

The Power of Readiness, Part 1

The Principle: Forewarned is...

Slide Notations

Living in hurricane country... we're thankful for satellites/weather reports

As imminent danger approaches... Secure the house best we can/Prepare the "Go-bag"/Follow our exit plan

Forewarned, we are forearmed against the storm!

Readiness gives us the power to:

Prepare our hearts to defeat the fear and align our faith/trust in God!

Prepare our minds for the loss of stuff and renew our sense of real/valuable!

Put distance between us and harm!

We can't stop the storm from coming and doing its damage... but we can keep it from touching us!

Panic comes from being caught unaware... Not having time to think, plan, act... Grabbing for everything in sight ending up w/nothing secured!

Life in a war zone... Senses alert/gear ready/training received and ingrained...

Intel: "your enemy is coming..." Defenses up/sentries set/enemy met/strategy thwarted

Forewarned, we are forearmed against our enemy!

Readiness gives us the power to...

Prepare our hearts to defeat fear... rising to fight/not take flight!

Prepare our minds to engage the weapons of our warfare!

Put a barrier between us/enemy!

We can't keep our enemy from coming and seeking whom he may devour... but we can be armed and dangerous and waiting for him!

Panic comes from being caught unaware... in the dark, everything around us exploding... Not having time to think, plan, act... Meet the enemy w/=>force!

What if you knew in advance of... A terrorist plot up ahead? A bomb about to explode? A kidnapping about to happen? A bullet coming at you? *Would it make a difference?*

(Clip from "Next")

Forewarned, you would live, move and act differently... hopefully! It's the nature of God and His word to inform us of what's coming... so that we can be ready and live, move and act differently... **hopefully!**

The nature of the Bible is forth-telling the nature, scope, and work of God with mankind... "Everything that pertains to life and godliness has been written for us," in advance – so we can "know" our times and what to do with them!

"Grace and peace are multiplied to you thru knowledge of God and by divine power He has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness thru knowledge of Him that called you to glory and virtue... And by Him we have been given exceeding great and precious promises to be partakers of His divine nature – having escaped the ruin of the world thru lust! **2P1.2-4**

Thru knowledge of God and Jesus Christ we have... Peace w/God, surpassing world! All things pertaining to (w)holiness! Transformation into the Divine Nature! Everything to make us fruitful/future!

"Take heed! I have foretold you all these things about the end of times; the deceptions, struggles, and disasters, the challenges, betrayals and hatred, the final strokes, the time to run for cover and the intense pressures aimed at getting the saints to cave in! But for your sake I have limited the time and told you all this in advance so that when you see the signs, both earthly and spiritual, you will be prepared... Only the Father knows the exact day and hour it climaxes, so you need to be perceptive, alert and praying! Stay awake so that He doesn't find you sleeping, and, what I say to you I say to all... Watch!" **Mk 13.1-37**

The premise, the foundation, of readiness is "the Words of God!"

Both the *written* and *spoken*... The *Logos* and the *Rhema*... The *Bible* and the *Spirit*! The renewed *mind*/quickenened *heart*! The *standard* and *power* of success!

The only disconnect is getting that knowledge of Him in us... And getting in position to hear Him! There simply is no other way!

We cannot be successful in the coming days without the "Words!" Storms are going to come and do their damage... our enemy will step up the number and intensity of assaults! Spiritual explosions and muggings, wrecks and bullets are in the future!

Money will not see you thru! Brains will not see you thru! Savvy will not get you thru! Networks will not get you thru!

The ONLY way to navigate thru... Is the Words of God!

First, intentional, aggressive, commingling with the Bible!

Every word of Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching the way, for exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together, shaped up and equipped for the tasks God has for us. **2Tim 3.16,17**

We need intentional methods for intense times of cover to cover, non-picky... Two fistful, Bread of Life, gluttony... **"YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT!" "WHAT'S IN IS WHAT COMES OUT!"**

Then intimate, passionate, connection with our God and Savior! Hearing Him say, "I am speaking to you before these things happen, so that when it does, you will hold faith and credit Me trustworthy with your well being..." **Jo 14.29**

The Principle and Premise of Readiness is Forewarning! And being forewarned, we have unbelievable power to succeed!