

The Power of Readiness, Part 5

"Are You Ready?"

Slide Notations

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world, with all its lusts, is passing away, but the one who does the will of God lives forever!" **1John 2.15-17**

Recap 1: To navigate this life, successful to the end, we need the Words of God... *in us!*

Recap 2: To overcome in this life, we need to hold, not bite, the hand of the only One who can help us!

Recap 3: To rightly respond to the issues of life/death we must be forewarned and forearmed for them!

Recap 4: To finish out all our days, making effective choices we must *believe* in the duality of God's kingdoms!

Born Again Picture

Regardless of what we face... If we *know* there two lives/bodies... That God's eternal kingdom is running full time, alongside us... We can choose rightly!

"On the matter of this life and things the world has to offer, let's come to the conclusion of the whole matter, 'Love and reverence God. Hold on tight to His words of life, because there is nothing more important, nothing more significant for a man to do. God will bring every thing we do into judgment, with every secret thing, to reveal whether it is good or evil!'" **—Solomon, Ecc 12.13,14**

We are not living independently of God's kingdom... So that we can kind of do what we want here and get a do-over there! *What I do here, affects my eternity! What I do here is effected by readiness!*
Let's see... if it's true!

This week in the News! One Governor Eliot Spitzer, "tough prosecutor of corruption." Caught in a prostitution sting of the *"Emperor's Club."* \$4300 night with "Kristen..."

"I have acted in a way that violates my obligations to my family and violates my - or any - sense of right and wrong," he said. "I apologize to the public, whom I promised better."

How does this happen...?

Not being forearmed against the lust that is in the world! "if you don't do what's right, sin, w/its penalty, is crouched at the door **G4.7** When our evil desires conceive, they birth sin, and sin full-grown, brings death. **Jam 1.14,15**

Not knowing how to respond properly when the temptations begin! A wise man fears, and departs from evil: but the fool crosses over, confident. **Pr14.16, 22.3** *Depart from sin... run from youthful lusts.* **2Tim 2.19-22** "Cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. **2Cor 10.5**

Not knowing how to interpret "stops" From Pharaoh to Judas, warnings and opportunities to "stop the madness" are inherent in God's mercy! For believers, there are all sorts of warnings and stops on the way to sin; the Logos, the Rhema, "changes"

How many of us will fail our future? By not safeguarding ourselves against the "enemies of God..."

"Guard yourselves, don't let your heart get *roomy*, and you turn to serve and worship other gods, *and lose yourself and the good the Lord has for you...*" **D11.16-17**

How many of us will change our eternity by failing to safeguard?

Still saved! "By grace thru faith!" **E2.8** But naked? "Every man's work will be revealed by fire... if it burns, he loses! He will still be saved but like someone who escapes thru fire!" **1Cor 3.11-15**

Spitzer, lifted up in the pride of life... Arrogant, "in control," above the law... Desired and took "strange flesh..." Blind to the snare placed in the "opportunity..." *Nailed³ Fallen, undone, crucified!*

Can we be ready for the day of temptation? Not can we but must be!

Governor Spitzer's story covered up a major story unfolding in California...

This week in the News! Two

(Action) SB777, the California Student Civil Rights Act, signed by Gov. Arnold last fall requires, non-discrimination against sexual orientation, as well as other characteristics.

"SB777 has resulted in California schools not being allowed to use the words 'mommy' and 'daddy' anymore. Children will be taught that sexual orientation and gender are a merely a matter of personal choice and they will be taught to find what is 'right' for them!"

Opponents say it's a "big deal" because of it's effect not only in California schools, but that California is one of the largest purchasers of text books – and publishers shape content to reflect the wishes of the largest buyers...

(Reaction) *The Exodus Mandate* group began urging parents to take charge of their children's education and oppose attempts to shape the worldview of young people... Exodus began calling for parents to remove their children from these schools and educate them at home or in private schools.

"Parents who worship on Sunday willingly send their kids to schools where what they are taught undermines what they learn in church. They would never think of taking their kids to a church that teaches doctrine opposed to their beliefs but they don't give a second thought to doing the same thing by sending them to government schools!"

(Reaction to Reaction) Monday night, KTRK broadcast the story that on 2/28 a California Court ruled that parents possess no constitutional right to home school their children. Making it illegal to do so.

(Asides: Friday, March 7, Governor Schwarzenegger vowed to defeat the ruling on the bill he signed into law...)

(Question) **Can forewarning of what has happened there prepare us to make the right decision in our day of trial?**

(Action) Will we be ready to turn from the "things" of this world to make our "move" for the sake of our families? When we must protect our children will we turn from our compromise: the pride of life, the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and turn our lives upside down to do what's necessary to care for what's eternal?

This week in the News! Three Noticed the headlines that gas/food costs are rising dramatically?

Oil @ \$111 barrel/Gold \$1k oz... Milk/meat/eggs/produce/grain prices are all UP! Not just from rising transportation costs... **But now food/energy tied together: "Bio-fuel or food crops???"**

Anyone hearing the sound bytes regarding... Mortgage crisis/lower interest rates! Job markets! Crime increases! Eastern Philosophy invasion!

Can we be fore-armed against the coming crisis and human chaos?

\$ covenant, w/God! Peace, of the Word, that defeats fear! Time, to strategize and prepare! Faith, in the One who can bring us thru with blessings!!

And, if we can remain steadfast, immovable, faithful to the end... multitudes of people can be saved... And that will have a wonderful effect on both our lives!