Bringing the Heart of God to the Heart of Man

Ellel
Sydney
"Gilbulla"

PAUL RYAN

Centre Director

(Regional Director for Australia/Pacific)





ELLEL SYDNEY's MISSION:



- Our heart is to resource the Body of Christ thru:-
- Discipleship Training and restoration that overcomes wounds & character blockages;
- Helping people discover their true Identity & Destiny in Christ.

Key Scriptures: Luke 9:11; Isa 61;



Training & Ministry





Ellel Ministries offers two streams:-

- A) Discipleship Training and Equipping
 - Discipleship Schools & Training Courses
 - On-site Schools at Ellel Sydney; and Online Schools

- B) Prayer Ministry; Restoration & Healing
 - Healing Retreats.



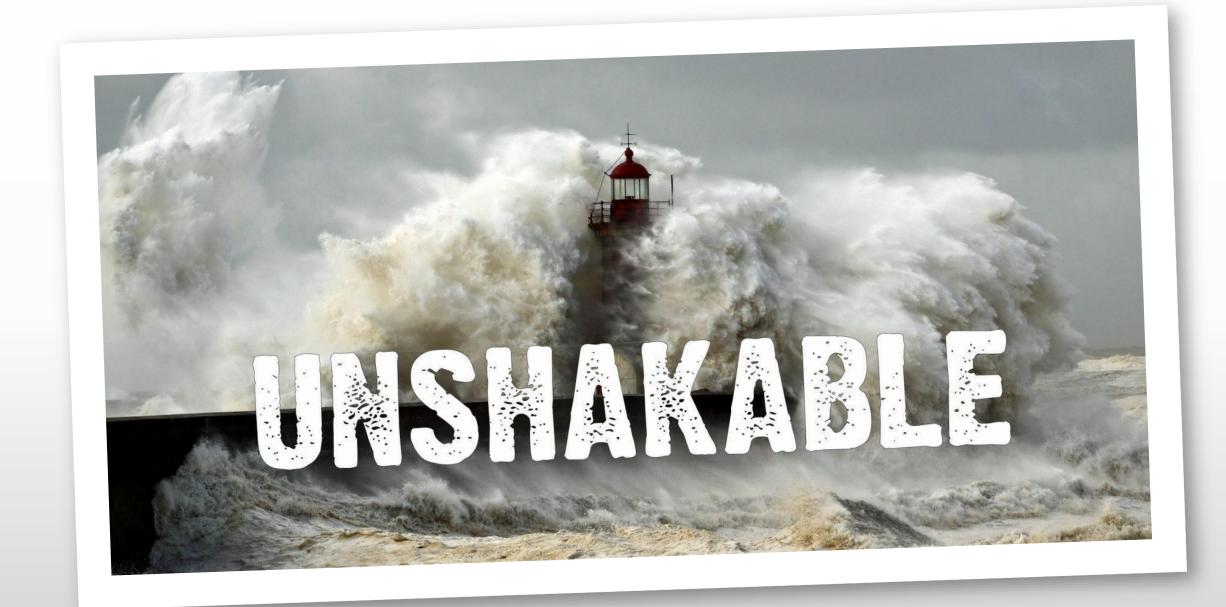
Bringing the Heart of God to the Heart of Man

Ellel Ministries Centers There are now over 50 different Ellel Centers and works around the world on **5 Continents!**









Hebrews 12:28-29

"Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens. The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken — that is created things - so that what cannot be shaken may remain"

- What does that mean? (What is this 'shaking' meant to achieve? And why?)

Luke 17:20-21

(20) Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when will the Kingdom of God will come, Jesus replied: "The Kingdom of God does come because of your careful observation, (21) nor will people say, 'Here it is!' or 'There it is,' because the Kingdom of God is WITHIN you."



YET ONCE MORE I WILL <u>SHAKE</u> NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVENS." (Hebrews 12:26)



Part of the Shaking?...



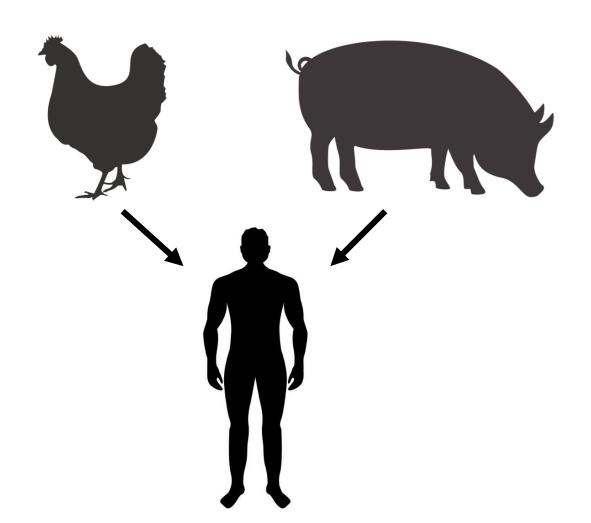


Wuhan 'Wet' Market

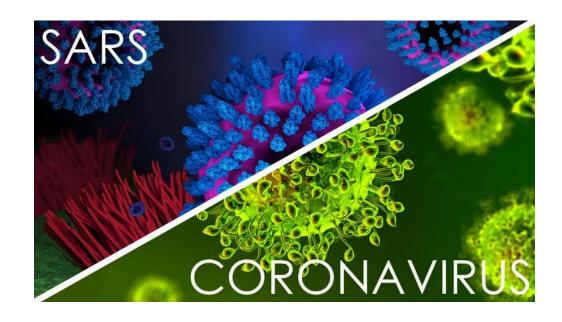
- Live and dead animals in close proximity
- Huge crowds
- Perfect environment for viruses to thrive

Zoonotic Diseases:

Viruses that mutate and transmit from animals to humans

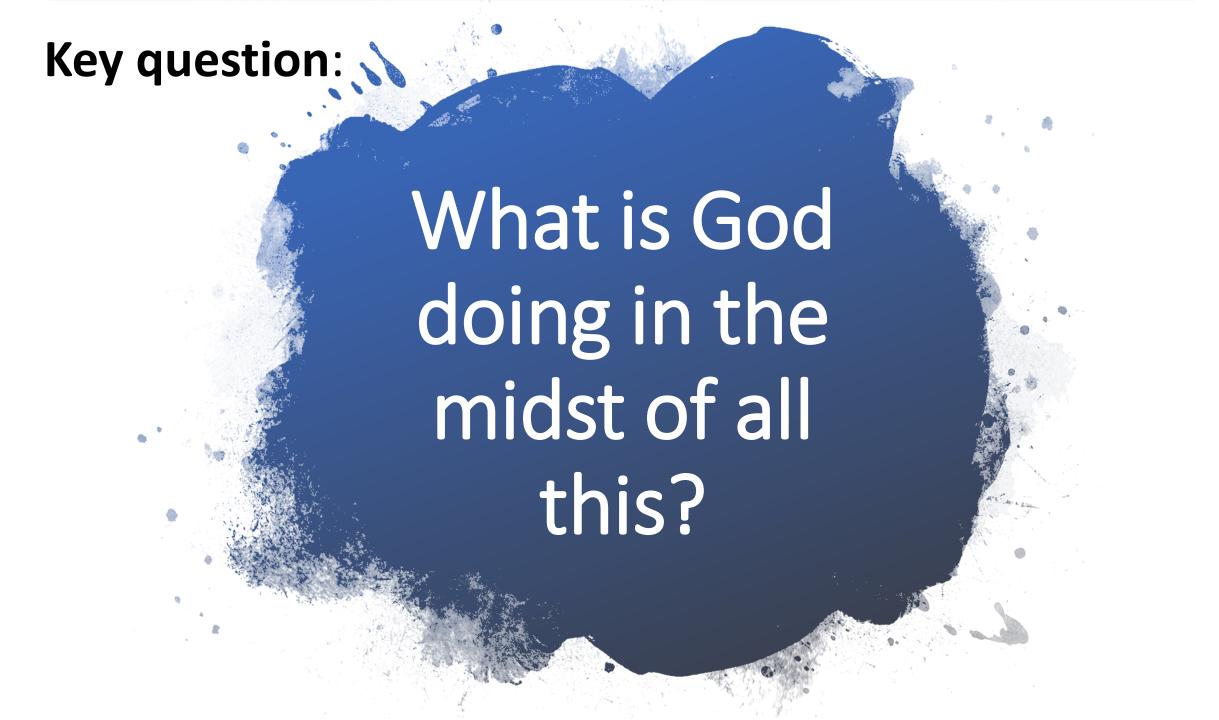








COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories



We should be asking...

What does the Word of God say about Plagues & Pandemics?

The Word of God contains at least 127 mentions of ancient Hebrew and Greek words that represent 'pestilence' & 'plagues'.



GRACE vs JUDGEMENT

PESTILENCE

"a contagious or infectious epidemic disease that is virulent and devastating," or

"something that is destructive or pernicious".

(Merriam-Webster dictionary)

PLAGUE

"an epidemic disease causing a high rate of mortality,"

or

"a disastrous evil or affliction".

(Merriam-Webster dictionary)



Waters Turn to Blood Exodus 7:14-25



Amphibians (Frogs) Exodus 7:26-8:11



Gnats (Lice) Exodus 8:12-15



Flies Exodus 8:16-28



Disease on Livestock Exodus 9:1-7

The Ten Plagues of Egypt



Unhealable Boils Exodus 9:8-12



Hail and Fire Exodus 9:13-35



Locusts Exodus 10:1-20



Darkness Exodus 10:21-29



Death of First-Born Exodus 11:1-12:36

PASSOVER



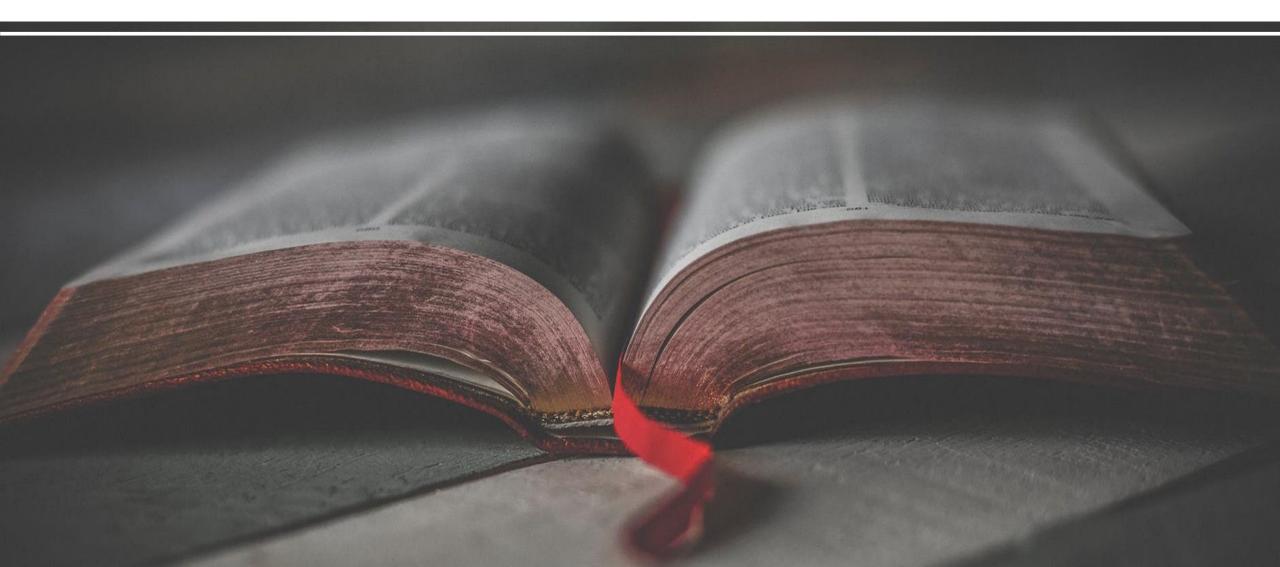
All of those 10 PLAGUES of EGYPT...

...ended with the final plague "The PASSOVER'... which was the pre-cursor pointing to the rescue that came with the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Are we entering a period...

...that will see another whole set of plagues and pestilences come over the earth... as a pre-cursor to the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ?

LET'S EXAMINE WHAT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH ABOUT PESTILENCE & PLAGUES...



"Then the Lord said to Moses: Go to Pharaoh and speak to him, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me." For if you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them, behold, the hand of the Lord will come with a very severe

pestilence....'"

(Exodus 9:1-3, NASB)

"The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly.' Moses said to Aaron...'Make atonement for them, for wrath has gone forth from the Lord, the plague has begun.'

Numbers 16:41-43 NASB

1 Sam 5:9 "...The hand of the Lord was against the city with very great confusion; and He smote the men of the city, both young and old, so that tumors broke out on them..."

1 Sam 6:4 "...And they said, "One plague was on all of you..."

"the anger of the Lord burned against Israel." (2 Sam 24:1)

"So the Lord sent a **pestilence** upon Israel from the morning until the appointed time, and 70,000 men of the people from Dan to Beersheba died....Then David spoke to the Lord...and said, 'Behold, it is I who have sinned, and it is I who have done wrong'.... David built there an altar to the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. Thus the Lord was moved by prayer for the land, and the plague was held back from Israel."

(see all of 2 Samuel Ch 24, NASB)

"Hear now this word which I am about to speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who were before me and before you from ancient times prophesied against many lands and against great kingdoms, of war and of calamity and of pestilence." (Jeremiah 28:7-8, NASB)

... <u>I, the Lord, have spoken....Moreover, I will send on you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you of children; plague and bloodshed also will pass through you, and I will bring the sword on you. I the Lord have spoken." (Ezekiel 5:5-12, NASB)</u>

Ezekiel continued to warn the nation of Judah over and over again that judgments of plagues and pestilences were coming... but they refused to repent.

(See also Ezekiel 6:11-12, 7:15, 12:16, 14:19, 14:21, NASB)

"And the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Son of man, set your face toward Sidon, prophesy against her and say, "Thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I am against you, O Sidon, and I will be glorified in your midst. Then they will know that I am the Lord when I execute judgments in her, and I will manifest My holiness in her. For I will send pestilence to her...." (Ezekiel 28:20-24, NASB)

"Hear the word which the Lord has spoken against you, sons of Israel....'Surely, the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret counsel to His servants the prophets.... I sent a plague among you after the manner of Egypt; I slew your young men by the sword along with your captured horses, and I made the stench of your camp rise up in your nostrils; yet you have not returned to Me,' declares the Lord....'Seek the Lord that you may live, or He will break forth like a fire, O house of Joseph, and it will consume with none to quench it...."

(Amos 3:1, 7, 4:10, 5:6, NASB)

"If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law which are written in this book, to fear this honored and awesome name, the Lord your God, then the Lord will bring extraordinary plagues on you and your descendants, even severe and lasting plagues, and miserable and chronic sicknesses. He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt of which you were afraid, and they will cling to you. Also every sickness and every plague which, not written in the book of this law, the Lord will bring on you until you are destroyed. Then you shall be left few in number, whereas you were as numerous as the stars of heaven, because you did not obey the Lord your God."

(Deuteronomy 28:58-62, NASB)

In the prophecies known to Bible scholars as the eschatological "War of Gog and Magog," a coalition of nations will form against Israel in the "last days" of history (Ez. 38:16). Among these nations: Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya, and Sudan. The coalition will come against the nation of Israel "like a storm" (Ez. 38:9) and try to consume, loot and destroy Israel. Speaking through the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord God warns that when that attack against Israel comes, He will defend Israel and defeat her enemies using a range of destructive measures, including terrible diseases.

God says he will defend Israel and execute judgment to draw people to Himself:-

"With pestilence and with blood I will enter into judgment with him; and I will rain on him and on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, a torrential rain, with hailstones, fire and brimstone. I will magnify Myself, sanctify Myself, and make Myself known in the sight of many nations; and they will know that I am the Lord." (Ezekiel 38:22-23, NASB).

"I will set My glory among the nations; and all the nations will see My judgment which I have executed and My hand which I have laid on them." (Ezekiel 38:21, NASB)

QUESTION:

What stands out to you in all of these passages regarding WHY God sent these pestilences; plagues and pandemics?

Q. What stands out to you in all of these passages regarding WHY God sent these pestilences & plagues? (3 examples below:)

Ezekiel 28:23-24 "Then they will know that I am the Lord when I execute judgments in her, and I will manifest My holiness in her. For I will send **pestilence** to her...."

Ezekiel 28:21-24: "Thus says the Lord God, 'Behold, I am against you, O Sidon, and I will be glorified in your midst. Then they will know that I am the Lord when I execute judgments in her, and I will manifest My holiness in her. For I will send **pestilence** to her...."

Deuteronomy 28:15 "But it shall come about, if you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and serve to do all with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you....The Lord will make the pestilence cling to you until He has consumed you"

Matthew 24:3-8, (NKJV)

"Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

All these are the beginning of sorrows."



Zechariah 14:1, 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, 15, NASB

"Behold, a day is coming [when] I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle....Then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations....In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives....And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His name the only one....Now this will be the plague with which the Lord will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem..."

Revelation warns 12 times of terrible pestilence and plagues that will come as part of God's judgment of sin, prior to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.



"I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth."

(Revelation 6:8, NASB)

"By these three **plagues** a third of mankind was killed—by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths." (Revelation 9:18, KJV)

According to Revelation Chapter 11, two great witnesses will appear in the last days:

"These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all **plagues**, as often as they desire." (Revelation 11:6, KJV)

Rev 15:1, KJV "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the <u>seven last **plagues**</u>, for in them the wrath of God is complete."

Rev 15:6, KJV "And out of the temple came the <u>seven angels having</u> the <u>seven plagues</u>, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands."

Rev 15:8, KJV "The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the **seven plagues** of the seven angels were completed."

"And great hail from heaven fell upon men, <u>each</u> <u>hailstone about the weight of a talent</u>. Men blasphemed God because of the **plague of the hail**, since that plague was exceedingly great." (**Revelation 16:21, KJV**)

If you Google: "What is the weight of a biblical talent?"

Hailstones weighing 25 – 32 Kilograms!!!!!

"And I heard another voice from heaven saying,

"Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her
sins, and lest you receive of her plagues."

(Revelation 18:4, KJV)

"Therefore, her **plagues** will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her." (Revelation 18:8, KJV)

"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last **plagues** came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." (Revelation 21:9, KJV)

The only Conclusion you can come to biblically is that Plagues are one way God seeks to get our attention about our mortality and to demonstrate He is not happy with how we have forsaken His laws.

You've just seen how the Bible clearly indicates Pestilence and Plagues are used by God as judgement.

Yet, God also uses them to warn and to 'shake' people and nations to get their attention and draw them to Himself!

The World has flaunted God's laws and completely disregarded His precepts and ordinances...



Prayer and Scripture reading has been banned from schools



Marriage laws have been changed in many nations around the world. Biblical definition of marriage has now been changed to include a far "broader" definition of marriage...

(But only one definition represents Christ returning for His Bride)



Euthanasia laws are being implemented in many nations now

Abortion is a major stench in God's nostrils!



<u>W.H.O</u>: An estimated 40-50 million abortions occur annually! That's approx 125,000 abortions (murders) every day!

The world regularly disregards & breaks all of God's Commandments by the hour...

An Almighty God's patience and grace can last only so long before He begins to act...

Yet God in His loving-kindness, He promises to be gracious to forgive and heal those stricken with terrible diseases –

...IF they come to Him and repent of their sins!

Many would be familiar with this passage:-

"...and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and heal their land."

(2 Chronicles 7:12-14, NASB)

But the first part of this verse is often "trimmed". When the missing part is included, it actually reads:-

"...if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send
PESTILENCE among My people and My people who are
called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek
My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear
from heaven, will forgive their sin and heal their land."
(2 Chronicles 7:12-14, NASB)

"At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it. If that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it."

(Jeremiah 18:7-8 , NASB)



YET ONCE MORE I WILL SHAKE NOT ONLY THE EARTH, BUT ALSO THE HEAVEN." (Hebrews 12:26)

His judgements are a call to repentance!

God is "shaking" us because He wants the world to turn back to Him!

So, what are God's sovereign purposes for allowing such pestilences?

SUMMARY:

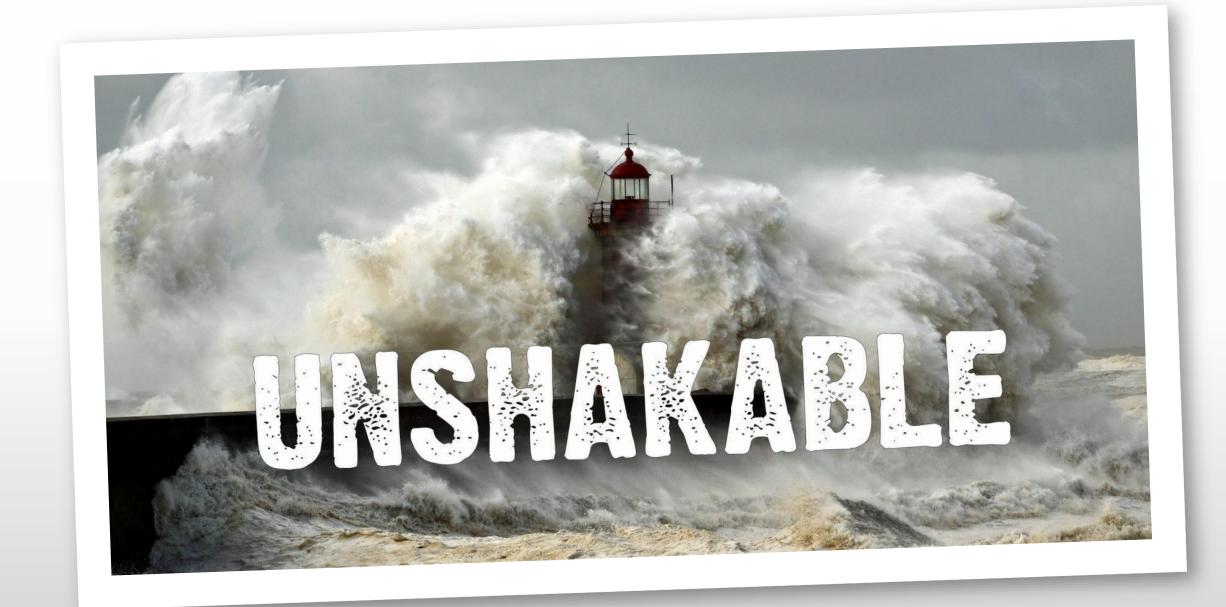
- Executing divine judgment for chronic, unrepentant sin.
- Warning others that they, too, could face divine judgment for unrepentant sin.
- Shaking the earth to wake it from spiritual slumber & rebellion; repent; and turn in faith to a genuine relationship with a Holy God.
- And this will lead to the eventual return of Christ!

We must get our character and hearts ready for how the Lord Jesus would <u>use us in these days</u>...

Matthew 24 says:-

- More Pestilence & Plagues are coming
- Persecution is on the way
- False 'Christs' and false prophets will appear
- Many will be deceived and turn away from the faith
- The love of many will grow cold
- Only the one who stands firm to the end will be saved...

(ie Only those who prove to be...)



But When Pressure Comes

- Can God Trust Us?

'However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?'

LUKE 18:3

The key question isn't really: "Can I trust God?"

The key question is: "Can God trust us?"

WHEN UNDER PRESSURE IN THESE LAST DAYS...

"Will God be able to trust us?"...

(ie Can God entrust us to carry out His plans and purposes?)

"...I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people"

JUDE vs3

There are no shortcuts in the Kingdom of God!

As God "shakes" us...
Will you allow Him to:

DISRUPT; DISMANTLE; REBUILD; & RELEASE.

Will you rush out and Build Big?

Or

Allow God to continuing Digging Deep?



'we are like a densely populated city; nothing new can be built in our heart without something else first being torn down'

(Mike Mason, "The Mystery of Marriage")

Build Big or Dig Deep?

Remember, no shortcuts in the Kingdom of God!

Must not compromise the Discipleship process!

"... creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed"

Romans 8:19

"What would a truly free man do?"

(A man who's free from Fear & Shame...)

DEFINITION OF A TRULY 'FREE MAN'

"The church at this point needs men... who cannot be frightened by death - because they have already died to the allurements of this world. Such men will be free from the compulsions that control weaker men. They will not be forced to do things by the squeeze of circumstance: their only compulsion will come from within and above...

...These men will serve God and mankind from motives too high to be understood by the rank and file... They will make no decisions out of fear; take no course out of a desire to please... perform no religious act out of mere custom; nor will they allow themselves to be influenced by the love of money, publicity or the desire for reputation."

A.W. Tozer

... and what kind of influence would a truly free man have on this world... a man free of shame and fear?...

Would we be prepared to allow God to continue "Excavating our heart" so we could become like these...

- Like Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego
- Like Joshua and Caleb
- Like Noah
- Like Daniel
- Like Job

Or what about <u>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</u>?



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- German national
- Protestant pastor
- Theological professor
- Trained students for the anti-Nazi Church
- A vocal opponent of Nazism
- Imprisoned in 1943
- Executed in 1945 (age 39)

The pressure Jews & Christians were under in Germany by 1937:

- 267 synagogues burned down
- 20,700+ herded into concentration camps
- 800+ pastors jailed
- Churches fell silent under threat of reprisals
- Bonhoeffer banned from public meetings
- Gestapo watching Bonhoeffer closely
- Bonhoeffer reprimanded and threatened by his friends, colleagues and his own church leadership!

Bonhoeffer:

- Ran an underground seminary
- Smuggled Jews into Switzerland
- Kept pastors out of the military
- Warned Germans about the 'verführer' (misleader/seducer; as opposed to the 'Führer' - Leader)
- Published the book 'Cost of Discipleship'.

All the while knowing that martyrdom awaited him.

"SILENCE IN THE FACE OF EVIL IS ITSELF EVIL: GOD WILL NOT HOLD US GUILTLESS.

NOT TO SPEAK IS TO SPEAK. NOT TO ACT IS TO ACT."

- DEITRICH BONHOEFFER

In 1939 Bonhoeffer made the most crucial decision of his life. He was offered various teaching positions in the United States. He arrived in New York in June 1939 but almost immediately believed it was a mistake. Although he was strongly pressed to stay there in safety, Bonhoeffer returned to Germany...

"I have made a mistake in coming to America. I must return to my country and live through this difficult period ... I shall have no right to participate in the reconstruction of Christian life in Germany after the war if I do not share the trials of this time with my people"

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The ultimate question for a responsible man to ask is not how he is to extricate himself heroically from the affair, but how the coming generation shall continue to live in its midst

Dietrich Bonhoeffer ('Letters and Papers from Prison')

The prison doctor present at Bonhoeffer's execution said:

"I saw Pastor Bonhoeffer, before taking off his prison garb, kneeling on the floor praying fervently to his God. I was most deeply moved by the way this lovable man prayed, so devout and so certain that God heard his prayer. At the place of execution, he again said a short prayer and then climbed the steps to the gallows, brave and composed. His death ensued after a few seconds.

In almost fifty years that I worked as a doctor, I have never seen a man die so entirely submissive to the will of God".

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote:-

"The test of whether we have truly found the peace of God...
...will be in how we face the trials and sufferings which befall us"

Hebrews 11:36-38

³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and ill-treated – ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them.

In these last days as global disturbances continue to increase:

- Jesus is asking "Will I find faith when I return?"
- Will God find people He can <u>entrust</u> with His plans in these last days?

Remember, no shortcuts in the Kingdom of God!

Do not compromise the process!

DISRUPT;
DISMANTLE;
REBUILD; & then
RELEASE us!

Hebrews 12:28-29

"Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens... so that only what cannot be shaken may remain"

God's 'shaking' will expose the idolatry in our hearts... so we have opportunity to deal with it!

Jesus wants to establish the Kingdom of God 'within us'...

Then we can be "entrusted" with His plans and purposes!

 God is looking to develop those who will become:-

