This person is making their decisions about life from a position of fear. They can't evaluate things objectively – they can't look at both sides of an issue and come to a non-emotional decision.

That's one of the dangers of living in fear – irrationality sets in and reality takes a back seat.

So, not only have they bought into the medical deception of the vaccine, but because of their lack of serious study in the Word of God, they've also failed to see how the events around us are leading this world into the *spiritual* realities of preparing humanity for the domination of the Antichrist.

Those in apostasy, those who can't see through the surface to the spiritual reality behind the events taking place; who can't give a spiritual interpretation to what's happening in this world, will not only be deceived by the *external* narratives flooding our nation, they will also be deceived regarding knowing what the Lord is doing and what He intends for His people.

They will continue to believe there is "peace, peace, when there is no peace." And will heap to themselves teachers who will tell them what they *want* to hear, instead of what they *need* to hear, and they will turn their ears away from the truth.

The apostasy of the Church is much more powerful, pervasive and all-encompassing than we can imagine – and it has pulled millions of born-again believers into a place of deception and rebellion that will bring the judgment of God down on them.

Which leads us to the next event.

## The judgement of Laodicea must also happen in final preparation for the removal of the Church

The principle of the judgement of God's covenant people in any age who rebel against their Lord is taught throughout the Scriptures. All you have to do is read the prophets to see God's consistent pattern in judging those in spiritual or moral rebellion.

But for our purpose, considering the age we live in, I'll cite a few passages to make sure we realize how this action of God is expressed in the Church age.

(Rev. 3:16), "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth."

Remember, this is a church in self-deception. There's no mention of immorality, like in other letters, just blindness. The next verse in Rev. 3 says this;

(Rev. 3:17) "You do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked."

Lack of personal awareness of one's true spiritual condition is a primary mark of deception.

To understand what Christ meant by "vomit you out of My mouth." We need to see how that phrase is used in other passages.

(Lev. 18:25-28 & 20:22) "For the land is defiled; therefore, I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations, either any of your own nation or any stranger who dwells among you . . . lest the land vomit you out also when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that were before you . . . You shall therefore keep all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out."

The "vomiting out" we see in Leviticus is the destruction of the Canaanites and the threat of the same for Israel if they adopt Canaanite practices.

This is what our Lord is warning Laodicea about, and using this same phrase to make sure they understand the implications.

This wasn't the first time the Lord used His judgements in the Old Testament as an illustration of what He will do in the Church age also.

(1 Cor. 10:1-6 & 11:30) "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were (identified with) Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them . . . For this reason, many are weak and sick among you, and many (have died). For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged."

Now, (Heb. 10:28-30) "Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. And again, 'The Lord will judge *His* people.'"

And on your own, read through the "branches broken off" section of John 15. This is teaching the same principle.

All of these warnings in Rev. 3, 1 Cor. 10 & 11, Heb. 10 & John 15 are addressed to Christians.

Now, you see why I am so disheartened when I see Christians, especially those I know and care about, moving away from the truth and falling for the myriad of lies around us.

There is *much* more at stake than simply being wrong; followed by an "Oh well, nobody's perfect."

Leave it to American Christians to downplay the importance of an undivided heart before the Lord.

When Jesus came, some saw the signs and were warning and announcing His coming; others just wanted to pull out the Torah and review the awesome stories of their ancestors.

Pastors who don't teach eschatology with passionate and direct applications to our time, and Christians who are satisfied with Bible stories and so-called practical applications, or with hyper-charismatic experiences, each Sunday – will not survive what's coming.

Now, the fourth thing that must happen before the rapture is this:

The stages and history of the Church as prophesied in Rev. chapters 2 & 3 must run their course.

The rapture can't happen until all 7 stages of church history have been completed – including the last stage, Laodicea.

Because we're now living in the Laodicean era, we have 20-20 hindsight and can see the sweeping historical movements within Christianity over the last 2000 years.

By matching history with the conditions of each of the 7 churches in Rev. 2 & 3, we can see how precisely the prophecies have lined up with various progressive segments of Church history.

Now, the final pre-rapture event we will look at is;

The purification of the remnant

I'll begin this part of our study with a few verses to set the stage. The first one is a passage we touched on last week;

(1 Pet. 1:6-7) "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

The next passage I want to share is 1 Pet. 4:12-13;

“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.”

Now, Heb. 12:26-27;

“Whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also heaven.” Now this, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.”

I don’t know if you noticed, but the offer to the remnant is in very sharp contrast to the warning to the apostates.

For the Laodiceans, we saw judgment, deception and loss at the Bema Seat.

But for the remnant, here are some excerpts from the verses I just read;

“In this you greatly rejoice”

“(You will receive) praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

“Rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings”

“(Be) glad with exceeding joy”

And we could add the promise at the Judgment Seat of receiving full reward and hearing “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.” That last phrase is not something Laodicean believers are going to hear.

The remnant is made up of those within the Body of Christ who genuinely love the Lord as opposed to those who only pretend to do so.

Jesus tells us in John 14:21 how to identify who do, and those who do not, love Him.

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and fully manifest Myself to him.”

And Paul affirms this in Rom. 8:28;

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

A couple of things to notice in this verse. First, the phrase “love God” should be translated “loving God”. In other words, this applies to those who are actively loving Him in the present tense.

And second, as is apparent throughout both Old and New Testaments, most of those in covenant relationship to God do not respond in obedience to the “call” of “His purpose.”

Most Christians in our generation don’t even know what that purpose is, let alone have committed themselves to it.

We’ve already seen that for those who have *not* purposefully stepped into God’s end-time purpose, who are in apostasy, things definitely do *not* “work together for good.”

As Isaiah put it,

“If the Lord of hosts had not left us a remnant, we would have been like Sodom, and become like Gomorrah.”

America is 21<sup>st</sup>. century Sodom and Gomorrah. God will destroy it and rescue a remnant.

For those who are demonstrating their love for the Lord by staying on course and remaining teachable, God will cause literally everything in our lives to “work together” for our care and growth to maturity.

Right before Paul wrote Rom. 8:28, he wrote,

“The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

The Lord will do all in His power to compensate for our weakness under pressure; whether we need help in prayer, or courage, or wisdom, or guidance.

We have been saved from condemnation by the blood of Christ and destined for glory through His resurrection and ascension. And the Lord will ensure that we arrive victoriously at the goal He has for us.

The rapture is not simply the final event of the Church age; it is a glorious deliverance of God's remnant.

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I want us to briefly look at 1 Thess. 5:23-24, and I'm going to add some new information I've uncovered. First, here's the passage;

(1 Thess. 5:23-24) *From the Amplified version:* "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you through and through [that is, separate you from the profane, make you pure and whole and undamaged—consecrated to Him—set apart for His purpose]; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete and [be found] in a state of blamelessness (of holiness) in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful and absolutely trustworthy is He who is calling you [to Himself] and He will accomplish this [He will fulfill His call by making you holy, guarding you, completing you, watching over you, and protecting you as His own]."

Reaching the "measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" brings the final generation of believers, represented by an overcoming remnant, to the spiritual condition we see in the 1 Thess. 5 passage; a place of fulness in conformity to Christ.

Sanctification is a positional event when we are saved (we are set apart in union with Christ at our new birth), but in relation to the end of the age and the coming of Christ, sanctification is a lifelong process of bringing our position in Christ into our moral condition on earth.

We are progressively being brought to completion, in order to provide a testimony to this world of the grace, power and presence of Christ; to the outcome of what He accomplished and brought to us through His death and resurrection.

We will have a complete and clear understanding of the full counsel of God and His purpose in Christ;

We will be moving under an open heaven receiving revelation, guidance, protection and empowerment;

I'm not trying minimize what we will feel as we sense the increasing hatred of this world against us. But when we know what the Lord is going to do in and through us at the end of this age, then rejoicing, praising, and looking forward with anticipation of seeing the Lord move in us in ways we have only read about in the Bible – *that* is our hope and confidence.

(Isa. 41:10) "Fear not, for I am with you;  
Be not dismayed, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you,  
I will help you,  
I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

And from Joshua 1:9

"Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

I want to close with the Spark's quote I gave a few weeks ago, so we can get a contemporary version of what all this means for us;

"God is going to have a Church at the end filled with glory. That is how it is going to be - spiritual fulness at last. God is not going to be defeated, and the Church is the very vessel or sphere of the power of the resurrection. This is something that the Lord has provided for - to have a people here on this earth who are the channels for the enrichment of others in all directions, a people through whom there shall go out spiritual riches (rivers of living waters). This is the calling of the Church: that wherever people are really seeking to know the truth, know the Lord, to come into the light, the Lord should have a vessel where that light can be found. It is a challenge, as well as a statement of fact. It is something that we must quite definitely lay hold of by faith. It is God's intention; therefore, it must be possible. The Lord provides for what He wants. It is not necessary for any child of God, who is

standing by faith in the good of the heavenly calling and vocation, not to be a vehicle of light to others. The Church is to be that light in fullness (at the end)".

This world is going to see the glory of Christ shining out through His Church. As God's remnant believers scattered throughout the nations, the Lord will guide, protect and empower us to give this darkened world one last glimpse of what God has done for us in Christ.

We will be the book of Acts on a global scale – God's counter-move to Satan's deceived humanity.

And then we will be raptured into our eternal destiny as the overcomers of the Lord, to rule and reign with Him forever.

If we want to spend some time in our personal research looking at the political and cultural happenings in our nation or studying the winds of false theology moving through the Church, that can be helpful. It can keep us aware of what's coming against us.

But the Lord is not occupied with 'making American great again' or seeing how big and popular He can make our churches.

His attention, His heart, is *riveted* on His remnant – and on preparing her to be the eternal bride of His Son.

Our focus needs to be on what the Lord is doing with us. We don't have to obsess with what's happening with those who don't care about all this – who have decided to embrace a Christianity that's not centered in God's purpose for us.

We are to simply stay awake, stay teachable, prayerful and watchful; and move forward, not turning to the right or to the left, trusting the Lord to complete what He's begun in us.

The future that awaits us, both in time and in eternity, is characterized by, above everything else, the word "glory".

If that's our focus, and the anchor of our souls, we will more than survive whatever this world can throw at us.