

A large wooden ark is under construction on a sandy beach at sunset. The ark is made of dark wood and has a curved roof. In the foreground, there are stacks of logs and a wooden fence. The sky is a mix of orange and blue.

AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

September 6, 2017 Part 3 Pastor Grant Williams

When you watch or read the news, do you get angry? Afraid? Turn it off? Keep your head in the sand? Especially right now, it seems like everything (news) is about war or the beginnings of war in the Middle East, even in North Korea.

So, what is happening? What is the source of all this conflict? First, the Bible says that at the Time Of The End, man's heart would wax cold, be full of iniquity and anger. Secondly, at the heart or at the center of the conflict, not just in the Middle East but for all nations, is Israel and the Jewish people. Why Israel? Is God trying to tell us something? Is God letting the news organizations give us the "heads up" on Christ's return?

Can we know the signs of His return? Yes, we need to go back in history to find out what is going to happen in the near future!

In Matthew chapter 24, we have been studying that Jesus responded “it would As In The Days of Noah” to His disciples when asked what would it be like when He came back. He didn’t stop there, that wasn’t the only thing Jesus told them when asked about the signs of His return. Jesus didn’t tell them “it’s none of your business” or that “it was not for you to know”, He gave them, those alive today as well, a very detailed answer and command to know and recognize the signs of His return.

Matthew 24:33 NASB

*33 so, you too, **when you see all these things, recognize** that He is near, right at the door.*

Matthew 24:33 KJV

*33 So likewise ye, **when ye shall see all these things, know** that it is near, even at the doors.*

The word “recognize” used in Matthew 24:33 in the original Greek is in the imperative mode (a form of a verb) which means it is a command! We are commanded by Jesus to know when His return is near. These signs will be taking place collectively.

When we read the words of the Great Commission found in Matthew 28, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations”, we understand and know that the word “go” is a command. We know that Jesus is commanding us to take action and that action is to “GO” “and make disciples of all nations”. There is no difference between the word “go” in the Great Commission and the word “recognize” in Matthew 24 in terms of them both being a command. We are commanded to know the season we are in.

John 14:15 KJV

15 If ye love me, **keep my commandments.**

John 14:23 KJV

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If** a man love me, **he will keep my words**: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Do you believe that Jesus would command you to know the season of His return without telling you how to know when that season is? Do you believe that Jesus would give you a command that is impossible for you to obey?

Many in the Church today have been misled into believing that since no man knows the day or hour of the Lord's return, we cannot know for certain that His return is at hand; then, many take it to the next step, treating the imminent return of Jesus as almost a form of heresy or at a minimum nothing to be discussed in serious Biblical study.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 KJV

1 *But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*

2 *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

3 *For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

6 *Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

7 *For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.*

8 *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, **putting on the breastplate of faith and love**; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

9 *For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*

10 *Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.*

11 *Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.*

So, why won't preachers, teachers and christians comfort one another with these Words? These are the Words of God. Because many believers and especially the non believer does not believe in judgment, or preachers and teachers want to be liked so they tickle the ears by not teaching about sin, righteousness, holiness, judgment....

2 Timothy 4:1-5 AMPC

1 *I charge [you] in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, **Who is to judge the living and the dead**, and by (in the light of) His coming and **His kingdom**:*

2 *Herald and preach the Word! Keep your sense of urgency [stand by, be at hand and ready], whether the opportunity seems to be favorable or unfavorable. [Whether it is convenient or*

inconvenient, whether it is welcome or unwelcome, you as preacher of the Word are to show people in what way their lives are wrong.] And **convince them, rebuking and correcting, warning and urging and encouraging them,** being unflagging and inexhaustible in patience and teaching.

3 For the time is coming when [people] **will not tolerate (endure) sound and wholesome instruction, but, having ears itching** [for something pleasing and gratifying], they will gather to themselves one teacher after another to a considerable number; **chosen to satisfy their own liking and to foster the errors they hold,**

4 And will turn aside from hearing the truth and wander off into myths and man-made fictions.

5 As for you, be calm and cool and steady, accept and suffer unflinchingly every hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fully perform all the duties of your ministry.

Itching ears want to hear it doesn't matter what I do or say as long as I say, "I love God". But, God defines love, it's His Kingdom and He says it is with Word and Deed that we show this love. It is by our habitual fellowship or nature that we prove if we are habitually changing into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:1-18 AMPC

3 See what [an incredible] quality of love the Father has given (shown, bestowed on) us, that we should [be permitted to] be named and called and counted the children of God!

And so we are! The reason that the world does not know (recognize, acknowledge) us is that it does not know (recognize, acknowledge) Him.

2 Beloved, we are [even here and] now God's children; it is not yet disclosed (made clear) what we shall be [hereafter], but we know that when He comes and is manifested, **we shall [as God's children] resemble and be like Him**, for we shall see Him just as He [really] is.

3 And everyone who has this hope [resting] on Him cleanses (purifies) himself just as He is pure (chaste, undefiled, guiltless).

4 Everyone who commits (practices) sin is guilty of lawlessness; for [that is what] sin is, lawlessness (the breaking, violating of God's law by transgression or neglect—being unrestrained and unregulated by His commands and His will).

5 You know that He appeared in visible form and became Man to take away [upon Himself] sins, and in Him there is no sin [essentially and forever].

6 No one who abides in Him [who lives and remains in communion with and in obedience to Him—deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] commits (practices) sin. No one who [habitually] sins has either seen or known Him [recognized, perceived, or understood Him, or has had an experiential acquaintance with Him].

7 Boys (lads), let no one deceive and lead you astray. He who practices righteousness [who is upright, conforming to the divine will in purpose, thought, and action, living a consistently conscientious life] is righteous, even as He is righteous.

8 [But] he who commits sin [who practices evildoing] is of the devil [takes his character from the evil one], for the devil has sinned (violated the divine law) from the beginning.

The reason the Son of God was made manifest (visible) was to undo (destroy, loosen, and dissolve) the works the devil [has done].

9 No one born (begotten) of God [deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] practices sin, for God's nature abides in him [His principle of life, the divine sperm, remains permanently within him]; and he cannot practice sinning because he is born (begotten) of God.

10 By this it is made clear who take their nature from God and are His children and who take their nature from the devil and are his children: no one who does not practice righteousness [who does not conform to God's will in purpose, thought, and action] is of God; neither is anyone who does not love his brother (his fellow believer in Christ).

11 For this is the message (the announcement) which you have heard from the first, that we should love one another,

12 [And] not be like Cain who [took his nature and got his motivation] from the evil one and slew his brother. And why did he slay him? Because his deeds (activities, works) were wicked and malicious and his brother's were righteous (virtuous).

13 Do not be surprised and wonder, brethren, that the world detests and pursues you with hatred.

14 We know that we have passed over out of death into Life by the fact that we love the brethren (our fellow Christians). He who does not love abides (remains, is held and kept continually) in [spiritual] death.

15 Anyone who hates (abominates, detests) his brother [in Christ] is [at heart] a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding (persevering) within him.

16 By this we come to know (progressively to recognize, to perceive, to understand) the [essential] love: that He laid down His [own] life for us; and we ought to lay [our] lives down for [those who are our] brothers [in Him].

17 But if anyone has this world's goods (resources for sustaining life) and sees his brother and [m]fellow believer in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him?

18 Little children, let us not love [merely] in theory or in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity).

You can't talk about God's grace if you're not talking about sin because what is the grace for? You can't talk about the love of God without talking about His commands because that is how we show our love, in Word and Deed.

Jesus commands that you and I know the signs of His return. He tells us that we show our love by keeping His commands. His Word tells us that at the Time Of The End what it will look like or the things to look out for so we won't fall apart or be in fear, but trust Him because He has already told us what would happen and we know it!

Matthew 24:1-16 KJV

1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.

2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: **for all these things must come to pass,** but the end is not yet.

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and **ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.**

10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

12 And **because iniquity shall abound,** the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

16 Then **let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:**

What does all this have to do with “As In The Days Of Noah”?

Matthew 24:36-39 KJV

36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark,

39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

We are living in the days that are just like the days of Noah . Along with all these “things” (prophesies) taken together or collectively happening.

Matthew 24:33 AMPC

33 So also when you see these signs, **all taken together**, coming to pass, you may know of a surety that He is near, at the very doors.

We have to know about what Jesus said, which is look at biblical history regarding Noah, Daniel, the prophets of the Old Testament because it's not His desire that any should perish. He wants us to be children of the light so we know the season of His return and don't get caught unaware like a thief in the night.

So, we know that 5400 years ago, Enoch spoke and was quoted in the New Testament by Jude regarding this Time Of The End. Remember, history tells us the future. We are commanded to know this Biblical history which is God's Word.

Jude 14-15 KJV

*14 And **Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying,** Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*

15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

Here we have Enoch, mentioned by Jude, giving a prophecy about the return of the Lord which we now know is Jesus Christ. We have the New Testament, so we know who the Lord is and that He is coming with His myriads of holy ones, ten thousands of His saints (you and I), that is going to be returning. Enoch prophesied this 3,400 years before John wrote about this in the book of Revelation Chapter 19.

When studying the life of Enoch through Jewish history books and the Bible, we know that Enoch was a believing man, a righteous man. At the age of 65, Enoch went up into Heaven and God is about to reveal to Him the history of what was about to happen. This revelation or prophetic foretelling of what was to come was judgment by water or “The Flood”.

Enoch 1:1-2

The words of the blessing of Enoch, wherewith he blessed the elect and righteous, who will be living in the day of the tribulation, when all the wicked and godless are to be removed...Enoch a righteous man, whose eyes were opened by God, saw the vision of the Holy One in the heavens, which the angels showed me...but not for this generation, but for a remote one which is for to come.

The Bible says that Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methusaleh...

Genesis 5:22 AMPC

22 Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God after the birth of Methuselah 300 years & had other sons and daughters.

So what was he like before the birth of Methuselah? Because something happened at age 65 and he changed...from the study of the Bible and Jewish history I believe that the change that took place in Enoch was that God revealed to him that there was judgment coming by a flood. (You and I would change too...)

As a result of this prophetic vision, Enoch names his son Methuselah. The first part of that name Met (*mut*), means death or to die. The second part of that name is taken from *shellah* which means to send forth or to bring forth. For a meaning of the name Methuselah, Jones' Dictionary of Old Testament Proper Names translates the whole name: When He Is Dead It Shall Be Sent or His Death Brings.

At age 65, Enoch names his son Methuselah which means: “At His Death, He Brings It Forth”, as a sign to all that were going to be living that something was going to happen when Methuselah died. After the birth of Methuselah at age 65, Enoch lived another 300 years and that is when God translated him.

Genesis 5:24 AMPC

24 And Enoch walked [in habitual fellowship] with God; and he was not, for God took him [home with Him].

The phrase, “took him” in Hebrew comes from a word that means to take something and carry it away.

In the book of Hebrews it says he was translated...

Hebrews 11:5 KJV

*5 By faith Enoch was **translated** that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.*

Hebrews 11:5 AMPC

*5 Because of faith Enoch was caught up and **transferred** to heaven, so that he did not have a glimpse of death; and he was not found, because God had **translated** him. For even before he was taken to heaven, he received testimony [still on record] that he had pleased and been satisfactory to God.*

The word translated here in the Greek means: transport, transfer, to change sides (meaning he went from earth to heaven).

According to secular Jewish history, Enoch was translated on the 7th day and that would have been on the shabbat. Remember, God created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th day.

Genesis 2:2 KJV

2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

Enoch is the 7th generation from Adam and is translated according to Jewish history on Shabbat, the 7th day. Then in Jasher 3:36 (Jewish history) we find something interesting, it says that Enoch was taken by a whirlwind into heaven with horses and chariots of fire.

Jasher 3:36

36 And when the kings returned they caused a census to be taken, in order to know the number of remaining men that went with Enoch; and it was upon the seventh day that Enoch ascended into heaven in a whirlwind, with horses and chariots of fire.

Why is that interesting? Elijah, the only other man who never saw death is translated in 2 Kings, he is taken into heaven in a whirlwind, with horses and chariots of fire.

2 Kings 2:1-11 AMPC

1 When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were going from Gilgal.

2 And Elijah said to Elisha, Tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel. But Elisha replied, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they went down to Bethel.

3 The prophets' sons who were at Bethel came to Elisha and said, Do you know that the Lord will take your master away from you today? He said, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.

4 *Elijah said to him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho. But he said, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they came to Jericho.*

5 *The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said, Do you know that the Lord will take your master away from you today? And he answered, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.*

6 *Elijah said to him, Tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan. But he said, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And the two of them went on.*

7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood [to watch] afar off; and the two of them stood by the Jordan.

8 *And Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they divided this way and that, so that the two of them went over on dry ground.*

9 *And when they had gone over, Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you. And Elisha said, I pray you, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.*

10 *He said, You have asked a hard thing. However, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you—but if not, it shall not be so.*

11 As they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire parted the two of them, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

According to Jewish history, Enoch was translated identical to how the Bible says Elijah was translated. Then, when you come down to the time of the flood, there were only 2 righteous men in the genealogies from Adam to Noah. One is Methuselah which is the grandfather of Noah, and Noah himself.

2 Peter 2:5 AMPC

5 And He spared not the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven other persons, when He brought a flood upon the world of ungodly [people]

God left on the earth for the time frame in which Noah was building the ark 2 righteous men who, according to the Bible and Jewish history, were preachers of righteousness. They tried to warn men of what was going to take place. This is confirming to a law found in God's Word in 2 Corinthians when you look in Biblical history, there are always 2 witnesses.

2 Corinthians 13:1 KJV

13 This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.

2 Corinthians 13:1 AMPC

13 This is the third time that I am coming to you. By the testimony of two or three witnesses must any charge and every accusing statement be sustained and confirmed

Two Witnesses

Moses and Aaron

Moses and Joshua

Pillar of Cloud and Pillar of Fire

Joshua and Caleb

Peter and John At The Tomb Of Jesus

2 Angels Inside the Tomb

2 Men in White at the Ascension at The Mount of Olives

2 Witnesses in the tribulation

The Spirit and The Bride (say come)

Now we have a little history about the first Ten Generations Of Men and we're going to do a little review before we continue on.

1. Adam is warned that a flood is coming.
2. That information about the flood is passed down through the first Ten Generations Of Men. (History/Testimony)
3. Enoch sees a vision in heaven and understands something is going to happen (Jude 14-15).

Enoch names his son Methuselah (Genesis 5:21) which means, When He Is Dead It Shall Be Sent or His Death Brings.

4. God has 2 men, Noah and Methuselah preaching for at least 120 years that something is about to happen trying to warn the world about judgment/flood.

This gives us a little bit of history about the time up to Methuselah and Noah. We are going to start looking at the days and the recording of time as in the days Noah and Lot which is prophesied that it would be like during the return of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 46:9-10 AMPC

9 [Earnestly] remember the former things, [which I did] of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God, and there is none like Me,

10 Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose,

Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 KJV

9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.