

The Present and Coming Hour (Part 3)

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[0:00] If you have your Bible, go ahead and turn to John chapter 5, verse 25-29, where we've been for a while as we've talked about what Jesus meant by this present.

And coming hour. And so this is the third sermon on this passage, and I'll go ahead and tell you that there will be a fourth. Because how could we leave talking about what is to come without talking about what we're going to be like one day in heaven?

And so, Lord willing, that will be the subject for next Sunday's sermon, and I hope that you're either here or tuning in to listen to it. For now, go ahead and would you stand with me as we honor the reading of God's Word together?

Reading John chapter 5, verses 25-29. Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.

For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to execute judgment because he is the Son of Man.

[1:35] Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

May God add a blessing to the reading of his Word. Lord, would you please be seated? I think each one of us could say that whether we're reading a book or watching a movie or a television show, that we love a thrilling conclusion.

Don't we? As we read that book or watch that movie or TV show, as the plot builds, we think about what twists may lie ahead.

We wonder, how is this all going to come to an end? And in fact, I believe that the better the story depends upon how good the ending is.

You know, if everything is good and then the ending is not very good, you think, well, that was a bad story. But if you get to the end and the ending is great, you think, well, that was excellent.

[2:40] What a great story. Well, the Bible is the greatest story ever told. And in any good story, it begins with a dramatic beginning.

It says that in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And just like in any great story, there are very interesting, multi-layered characters.

Adam and Eve being the first two that we encounter in the Word. Abraham, Moses, Esther, David, the disciples.

And we could go on and on listing all of the different interesting characters that are contained in God's Word in this great story. Also, it's the greatest story because it's the story about the conflict between good and evil.

And it's a great story because we see ultimately that at the end, good conquers evil. That in the end, the good guy wins, right?

[3:44] And we always love stories like that. And just like in any great story, it has a great hero. And obviously, the hero of the Bible is Jesus Christ.

And so the Bible talks about our great hero who humbled himself by coming to us, who added humanity to his deity, and then who was born in obscurity, and who rose to become the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who was on this great rescue mission, the greatest rescue mission that the world has ever seen or has ever known.

And then in the rest of the New Testament, it talks about the story of the followers of Jesus Christ. After our Lord has risen from the dead and has ascended to heaven, the rest of the story talks about the church of Christ and how we continue on that rescue mission to go and to make disciples, even though we too face the persecution of Satan and the world.

And so right now, we're currently living in that part of the story. But the story has a dramatic conclusion that one day, you and I, will be a part of as well.

And so really, the Bible, this great story, the greatest story ever told, is told in four parts. It begins by talking about creation. And then it continues with talking about the fall, what happened to God's good creation as it came under the curse of sin.

[5:27] Then it talks about the one who would come, this hero, Jesus. And so it talks about redemption. And then finally, at the end, it talks about restoration. When evil is finally defeated, when Satan is totally vanquished, and God's kingdom is then forever established on this earth, and we live in that peace that we long for, in that fullness of joy that we long for in God's kingdom.

And so we as Christians today should be excited about our future. We should be excited about the end of the story. And the Bible has a lot to tell us about how this story is going to end.

However, though the Bible speaks to it, and though we should be excited about it, I've noticed that a lot of Christians don't seem to be that interested about these coming events.

They don't seem to be as interested in the end as they are about the present. And now that could be for a couple of reasons. One, when we talk about the end times and these end events, and we're talking about revelation and these different prophecies, I know it can be hard to sort through them. It can be hard to try to figure out, okay, what is literal? What is symbolic? And so I'm hoping and praying today that as we go through these things, that I don't add further confusion to you, but clarity.

[7:07] And so I guess time will tell. So maybe that's one reason is people say, well, it's just too confusing. How can we know? The other reason I think is because of ignorance. We see that, unfortunately, in a lot of churches today, the sermons tend to be more about the people in the pew than they are about Jesus Christ, the hero of the story.

And so a lot of the sermons will be about your marriage, or your job, your career, or your finances. And listen, while the Bible speaks to those things, and while those things are important, rarely do we get to these other issues that I think Scripture says are more important.

Because listen, Jesus talked a lot about these things, more so than he ever did about marriage, or raising your children, or how to balance your bank account. Because these matters are crucial.

They are extremely important to him, and so they should be for us as well. Jesus had a lot to say about the end of the story.

And he warned us a lot about the end of the story, and encourages us that in this present hour, before that coming hour arrives, that now is the time to come to faith in him.

[8:24] Because when that coming hour comes, it will have been too late. And so as believers, that's important for us to understand, so that we can continue on his rescue mission.

As an unbeliever, that's important for you to understand, because at some point in time, that offer will no longer be extended to you. After telling the Corinthian Christians about the coming resurrection and transformation of the body, excuse me, Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15, 58, Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

So what he's saying here is, in light of the fact that Jesus is going to come back, we should be living our lives in preparation for that moment right now, for that coming hour.

1 John 3, 2 through 3. John says there, Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared, but we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. And so in knowing about the end that is to come, Christians should live joyfully right now, even in the face of difficulties, because we know that with that end comes the end of all of our enemies.

[10:05] Death, Satan, sin. And so we should rejoice. 1 Corinthians 15, 54 through 55 speaks of this coming hour, when the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? And so we should be excited about this coming hour for those reasons. We should also be excited about this coming hour, because we know that when it comes, we will be reunited with our loved ones who have already died believing in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

1 Thessalonians 4, 17. Then when we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, Paul says, to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Now as great as all of these things are going to be, they pale in comparison to the greatest thing that will happen in this coming hour, which is that we will see God face to face.

Revelations 22, 3 through 4. It says, No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.

[11:33] They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. But again, as I've mentioned before, this ending isn't an ending that everyone should look forward to.

These descriptions of the end contained within the pages of Scripture give hope to the believer, but also serve as a warning to those who do not believe.

That judgment is close at hand, and it will come in that coming hour for them, as we talked about last week.

And again, 1 Thessalonians 5, 1 through 3 issues this warning. Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you, for you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

While people are saying there is peace and security, then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. And so what this is talking about is that those who refuse God's salvation in this present hour, that when that coming hour comes, they will be cut off from the glories of heaven, of the new kingdom, of the new heaven and the new earth.

[13:00] Instead of seeing God face to face, they will be banished forever from his presence. 2 Thessalonians 1, 8 through 9 talks about this thing.

And it's sobering to read. Inflaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might. Revelations 21, verse 8, speaks to this as well.

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.

So then the study of these events of the coming hour that Jesus speaks of in this text are critically important for every one of us. It's important for each of us to know and understand what he has to say here.

[14:09] So much is at stake. Your eternity is at stake. And whether you look forward to the end of this story or not depends upon whom you know Jesus Christ to be in this present hour.

And so today we'll be talking about those things that are to come for the next couple of weeks. I remember being in seminary, especially in my first semester, I would be in class and our teacher would use these fancy pants theological words that I'd never heard before.

And some of the students, the ones who sat in the front of the class, knew what he was talking about and would use them too. But I didn't. So I'd often write in the margin and often misspell whatever it was.

And then between classes I would go to the computer lab and I would look it up. And then I'd learn, you know, what they were talking about. One of those words was eschatology. Some of you probably have heard that word or you know what it means.

The term comes from the Greek word *eschatos*, which means last, end, or final. And so when we're talking about eschatology, what we're talking about is the study of the end times, the study of the last and final things.

[15:28] When the Lord returns and that also includes with it a time that Revelation describes, a time of tribulation, also a time of different resurrections, of judgments, of the millennial kingdom also of our Lord Jesus Christ on this earth.

And so again, sometimes we can mistakenly think last means least. but we shouldn't think that way at all when we approach the Lord and His word.

The last is so important because it's the last that tells us and explains the beginning and the middle. Without the last part, the rest of it doesn't make sense.

The last part of it gives purpose to the rest of the story. And so that's why it's so important that we understand these last things as best as we can.

So here's the main idea for this morning's sermon. Jesus has the power to give spiritual life to the spiritually dead and the authority to execute judgment over those resurrected for eternal life and those resurrected for eternal punishment.

[16:40] punishment. Jesus has the power to give spiritual life to the spiritually dead and the authority to execute judgment over those resurrected for eternal life and those resurrected for eternal punishment. And so we've been here for a while and today we are going to zero in and focus on verse 29. What Jesus says there about this coming hour, about our future resurrection. And then we'll look at other scriptures which again I hope and I pray shed light to what Jesus talks about in the coming hour instead of hopefully not adding more confusion if you're confused on these things already. But again this is important and it's important because it concerns you. You will live through this coming hour. One day your soul will be reunited with your body and then you will stand before the Lord in judgment. That's what the Bible says. And you who believe in the Lord today will look forward to that day when it comes. And if you don't now I hope by the end of this that you will.

But those of you who don't know the Lord you hopefully will see that you should not look forward to this day but then you will see what Jesus Christ has done in coming and living and dying for you. That if you believe in him you will have faith. And when this coming hour comes you will rejoice greatly as I hope the rest of us will. So let's review where we've been before we continue on. We saw that the first point of this three-part now four-part sermon is that in this present hour Jesus has the power to give spiritual life to the spiritually dead. So in this present hour we go and we share. We continue on with this rescue mission. We tell people about Jesus Christ. In this present hour he has the ability to take that which is spiritually dead and resurrect it and give it spiritual life. And then we talked about the people who receive this spiritual life. Well it's those who live in the present hour. And then the power to give spiritual life that this is what God does. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. We go and we share but we know it's ultimately the Holy Spirit who brings the dead person spiritually into a position of spiritual life. And then we saw the purpose for this forgiving spiritual life. And then the second point is that in the coming hour Jesus will execute judgment on everyone through the physical resurrection of the dead. So now we're talking about the coming hour that Jesus mentioned in this passage of scripture and the people who will receive his judgment. And again we've already covered that. And now we talk about the power of Jesus to execute this judgment. And again he says there that an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and they will come out. So as we go through here it's beginning that or it's important that we understand that God as the Bible says is in complete control of everything. From beginning to end and everything in between. Just as he had the power in the beginning to create all things so he has the power to bring everything into being that he wills. That he wants. And there is no one who can thwart his plan or his power. And he testifies to that very thing himself in Isaiah 46 verses 9 through 10.

Remember the former things of old for I am God and there is no other. I am God and there is none like me. Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done. Saying my counsel shall stand and I will accomplish all my purpose.

Jesus. So again during this present hour Jesus says that his sheep will hear his voice. And that in hearing his voice they undergo a spiritual resurrection. But in the coming hour all people will hear the voice in the sovereign command of Jesus commanding us to come out of our graves.

[21:05] Jesus and everyone who ever lived in this moment will come back to life. So I've answered the question before. Some people have asked me what about people who are cremated?

You know will they be able to come back to life? Or what about those who die in a fire? To which I answer well you know God has the ability to create everything from nothing. He has the ability to be dead in the grave for three days and come back to life. So that's not going to be an issue for him. So rest assured that if you ever die in a fire you will be resurrected. You will be there on that day. And I hope that that doesn't happen to you by the way. But again Jesus cured incurable diseases. He walked on water. He fed thousands of people with just a sack lunch. He calmed the storm. He raised the dead. He did all of these miracles and all of these miracles serve the purpose of demonstrating the fact that he was who he said that he was. That he was the son of God and that all of creation must obey his command. And so when this time comes, when this hour comes, when you are in your grave to be resurrected and you hear this command,

I'm telling you, you will not have an option whether or not you are going to obey it or not. You aren't going to sit in your grave and be like, I don't want to come out of there, you know, these old rags or whatever, right? You will have to come out because you will have to respond to the command of your sovereign creator. There will be no option for any of us at that moment.

Now at this point Jesus was not primarily concerned with the chronology of how all of this would unfold in this coming hour, but primarily with revealing his divine power to those who were hearing him when he was saying these things in John chapter 5 verses 25 through 29. But like I said last week, I want us to pay more attention to what the Bible says about the order of these events, about the order of resurrection. And I want us to do that because again, the end is so important.

And knowing the end will determine how you live your present. But again, I need to reiterate the fact that not everybody who is a believer agrees about the order of these events. But that disagreement should not cause division amongst us. In fact, some of my favorite theologians think different things about the end times. But it doesn't mean that I collect their books and start a bonfire in the front of the church parking lot or something like that, right? Because I still love them and I still appreciate them and we can disagree on some things and still be united by the most important things. And so I'm going to share with you what I think. And that's based upon what I believe Scripture says about these coming events.

[24 : 10] Two passages explicitly reveal an order to the resurrection. The first one is one that we looked at last week in 1 Corinthians 15 verses 22 through 24. It says, Therefore, as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive, but each in his own order.

Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming, those who belong to Christ, then comes the end when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. So here we see Paul mentions three phases of the resurrection here, that Christ is first, he's the firstfruits. Then those who belong to him, then he says, comes the end. When we turn to Revelations chapter 20 verses 4 through 5, we see that there is a period of time between these events, between these phases. And it says there, then I saw thrones and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God. And those who had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their forehead or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. So in this passage, we see that there is one group that comes to life and reigns with Christ for a thousand years. And there is another group called the rest of the dead who according to the literal interpretation of this passage are not resurrected until after that thousand years is over. So a literal understanding of this passage reveals two resurrections that are separated by one thousand years. Jesus' resurrection was first, then the next resurrection will be that of the church which will occur at the rapture when Jesus comes halfway between heaven and earth is in the sky and he calls the church up out of the world. And then the final one which we've just read about here, when those who are living during the time of the tribulation, they come to faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4, 16 through 17 speaks more to this. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry, speaking of the rapture, a cry of command with the voice of an archangel and with the sound of a trumpet of God and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then those who are alive who are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so we will always be with the Lord.

And then after this event, when the church is taken out of the world, the world, the Bible says, will enter into a terrible time of tribulation, a terrible time of judgment. When the Bible says the Antichrist will rise to power and it will be a horrific time. And now I sincerely hope that my order of events is right because I don't want to be here when that is taking place and you won't want to be here either.

[27 : 40] This time, this period of time will be worse than any other time period the world has ever been through. Worse than any other war or its consequences. Worse than any other cataclysmic event.

Worse than any other pandemic that the world has ever seen. All of the worlds and all of the wars, excuse me, and all of the disasters that this world has ever seen are merely precursors and previews of what is to come when this happens. And quite literally, this world is a ticking time bomb. But during this time of tribulation again, many believers will come to their senses and they will trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. But tragically, many, if not all of them, will die for their faith

in Christ during this time of tribulation. They will undergo intense persecution.

They will be tortured and they will be killed for their faith in Jesus. And these are the ones who will be resurrected when Jesus returns to the earth to establish his millennial reign upon it.

And this is the thousand year reign which is described in Revelations 20 verses 4 through 6. Now after this reign, there will be one final resurrection when all believing dead of all the ages will stand before the Lord in final judgment. And let's look at that. Revelations 20, 11 through 15.

[29 : 15] Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it from his presence earth and sky fled away and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead great and small standing before the throne and books were opened. And books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life.

And the dead were judged by what was written in the books according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it. Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them and they were judged, each one of them according to what they had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. And again, as I've said before, there are different theories about the order of these events amongst believers, true Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ. They don't see totally eye to eye on these things. In fact, I have good friends. And as I was preparing this message this week, I thought of the times where the three of us would get together. One of them was amillennial, meaning he didn't believe that there was going to be a literal 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ on earth. He thought that Christ will come, boom, we're done, right? We'll get it all over there in that one moment. Another friend of mine, we shared more of the same views. And so it didn't matter wherever we were eating lunch, you know, at a conference, playing golf, this topic always came up between them, always came up between them. And they would use the same talking points each time. It was like they were having the same conversation, just at a different location at a different time. And nobody ever changed their mind. But I remember my amillennial friend used to drive my other friend crazy. And eventually, just get to a point where he'd throw his hands up and turn his back in disgust. But we still remained friends. And we still loved each other. And it was one of those things where we'll get to heaven. And like I said last week, some of us will be able to look at the other of us and say, I told you so.

And the rest of us will say, you know, who cares? We're here now, right? So we shouldn't be divided over these things. What is most important for us to understand, I think, is two things. First of all, this fear. This fear that this world will one day come to an end is going to be realized. That's what the Bible says. And I find it interesting that in a lot of our movies, especially these days, they're talking about the end of the world. And to me, it's interesting because I think it's almost like it's written on our heart to know that it can't continue on, that it will one day come to an end. And in fact, that's what the Bible says. But this heaven and this earth will one day replace by a new heaven and a new earth. Let's look at 2 Peter 3, 7 through 12. But by the same word, the heavens and the earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is a thousand years and a thousand years is one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise, as some count slowness, but as patient towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. Again, speaking of this present hour, come to repentance, come to faith.

But then he says this, but the day will come like a thief and then the heavens will pass away with a roar and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought to be in lives of holiness and godliness waiting for and hastening the coming day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved and heavenly bodies will melt as they burn. And so what's important for us to understand here, I think what Peter through, you know, the Holy Spirit through Peter is trying to tell us is that this day is coming. And that valuable treasure or possession that you have now, one day will belong to somebody else. When you die, it will either go to your spouse or your children or somebody in your family will eventually have that thing and maybe a little treasure it as much as you, maybe not. And then eventually it's going to pass through their hands to somebody else's hands and somebody else's hands will probably eventually it's going to end up in a garage sale and it's going to belong to somebody else. And then probably eventually it'll get lost or destroyed and end up in the dump somewhere. But even if it doesn't, it will one day perish in fire, right?

[34:36] And so not to say that it's wrong to have these things, but it is wrong to make them ultimate things, to care about them more than we care about God. And so I think what God is trying to tell us here is this is all going to burn one day. It's all going to be gone one day. And don't waste your life now pursuing these possessions because one day, one, you can't take it with you when you die, and two, it will cease to be.

And as I was thinking about that, I was thinking about this documentary they've done recently of the Chicago Bulls of the 1990s, those teams that had Michael Jordan, the greatest basketball player of all time.

And while we can debate about eschatology, we can't debate about that. He was, okay? Johnny Sawyer's left. We can talk later. But it was interesting to me because here's a guy who had everything that anybody in the world could think that they could ever want. He's successful. He's the best at what he does. He makes a lot of money doing what he does. He's famous for what he does, and he's well appreciated by many worldwide for all the things that he had done. But in watching that documentary and listening to him, you could tell that he was still unfulfilled. And in fact, he talks at the very end of the fact that the Bulls won six championships, and they didn't come back for a seventh. He retired instead, and that team dissolved and went different places. And he said, you know the one thing that eats at me? This guy who has it all, who's won six championships, who has it all according to the world, he says, you know the one thing that eats at me every day? And also I had tears in his eyes as he was saying it, is that we never went back for that seventh championship. I was thinking, you've got everything. And the one thing that eats at you every day is you only won six, you didn't win seven. But you know what? If they had come back and won seven and stopped then, you know what he would have said? It eats at me every day that we didn't win eight, that we didn't win nine, that we didn't win ten. Because there is a hole in your heart, a God-sized hole that only God can fill. And we will continually try to pour things into that hole, and maybe we'll be satisfied for a little while, but it cannot fit. Nothing can fit in that space besides God. And so we can keep trying to put things into it, but we'll never be satisfied. So don't waste your life trying to fill that hole with things that only God can fill. Because again, one day, it's all going to cease to be anyway. So that's the most important, or that's an important thing that we need to understand in all of this. The second important thing for us to understand is that regardless of how you think the order is going to go, Jesus is coming back. And he's coming back soon. And so again, Jesus continued to warn and to encourage that those who listen to him be ready for that coming hour, because it could come at any time. That now in the present hour, before that hour comes, now is the time to put your faith and your trust in Jesus Christ. Because when that coming hour comes, it will be too late. And so in this present hour, we as believers, we look forward to it, and we continue to go to the unbeliever, and we warn them about this present hour that is to come. And we speak to them in this truth and love that they too would believe. And if you're listening today, and you realize that you're not ready for that coming hour, let me tell you that

God so loved the world that he gave his only son, Jesus Christ, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. That on the cross, he endured judgment for your sin. That he was crushed by the wrath of God for the sins that you and I have committed. And if you don't believe in him and in his sacrifice, then there is nothing standing in the way of God's wrath against your sin. So you must trust in Jesus and who he has said that he was, the son of God who came to live the perfect sinless life that we could not live, who died on the cross for sins that he did not commit, who rose again on the third day, and after appearing to many, ascended to the right hand of the Father, where he awaits to come back at any moment. And again, we may not make it to part four. You will maybe have fully experienced all the things that I planned on talking to you by that time. So now the time is crucial and it's important.

[39:38] And so again, in conclusion, many of you are aware that this past week, the church lost one of its greatest servants and Ravi Zacharias, great apologists. And if you've never listened to this man, this man was brilliant, intelligent, a gift to the church and to the world. And I encourage you to look on YouTube and watch one of his lectures, listen to one of his sermons. The man was just brilliant.

One of the things that he would do is he would go to Ivy League colleges, Yale and Harvard and Princeton, and he would lecture to those students, many of them who were atheists or agnostics, many of them who hated everything that he believed in. After he would lecture, he would give them opportunity to come to a microphone and ask him questions. And they would ask these questions

and you could see their white knuckles on that microphone and they hated what he had to say and they wanted to prove him wrong.

And they came at him hard with some really difficult questions because these people weren't dumb. But every time Ravi Zacharias, with kindness and gentleness and with compassion, he would answer their question. Why? Because he truly loved the person at the microphone. He truly cared that that person was ready for the coming hour. And so I wonder as believers today, do we have that same compassion and care? We know that this coming hour is coming and we know what it means for believers and unbelievers. And for those of us whom we know are unbelievers, are we going to them? In this present hour, are we continuing with the rescue mission that the Lord has called us to be a part of, to share the good news of Jesus Christ? Or are we too concerned trying to find joy and pleasure out of things in this world that we know will one day fade away into oblivion? So let's not waste our lives in this present hour. Because when that coming hour comes, anything and everything you've done in the name of Jesus Christ, you will see just how well worth it was.