

## I. Review

We finished Psalms 19:7-14, the last half of Psalms 19. What a great passage it was on building a solid structure in our lives. I showed you how it is built around the six principles found in these verses:

- 1.) The law of the Lord
- 2.) The testimony of the Lord
- 3.) The statutes of the Lord
- 4.) The commandments of the Lord
- 5.) The fear of the Lord
- 6.) The judgment of the Lord.

We looked at each one of them, and I showed you how they represent a different aspect of putting God's structure in your life that produces a strong life able to withstand everything going on around us.

I showed you first off doctrinally that this will make up the structure of when Christ comes back and establishes His millennial reign. That is laid out for you in great detail in Ezekiel 40-48. We are told in the book of Revelation and other places that when Christ comes back, He sets up His government under an iron rule. The Bible calls it a rod of iron. This is the structure by which the whole world will run and have to adhere to.

Then inspirationally, I showed you how to build an earthquake-proof structure on a rock in your life, spiritually speaking. Today, as we get into Psalms 20, here comes the earthquake. This is what God's people need to prepare themselves for. This is where we are at in the world we are living in today.

## II. Psalms 20:1-9 A Tribulation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming Psalm

Today we are going to begin Psalms 20. I want to read the first nine verses here. Let us do it together.

- 1. The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;*
- 2. Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;*
- 3. Remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice; Selah.*
- 4. Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.*
- 5. We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: the LORD fulfil all thy petitions.*

*6. Now know I that the LORD saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand.*

*7. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*

*8. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.*

*9. Save, LORD: let the king hear us when we call.*

Last week, I showed you the structure of the millennium when God establishes His government. I told you that the book of Psalms, the whole book, will break down into three designations. Some of the Psalms will be Tribulation Psalms, Israel going through the Tribulation, prophetically. Some of them will be Second Coming Psalms, where Christ is coming back to the nation of Israel. And some of them will be Millennial Psalms, which picture Christ on the throne when He comes back for that thousand-year reign.

### ➤ Key Words Found in Psalms 20

What we had last time was a Millennial Psalm. In Psalms 20, we come into a Tribulation Psalm, also a Second Coming Psalm. You will notice that **the key words** here will be found in the passage that will define it as tribulation. The **first one** will be "the day of trouble." Wherever you find "the day of trouble," the context is going to be the Tribulation period. Then the **second one** he talks about is "the God of Jacob." We know that Jacob is Israel. The names are used interchangeably in the Bible. So now we find "the God of Jacob" having to do with the nation of Israel in the Tribulation period. Then we see the **third one** that he talks about here is "strength out of Zion." Zion will be where God's deliverance for the nation of Israel comes from at the Second Coming of Christ.

Another key word in verse three will be the word, "Selah". I have told you before, that when the Holy Spirit of God put the King James Bible together, it is without a doubt a supernatural book that has everything that God wanted in it the way He wanted it. You are going to find that there are different words that He allowed in there that will always set us in a direction by definition. One of the words is the word Selah. The Psalms were originally sung. They were put to a musical format and they were sung. The word Selah was put in there because the word Selah means to pause or to rest. So it is a musical expression that they would take a pause or a rest before they would go to the next one.

Having said that, we know that the Millennial Reign of Christ will be Israel's rest. We know that the book of Hebrews says that Israel could have gotten the rest back in the Old Testament, but they never did. But there is yet a rest for the people of God, Israel, and that will be in the Millennium. So having said that, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit of God, when the Holy Spirit of God put the word Selah in the book of Psalms, the context will always be dealing with the Second Coming, Christ bringing the rest to the nation of Israel. Just something that you want to tuck away.

### III. Doctrinal Application: Israel's Day of Trouble

The day of trouble will be the time of trouble that is found in Daniel 12:1 and then again, Matthew 24. It is called in Jeremiah 30:7, "Jacob's time of trouble."

*Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. Jeremiah 30:7*

When the Antichrist in the first three and a half years makes everything peace and safety and pulls it all together, it looks like world peace has finally come. The Bible says that in the middle of the week—this Tribulation being seven years—middle of the week, after the first three and a half years, the Antichrist now turns on the nation of Israel. This is called the abomination of desolations in Matthew 24. The Antichrist now turns on Israel, Revelation 12-13, and now begins to try and wipe them out. We see how in the day of trouble, when this happens, God protects them, how God covers them and protects them. It talks about the picture of God as a great mother eagle, stretching her wings over her children, Israel, and protecting her from the Antichrist. The nation of Israel always looked at God as the rock of their salvation, what they were firmly attached to.

So in verse one, we see God defending the nation of Israel. The passage talks about that when God defends them, a couple of things that Israel does in relationship to seeing God defending them. First of all, in verse five, Israel remembers where their salvation came from. You are going to find that in the book of Acts, we talked about this Thursday night—in the first seven chapters where Peter is trying to get the nation of Israel to see the error of their ways in crucifying Christ their Messiah, he preaches five messages. Each one of those messages, he goes back to the day that God brought them out of Egypt. That is their salvation, the day God brought them out of Egypt. In the Bible, Egypt is a type of the world. So when you want to make an inspirational application, Israel's salvation was the day that God brought them out of Egypt and sent them to the Promised Land. Your day and my day of salvation is the day that we got saved and God saved us out of the world and then gave us the book of promises that we too can live in the Promised Land. You see the parallels between the two.

So the first thing they do, when they see God defending them, they automatically go back to where their salvation came from. Then in verse six, the second thing that they begin to realize is that they are God's anointed. We are going to define the word "anointed" here in a little bit, so just stay with me. Then we see again in verse five, where it says God is fulfilling their petition. That is their prayers. So you see when God begins to defend them in the last half of the Tribulation period, they turn back to God. They recognize that He is the source of their salvation. They recognize that they are God's anointed. In Revelation 8:4 and many in the book of Psalms, you will find those petitions or those prayers, which Revelation 8:4 tells us are the prayers under the altar that they are praying to God for deliverance in the Tribulation period.

*And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. Revelation 8:4*

Then **verse seven**, where others trust in military might—this will be the Antichrist and all his armies that are laid out for you there, millions and millions of people that go against the Jew. But the nation of Israel, they will trust in the name of the Lord. Then **verse eight and nine**, how the Antichrist will fall, and Israel will now stand upright. That will be the Second Coming, going into the Millennium. The Bible says, and God the King will hear them when they call.

Now, I know I do not have to tell you this because most of you, if you are saved here, have a little bit of understanding about certain things. You know that the nation of Israel is God's people. You know that God sent them the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be their King. They rejected Him. They obviously crucified Him. For the next 2,000 years, they have borne the shame and the punishment of God's hand against them. They were a nation without a country. They had no capital. They wandered from place to place, all through Europe and all through America and many other places in the world. They had no place to call home. It looks like, if you do not have some understanding of God, Israel, and the Bible, that God is all finished with the nation of Israel. In fact, you will find some quote-unquote Christian groups today, that will teach you that God is completely finished with the nation of Israel, and we, the body of Christ, have taken their place. Of course, that is foolish. Somebody who does not know anything about the Bible would make a statement like that.

But what I am saying is this: there is a time coming very quickly. You can see through the 20th century how these things develop, that God is going to restore the nation of Israel back to Himself. In the Tribulation period, that is what it is going to take. When you and I get out of fellowship and we do not confess it and do not do what is right and get right with God, you know how God gets us back? He takes you to the woodshed. He drops the sky on you. He comes down and through the hand of chastisement, He gets your attention and then you come back. Well, just think that on a grandiose scale as a nation, the nation of Israel in the Tribulation has them going to the woodshed. Through that process, they are going to come back to God and they are going to realize all of the things that God has done for them, and then God is going to restore them. This is what you have in Psalms 20. It is a picture of the woodshed. It is a picture of what they have got to go through. As I have told you many, many times, Psalms will break down into the three applications: you will have Tribulation Psalms, you will have Second Coming Psalms, and you will have Millennial Psalms. That is dealing with the Bible in a prophetic way. Psalms 19 was a Millennial Psalm, and now we see the day of trouble, the Tribulation.

## IV. Historical Application: David's Day of Trouble

Everything in the Bible has three applications. It has a historical application as to history. It has a doctrinal application as to the future, prophetic. But it has an inspirational application for you and me today. Historically, the day of trouble here, and David is writing this—this is a Psalm of David. David is writing this, and this day of trouble will be David and his ongoing encounter with Saul. If you know anything about the Bible, you know that in the Old Testament that Saul was jealous of David, and then he launched a campaign to have David killed. David is pursued by Saul, who was jealous of him and wants to kill him.

Now, in type, in picture, David will be a type of the nation of Israel. Saul will be one of the types of the Antichrist in the Bible. In the Old Testament there are 18 men (6+6+6=18) that foreshadow the coming Antichrist that you can learn about him from them. Saul is one of them. Saul is jealous over David, just like the devil is jealous over the nation of Israel. He tries to wipe out David just as the Antichrist in Revelation 12-13 is going to try to wipe out the nation of Israel. So now you have the doctrinal and you have the historical.

## V. Inspirational Application: Our Day of Trouble

Now let us look at the inspirational. How does this apply to you and me? How do we come to the understanding of how all of this will fit into your world today? One of the major aspects that people never understand about the Bible and history is the fact that history always repeats itself. Ecclesiastes tells us there is a cycle of history; therefore, there is nothing new under the sun. When you see that and understand that you can begin to see the parallels between what the nation of Israel went through and what you and I in Christianity are going to go through. Today, we as Christians, we are a remnant left like the nation of Israel is today. We are now in Christianity in America and around the world, but we live in America. We are experiencing our own day of trouble. Last week I hinted on that and gave you some things, and it is a day that God's people are not prepared for. God's people for the most part are living a Christian life of illusion. They do not understand the times that they live in. They do not understand the time that they live in coming up against the Second Coming of Christ. They do not realize what God is doing through history and today, and they do not realize what the devil is doing to try to stop that. We are living in a day, and I say this with sadness in my heart, we are living in a day where God's people are not prepared for and have no understanding of this day. So it produces fear, it produces confusion.

Last week I told you as we came down through that, the job of a church, the job of a pastor, is to warn the people, to let you know what is coming. To be honest with you, from the Word of God, what is about to befall this country, but more important, why? We look at our country around us and what a disarray it is in and the problems it has and the absolute seemingly endless issues that it faces. We get fearful of that. We do not understand it, and we think that it is just, "this is the way it is." No, no. We are on a collision course with the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is just that simple. **You and I are faced with our day of trouble.** Without a Bible, you are completely at this day of trouble's mercy. But unfortunately, even God's people who have the right Bible do not have any understanding of what this day is all about.

### ➤ America has Entered into Her Own Captivity

America, much like the nation of Israel, has entered into her own captivity. If you know the history of the nation of Israel, you know that once Israel rejected God, rejected God's Word, and by the time you get to 2 Chronicles, they have completely forsaken everything that God had for them. In 2 Chronicles 36, we see the beginning of Israel's captivity. Nebuchadnezzar comes up from the south in 606 BC. Sennacherib from Assyria in 722 BC takes the northern tribes. Babylon goes into southern tribes. At that point in time, the nation of Israel is now in a Gentile captivity. Never again, for 2,800 years anyhow, never again will there be a nation. Never again

will they have any power in this world or influence. Now they are under the iron heel of the devil's nations who want to destroy them, and they have taken them captive.

America is also in a captivity today. American Christianity has forsaken God, has forsaken the Bible, and our captivity started about 150 years ago. Just as Israel's captivity stayed with them till the first coming of Christ, our captivity will stay with us till the Second Coming of Christ, and we will be delivered from it when Jesus returns in the rapture of the church. When you study Israel's captivity, you see a credible picture and get good insight into what we are going through today and what we are facing.

### ➤ The Judgment of God on America

Now folks, I do not know how naive you are. I do not know how far you have got your head down in the sand, but anybody who knows anything about the Bible, God, God's righteousness, God's judgment, God's people, knows that the judgment of God is falling on this country. I have told you many times, and it is a historical fact, no nation on earth, through the history of man, no nation on earth survived more than 200 years after rejecting God and the Word of God. When I say "survive," I do not mean total complete annihilation off the face of a planet; I mean going into the collapse of apostasy. America is a nation complete without any knowledge of God or the Word of God. Nobody cares about God anymore. Nobody cares about the Word of God anymore. You have people who claim to be saved, and they probably are; they go to churches all over the place. But they have not read their Bible through one time. They have never won a soul to Christ. To them, Christianity is going to church, giving their money, doing this, doing that. They have no idea of the mission that God has for us once we got saved. I am telling you, Christians like that, when the day of trouble comes, when the pressure comes, when things start to go south in your life, you are not prepared for it. You built the wrong structure.

The Old Testament prophets, they understood Israel's problems, but they had the foresight to see prophetically how it was going to go on down through history. They saw this day, Israel and America. It was Hosea in Hosea 8 who said that there is coming a time when the great things of God are going to become strange things to God's people.

*I have written to him the great things of my law, [but] they were counted as a strange thing.  
Hosea 8:12*

It was Isaiah in Isaiah 5 who told us there was coming a time when in the world in America, evil would now be called good, and good would now be called evil.

***Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Isaiah 5:20***

Isaiah also said in Isaiah 59, there was a time coming when truth was going to lay in the streets.

*And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: **for truth is fallen in the street,** and equity cannot enter. Isaiah 59:14*

It was the great prophet Hosea in Hosea 4 that said that there is a time coming when there is no truth, there is no mercy, and there is no knowledge of God in the land.

*Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, **because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.** Hosea 4:1*

Amos wrote in Amos 8 that there was a famine coming, a famine that was going to hit the world. Not a famine of bread and water, but a famine of the hearing of the words of the Lord.

*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, **not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:** Amos 8:11*

The writer of 2 Chronicles 15 said the problem with Israel—now this is the problem with America today—that Israel for a long time has had no teaching priest and no knowledge of God.

*Now for a long season Israel hath been **without the true God, and without a teaching priest, and without law.** 2Chronicles 15:3*

Terry Jobe gave me a book several months ago, and as I began to look through it and read it, I really could not put it down. It is one of those books that will never hit the top 10 selling on Amazon, but it should. The name of the book is “*As America Has Done to Israel.*” This guy, I do not know him, but he is an incredible guy. What he did is this: he took the history of America and took America starting out supporting the nation of Israel, and then as time went on through the 60s and the 70s and the 80s and the 90s, right up to today, took a stance against the nation of Israel. He lists it out almost year by year of what we have done. Things like, we talked about this Thursday night, that land grant over there belongs to Israel. America has spent the last 40 years trying to partition it up to make the Palestinians happy. You may make the Palestinians happy, but you are not making God happy; that is their land. This guy, unbelievably, coordinates everything that America does against Israel, and in that same year, the judgment of God that falls on this country. He lists them, the hurricanes, the floods, the ravaging forest fires, the drought, on and on almost year by year, as this country turns its back on the nation of Israel and gives what God says is theirs to the devil's crowd.

Who would have thought, anybody? Who would have thought, even 20 years ago, that in the college campuses and across this city, we would have Americans, people who claim to be Americans—going against the nation of Israel, and our city's state capital, and holding up the flag of our enemy while they are burning the American flag and calling for another holocaust for God's people? Excuse my passion there for a moment. You think God is happy with that? Are you so brain dead, flat wired, you think God is okay with that? You think that after all God has done for His people, and the plan that He has for them—and this is the problem in America, and with God's people—you have no idea the plan that God has for Israel. So you are okay with it. You just look at it and say, “Oh boy, that is really terrible.” It is more than terrible. It is bringing God's judgment down on this country.

I was born in 1950. Thirty years ago, if you would have told me that in schools, grade schools, elementary schools, that you would have teachers convincing little girls that they should be boys,

and convincing little boys that they should be girls, I would have called you a liar. What happened? What happened to the place in the greatest country in the world that God's grace has bestowed on it, that started with the Word of God? How did we get to the place that now you get to pick your gender? If you were born a little guy, and you do not like that, you get frustrated, well, maybe you are really a girl.

In our prisons, men and women who have committed heinous crimes are in prison. Our prison system, through our government, is now offering sex changes for inmates because we think that the reason why you got into trouble is because you really have a woman inside you of a man's body trying to break out. So they have transgenders in the prisons, and when you cannot get good food, good this or good that, they make sure the transgenders have perfume and lipstick. Do you really think God is okay with that?

You see, some of us older people, we have an advantage with some of you young chickens. I remember the Cold War. I had a kid the other day, I mentioned the Cold War, and he said, he called me up and says, "Bob, the Cold War, does that mean they only fought in the summertime?" I said no. I said the Cold War came about after Korea, after World War II, and it is called the Cold War because World War II, Korea, and Vietnam were hot wars, combat on the ground. The Cold War was a war that was fought without actual fighting. It was intellectual, spying, doing this, putting all of this treachery together. It was done by the Communists. The Cold War was a war that was fought from the United States against Russia and the Communist countries. It was a Cold War, was a war against Communism infiltrating into this country, which they tried to do. Now what? Thirty-five, forty years later, we have Communists in our government today. You have a Communist that is probably going to become the mayor of New York City next year. Nobody cares.

What was it? 2001, the World Trade Center, the Muslims flew planes and declared war on the United States, wants jihad, calls for jihad, calls for this, calls for that, kills our soldiers all around the world. Yet today we have Muslims in our government who are holding places of seats in Congress, and they hate America. Where do you think this defunding the police comes from? Where do you think the mindset of hating America, burning the American flag? Here is a lady from Guatemala who is in our government who stands up and says, "I am a Guatemalan first before I ever was American." Then go back to Guatemala! I guarantee you we have enough money in the Mars fund to send you back. It is unbelievable. So Psalms 20, inspirationally, will be our day of trouble and what we should understand about it.

## VI. In Our Day of Trouble, God Will Get Us Through

Now let me show you how Psalms 20, inspirationally, will play out in our lives in our day of trouble. If you have not figured it out that we are in trouble, this country is in trouble. I have told you before, the farther we get from the Word of God and the closer we get to the coming of the Lord, the worse this world is going to get.

Now, I want you to understand something, parallels. When God sent the nation of Israel into the first captivity, this will be 606 BC and 722 BC. I want you to understand that that captivity



affected everybody. It was not just the bad people that went. People who loved God, were good people, who followed God, along with the bad people who were in the Baal worship, they all went into the captivity. Two of the greatest prophets during the captivity that you have are Ezekiel and Daniel. Ezekiel and Daniel, two of the greatest prophets that are mentioned during the captivity that God used, they went along with thousands of other Jews who loved God and stayed faithful. They went into the day of trouble, their day of trouble, along with the rest.

Sometimes we either do not know anything about history or we block out history because of the ball games or this or that, do not spend any time with it, and we lose sight of some tremendous truth. Much like today, in our day of trouble, making a comparison to Israel's day of trouble. But back in the day with Ezekiel and Jeremiah and all of those guys, Daniel, the Hebrew children, God not only got them through the captivity and He protected them in the captivity, He used them to a great degree to set up the First Coming of Christ. We do not think about that. We read Daniel 1 or the first five or six chapters of Daniel, we see Daniel taken away captivity, never to see his family again, maybe they were all killed. We see him taken away, never to go back to his homeland, completely taken now into the most godless country on the face of this planet at that time, Babylon. Yet God's hand was with him every step of the way. God orchestrated the people in his life that in the middle of that terrible day, God used him to get the job done. You see that with Ezekiel. You see that with all of them.

Much like today in our day of trouble, God will get us through. This is what God's people have not done, that is why they are not prepared. That is why they are going to fall apart. That is why they are fearful. That is why they look at it all wrong. God's people have never built a structure in their lives to withstand the earthquake that is coming because we too have a job to do before the Lord comes back at the Second Coming of Christ.

Most people do not know this outside of Washington DC and then also out west. They have built facilities that will survive a nuclear holocaust. These facilities, these structures are outfitted with everything a person, a government, would need to survive and keep a functioning government. These facilities, these structures, are cut deep into the bedrock of mountains. They are covered, by miles and miles and millions and millions of tons of rocks in mountains. There are three that we know about. They have cut one into the Blue Ridge Mountains. They have cut one in the Rocky Mountains, and there is one in West Virginia. They built these to withstand a nuclear attack. If a nuclear attack comes—I am not saying it is going to, I am saying if it does—all the people in the government can go to one of these facilities and survive and keep the government functioning.

Now I am not worried about any of you falling under a nuclear attack. I am not worried the least bit about Russian, Iranian, whoever, missiles falling on Kansas City and blowing us all to kingdom come. It is the spiritual nuclear holocaust that is coming to all of us that has me worried about you. There it is, our survival during this spiritual nuclear holocaust engulfing the whole world. Yet we are safe in our structure. When you have built that structure right, where the government has got theirs in a mountain, I have got mine in a mountain, Mount Zion. On the sides of the north, Psalms 48. The rock of my salvation.

## VII. Our Day of Trouble: Six Things to Remember

The advice that God gives David and Israel, doctrinally, will be exactly what we need in our day of trouble, inspirationally. **There are six things here we want to remember.** We lose sight of these things. Most of God's people do not have a real good foundation in the Bible; we can change that here. There is no reason, I do not care how old you are, never too old to start. But because they do not have a good foundation, they do not have a good perspective. Perspective always leads to understanding. The first thing that he says to Israel and to David is what I want to say to you.

### 1. God Will Defend You

In your day of trouble, God will defend you. Isaiah, the great prophet in Isaiah 54:17 said:

*No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.*

Now that should settle it for everybody. If you have got a foundation, I do not care. No weapon that the world, this country, the devil, the Antichrist, or everybody that is against God is going to form against you if you take your stand is ever going to prosper. Just like David, when he ran from Saul, God protected him. When he went up against Goliath, God delivered him. Just like Daniel, when he was thrown into the fiery furnace. Just like Daniel, when he was thrown into the lion's den. Just like Ezekiel, when he was carried away into Babylonian captivity. God's hand of protection was on them. Because they were grounded in His Word, you have got to see Daniel 1, the list of things that Daniel had in his life. On top of that, he says he is of the King's seed. You and I are of the King's seed spiritually. God used these men to do His will and to do His work, and through it, in spite of the day of trouble, God protected them.

I think of Joseph as another one. You talk about a day of trouble. Sold into the Midianites by his own brothers. God's hand, instead of killing him, which they were originally going to do, God intervened and says, "No, no, no, sell him to the Midianites." The Midianites take him and through the hand of God, he winds up down in Egypt. Exactly where God wanted him to be. Really? You mean Egypt, the most godless nation on the planet at that time? Who worshiped Ra, the sun god. I mean, worshiped scorpions and snakes. You mean that Egypt? Yes, that Egypt. God, through His providential hand, took Joseph down into Egypt. There is where his day of struggle starts. They lie against him. They put him in prison. They do all of those things to try to stop him, and yet God's hand protected him through every step of the way. By the end of the story about Joseph, he winds up being second in the kingdom. When he finally makes peace with his brethren—oh, this is insight. They come to him, and they are weeping, and they are crying, and they are asking for forgiveness. One of the greatest principles in the Bible found in Genesis 50:20. He says, "Hey guys, stop crying. Get up. You know what? It is okay. You meant it for my evil. God meant it for my good." That is insight. That is perspective. When you see the world around you, when you see you in it, when you see it coming down around your shoulders, what do you see?

You see the world doing it for your evil. God's hand of protection is doing it for your good because He has got something He wants you to do like Daniel, like Ezekiel, like David, like Joseph.

## 2. Our Help Comes from Spiritual Mount Zion

The second thing you need to see here is, he says, "Send help from the sanctuary and strength out of Zion." The second thing I want you to see in verse two is that our help, my spiritual help, will come from spiritual Mount Zion, the mountain of God. Turn over to Hebrews 12:18. Here is a great passage. Then jump down in verse 22, but look at verse 18 in Hebrews 12.

*For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, Hebrews 12:18*

*But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, Hebrews 12:22*

There is no mountain on this earth that is going to protect you. My salvation, my strength, my protection in my day of trouble and yours is going to come from my foundation in that spiritual mountain. Here we see how the world tries to counterfeit everything. The pagan Romans and the Greeks, when they wanted to legitimize their pagan beliefs, it was up on Mount Olympus. It is where their god Zeus resided. You see, you can burn Mount Olympus. You can dust it with fire, drop an A-bomb on it. But you cannot do that to mine. Mount Zion is spiritual, on the side of the North. The world always tries to counterfeit God. Well, God has got a mountain that is my strength. Well, the pagans have their mountain, which their god Zeus lives on, that was their strength. Wonder how that worked out for them. Every time, you have got to see these things. You have got to pay attention to what goes on around you. Every time in the Bible, when some major event took place, it took place on a mountain. So the world wants to hitchhike off of that. The world wants to counterfeit that. It just happened all down through the history of America, but it happened this last week, if you are paying attention, up in Alaska. What happened? The most powerful people in the world met to try to work out the differences with Ukraine. The two most powerful people in the world want you to think that it is the major division of life that everything on Earth is going to depend on it. So they call it a "summit meeting". A summit is the highest part of the mountain. See? God's people just sit there and say, "Oh, wonderful, that is really nice." They do not even get it. Everything in this world is a counterfeit that gets you off track of what God saved you for. You say, "To get me off track?" Yeah, and you are right on track.

***Beautiful for situation***, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. (Psalms 48:2)

Let me back up. "Beautiful for situation." Any situation. Anything you find yourself in in your day of trouble, that city is your strength, and beautiful for your situation.

In Mark 6, you see a great picture of this. The disciples are kind of disgruntled and disjointed at this particular point in time in the ministry with the Lord, and He knows that. So by design, He puts them into a little rowboat, puts them out on the sea, the Sea of Galilee. The Sea of Galilee is

seven miles at its widest. He says in the Bible, He puts them in the midst. So I am saying if they are three and a half miles out, right in the middle, in the middle of the night, you do not know how dark it is in the ocean at night if there are no lights around you. Then a storm comes up, and that storm just ravages it. Water, bailing, pumping, screaming, praying, crying, thunder, crashing, lightning, rain coming down, filling the boat up. These guys think for sure they are going to drown, and they are all down there just worrying about everything. Yet they had been with the Lord now for a number of months, even years.

Now here they are by design in the middle of the ocean, in the middle of the night, in a rowboat, taking on water with the waves and the storm just rolling. You know what that is a picture of? That is a picture of you and me in the sea of life. When you look at the story and you read the story, Jesus sent them down there, and then where did He go? To a mountain to pray. It is a picture of your life and my life right now in our day of trouble. We are in the boat in the middle of a storm, in the middle of the night. Where is my Jesus, where is my strength? On the mountain praying. Did they drown? Did the boat sink? No. This is where my hope is today. They are out there bailing, worrying, praying, cussing I am sure. Then the fourth watch, somebody sees Jesus walking to them on the water. I do not have time to take you back into Mark and show you the four watches that deal with the church age and how the fourth watch is Jesus Christ coming to us. This is a picture of you and I in the storms of life, in the evil day that we have to face, in our day of trouble. Most of God's people are screaming and yelling and fretting because their boat is going to sink. Hang on. He is coming on the water.

I have always looked at that. I cannot speak for you. I would not even presume to. Maybe somebody did not even know that story was in the Bible. Maybe somebody cannot make the leap from what I said to where we are at in life. It is okay. I have looked at that from my own personal life, I understand the storm that I am in, the evil day, day of trouble. It is darkness. Scary. The storms of this old world in life. I have two choices. My two choices, one will be directed by my unpreparedness and fear. The other one will be directed by my being prepared. I have two choices. So do you, but this is not to you. This is to me. I have two choices. I can either do what they did in frantic and panic or in the middle of the storm, I can row the boat. Row the boat! Do not worry about the storm. Do not worry about it. Row the boat. Do the work that God has saved us for. Because He is coming on the fourth watch, walking on the water.

### 3. Remember All That You Have Done for God & the Reason Behind You Doing it

Verse three. Remember all that you have done for God and the reason behind you doing it. Somebody asked me one time, "Bob, how do you rest in that?" Well, the word Selah is in verse three, so there must be a rest here. A guy asked me one time, he said, "Bob, with the world the way it is and everything is happening, everything that is going on, how in the world can the believer rest today?" The answer is simple. Remember all that you have done for God and the reason behind you doing it. You look back and see what you have done for God in your life and how God has always come through for you. You are not going to tell me you did not serve God and do what God wanted you to do and not pay some prices for it, not have some issues you had to deal with. Sure you did. Did God not always come through? Did He not always make it? The

same God that was there for you yesterday will be the same God that is here for you today and here for you tomorrow. Amen!

You see, when you look back at what you did for God and then you question your motive for doing it and you come up with the right motive, you come up with the right attitude in the motive, you come up with the right work. The problem is most of God's people have no work. They have never done anything for God meaningful, and they are good people. This is not a criticism. This is a statement. They are really good people. They are people that you would love to be around, people that are really good people. They just never really understood why God saved them. Maybe because the church they went to, the pastor did not know what he was doing. Maybe they did not go to church. Maybe they got mad about something at church and quit going. I do not know. But in the middle of this storm, our day of trouble, we rest in the fact that the same God that got us through yesterday is going to get us through tomorrow.

Israel's rest will not come until the Millennium because they forfeited it. Our rest should come the day you get saved and you realize what you have, and then you build that structure and you rest within that bomb shelter structure when all the nuclear holocaust descends on you, and you rest. You rest because you understand this is not about you. You understand it like Ezekiel and Daniel had to understand it: that God allows you to go in this because He has a job that He wants you to do. When a captivity came, God did not say to those guys, "All right, all bets are off. You just suffer." No, He had a plan even through that captivity that these guys had to fulfill. He has a plan for us in this captivity.

#### 4. God Gives us Counsel to do the Work in the Day of Trouble

Verse four, "*Grant thee according to thine own heart and fulfill all thy counsel.*" That is a reference of God and His heart for the ministry, which becomes our heart, giving me counsel to do the work in the day of trouble. Him guiding me through it, giving me understanding, not me getting sidetracked, being able to stay and row the boat no matter how bad the storm is. Stay with it. Realize that God has something for us to do. The storm has nothing to do with it. The nuclear fallout has nothing to do with it. The world's dilemma, America's problems, no matter what it may be, has nothing to do with it. It is all part of the plan of God that has to happen for Him to come back, but we have a job to do.

In Daniel's life and Ezekiel's life, they both go into the same captivity and yet God used them in a mighty way. They did not focus on the captivity around them. They understood why they were where they were at. Even though they were in bad times, there was a work to be carried out. I do not care how bad it gets. You may fold up, you may be fearful, you may never, you may check out. I do not care. There will never be a time in Christianity, just like there was never a time with Israel, no matter how bleak and black it gets, that God does not have a job for us to do. God gave them the counsel to do the work. For us, the principles of the Word of God. Getting God's heart will always lead to getting God's counsel.

## 5. We Will Rejoice in Thy Salvation

Then verse five, the fifth thing. "*We will rejoice in thy salvation.*" I think the greatest single tragedy in Christianity is for a child of God to truly get saved, but then never understand why God saved them. I blame that on the pastors of churches, of not preparing their people. God just did not save you for the good times in life.

We are of the persuasion, and I have heard it taught for years and years and years that all the good things in life are from God and all the bad things in life are from the devil. As John Wayne said in the great movie, *\*Sands of Iwo Jima\**, when he was talking to that lady that was down on her luck, and she was telling her sad story. In John Wayne's fashion and style, he says, "Well, lady, in every life a little rain must fall." In every Christian life a little rain must fall. It is not always going to be good. Sometimes it is going to be terrible. You are going to have to make and take a stand against some really hard things in your Christian life, if you have not already. This is why he said in 2 Timothy 2:3-4 that you and I are to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*

*No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of [this] life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. 2Timothy 2:3-4*

We have talked about this before, God saving you to finish the work that He started. Do you think the devil is going to make that easy for you?

But the reason why God's people have no real opposition in their life is because they do not pose any threat to the devil and what he is doing. The devil is fine just the way we are, non-threatening. We are never going to take a stand. We are never going to put ourselves out on the limb for God. We are going to play it safe all of our Christian lives.

The greatest tragedy for a child of God is you taking God's salvation—but then never finding out why He saved you and going through your whole life as comfortable and as easy as you can. Never forget why God saved you.

Understanding our time on Earth is to do the job that God has given us to do right before He comes back in a world, in a country, in a Christianity that is being held captive. The devil wants God's people to be as complacent as they can be. He wants us to just enjoy life, have kids, put all of our focus on material things, a nice house, a nice car, a nice family. Nothing wrong with any of that. But in that process, we never find out the real reason God saved us.

In the world that is full of holding God's people captive, we need to understand we have been set free from that. It is like Daniel, Ezekiel, David, Joseph. Just like the Waldensians, the Huguenots, the Paulicians, the Lombards, the Hussites, the Albigensians, and the Anabaptists who faced in the Dark Ages the full fury of the Roman Catholic Church's brutality.

You have a King James Bible in your hand. Back then, it was a capital offense to have a King James Bible or any Bible off the manuscripts out of Antioch, and you were put to death because of it. They faced the full brunt when they were thrown in prisons and they denied the Lord Jesus

Christ, they would not do it. So they took the little kids out, tortured them in front of mom and dad. Little kids screaming for mommy and daddy to help them when they are behind bars and they could not get to them, and they are torturing them and murdering them slowly, one inch at a time. And they never denied Christ. Some of God's people sell Him out for a cigarette or a drink. They were prepared.

How would you like to be a mom and dad that loved the Lord and you are given a chance to recant and reject Christ and become Roman Catholic and you will not do it? They are going to execute you and the last thing that you see on this Earth before you go home to heaven is two demonic nuns taking your kids off to be raised in a Roman Catholic convent. Tell me about your troubles. Tell me what your big issues are today. I will tell you what it is. We forgot why God saved us the day He saved us, and we have made our life like my two dogs at home. All day long they do one thing and they do it well: get as comfortable as they can. They paid the price of the brutality of the worst day of trouble that you could ever imagine.

Now it is our turn. Now it is time to put on the whole armor of God. Now it is time to make the great song, "Hold the Fort," more than just a song you sing. You build your structure on a rock, you dig in. Be able to withstand the disasters of this captivity that God allows us to go through because it is part of His plan. We understand that. We do not look at it fearful. We look at it as the opportunities it presents. It is like 9/11 when the terrorists hit that tower, everybody was running out of the building. They were screaming, running down the stairs, getting out of the buildings. It was the brave firemen that were running into the building while everybody else was running out. In the world that we live in, the world is running and screaming. We ought to be running in instead of running out.

## 6. Knowing the Lord Will Save His Anointed

Verse six, "*knowing that the Lord will save his anointed.*" In the Bible, there are five anointings:

- 1.) Satan was anointed.
  - ❖ He was an anointed cherub that covered it, but he lost it in Ezekiel 28, Isaiah 14.
- 2.) David was God's anointed.
- 3.) Israel is God's anointed.
- 4.) Christ was God's anointed.
- 5.) The church, you and me, are God's anointed.

"Anointed" in the Bible means a divine and holy office and calling, anointed by the Holy Spirit for God to do a job. The church is God's anointed for a specific purpose in a specific time. God had us born when He did to fill that gap in time.

### ➤ Some Trust in Chariots, and Some in Horses, But We Will Remember the Name of the LORD Our God

Then he says in closing out the chapter in verse seven, eight and nine, "*Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright. Save, LORD: let the king hear us when we*

*call.* "I am telling you, the thing that will save you and me through this time of holocaust is calling upon the name of the Lord. What does that mean to you?"

## VIII. Summary

I do not know how big a picture you can see out of all of this. It is no accident that God had you born in the timeframe that you were born. I have told you before, I hate the time period that I was born in. I really do. It is the most frustrating thing in the world to me to see some of God's people who dump God, dump the Bible, and do not really give a flip. I would much rather have been born back in the 1600s or the 1700s. I would much rather have been with Miles Standish when he got off that boat at Plymouth. I would much rather have been with Adoniram Judson and some of those guys, David Brainerd. I would much rather have been there. But God chose to put me in 1950. I have had to make peace with that because I think I would be better off back then. God knew better.

God knew that He needed somebody in these last days that would not back down or compromise. God knew He would need somebody that would love the Book, and I am as far from perfect as you could ever get. In fact, if you get in a dictionary and look at the word "imperfect," my picture will be there. But He needed somebody that would never back down on that Book. He needed you who take that same stand that in these last days in this little holdout called Old Path Baptist Church. Along with other little holdouts like Bible Baptist of Boston and Staten Island, New York. All across this country, little holdouts of men and women who are willing to pay the price who understand that God allowed us to be saved and put us where He put us and put us together.

Now, for me, in this country on the brink of total collapse and in total anarchy and apostasy, I will not be so foolish to trust in all the physical things of life. Nations do that. Nations think that if you have more atomic bombs than anybody else and a bigger army and a bigger Navy and a bigger Air Force and better planes, that that is your guarantee of safety. When Curtis LeMay started SAC, Strategic Air Command, back whenever he did that in the 50s, I guess, you know what his motto was for SAC: "Peace through strength." The idea was if you have more bombs and more guns and more this than anybody else, everybody would be afraid to go to war with you.

I will never be so foolish to make the mistake to trust in all the physical things of life that are around me. The pattern is set and clear. I understand our captivity. All this around me is by God's design, everything in America, everything in Missouri, everything in the world. Guys have been preaching about this for 50 years. Now that it is finally here, nobody believes it. Just as God's judgment was on Israel, God's judgment is on this country. You and I go into it just like Ezekiel and Daniel, but the difference is God's hand is in our life. I am not afraid of tomorrow because I saw what He did yesterday. I have a job to do and so do you.

God dropped me and He dropped you in history at His appointed time for us. It is no accident that He did that. No accident that you had the parents you had. There is no accident that you are



in this church. There is no accident that God brought us all together. When I build my structure in the Mount of God, when I understand my salvation, why God saved me, and when you understand that, we all have just two choices. Christian life is not complicated once you understand it. It is not hard once you get perception. I have laid it out. Our day of trouble, David's day of trouble, Israel's day of trouble.

Here we are, the world falling down around our shoulders, fear on every side, people distraught, families being ruined, this, everything collapsing. We in this country are now part of a captivity. The captivity in Israel's time was to finish off taking God from them and taking the Word of God from them and putting them into a Gentile world without God. The captivity in Christianity is by churches to take the Bible and God from you and then give you nothing, except the sideshow on Sunday morning, but no depth of Bible doctrine and certainly no building a structure for you and for your family.

It is all around us. It is not going to get any better. We are in that boat, middle of night. Cannot see land on either side. Cannot see the stars that navigate, the clouds are rolling in, the thunder is clacking and crashing, the lightning is hitting all around us, the rain is coming down so heavy, the boat is filling up, everybody is taking their little drinking cups and trying to bail the water out, scared to death. Where is their Jesus? He is in a mountain praying.

➤ In Our Day of Trouble—Our Choice is Simple, Row the Boat

We are in that boat today, folks. Our world is falling down around us. Where is my Jesus? Where is my salvation? Where is my strength? Where is my deliverance? He is in a mountain praying for me. He has got it covered. He gives me the perception, the counsel, and the understanding. Understand everything that is going on around me that I do not have to fear, that I have been set free. Each one of us, when you understand why God saved you, when you understand the job that He has for each of us in our day of trouble, your choice is just real simple. You are either going to panic, scream, yell, curse, pull your hair out, or you are going to row the boat. You are going to row the boat. **I cannot speak for you. Give me an oar in each hand. I am going to row the boat!**