



## Portion:

### SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 6:9-11:32
- Hebrews 11:1-7
- James 2:14, 17-24, 26
- Mathew 24
- Luke 17; 18:1-8
- I Thessalonians 5:1-6
- II Peter 1:19-21
- I Peter 3:18-22
- II Peter 2:4-11; 3:1-7
- Isaiah 54:7-10
- Isaiah 51:17-23; 52:1-12
- Jeremiah 23:1-4, 9-17
- Isaiah 59:1-21; 60:1-5
- Romans 8:18-21

## Title:

### TENDER BRANCHES: THE FATE OF TWO MESSENGERS

- Prepare an Ark
- Heir of Righteousness
- Irreversible Corruption
- A Covenant of Safety
- Tender Branches
- When You See Theses Things
- As in the Days of Noah
- The Fig Tree
- The Tale of Two Choices
- A Prophetic Word Confirmed
- The Prophets Arise
- Failed Leadership
- Time to WAKE UP!

*Sometimes Yahweh's instructions seem quite ridiculous. Why build a boat to save you from floodwaters when it has never before rained? We're all familiar with Abraham's extreme act of faith that was*

*accounted to him for righteousness, but Noah's obedience to build the ark might be considered the most significant act of faith prior to Abraham. By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear and prepared an ark for the saving of his household... Tragically, kept outside the ark were all those who had corrupted their way on the earth. What would have happened had Noah ignored the warning? Would he and his family have perished along with the rest? Of course, divine instruction did not end with Noah. Many times since, God has reached down and prophetically called a leader to step up with extreme faith to direct or shepherd His people. What happens when man refuses? What is happening right now? What will happen in the future should God's chosen vessels neglect to "prepare an ark"?*

**THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

**"And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you."** Genesis 6:17-18

“Then the LORD said to Noah, “**Come into the ark**, you and all your household, because I have seen that **you are righteous before Me** in this generation.” Genesis 7:1 NKJV

#### **OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

“By faith Noah, **being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear**, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and **became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.**” Hebrews 11:7 NKJV

“And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: **They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.**” Luke 17:26-27 NKJV

## Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The second reading in the book of Genesis is named after Noah. In Hebrew, the name Noah is related to the Hebrew word for "comfort." Genesis 5:29 says, “*And he called his name Noah, saying, “This one will **comfort** us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed.*” His parents named him Noah because they

hoped their son would give them comfort from the pain and toil of the curse and hard labor pronounced to Adam in Genesis 3:17. *“Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “**Cursed is the ground** for your sake; **In toil** you shall eat of it All the days of your life.”* This portion tells the story of the great flood, the tower of Babel and the beginning of the Abrahamic line.

2. **The Wickedness of Humankind:** The end of the past portion showed to what height human wickedness had escalated. Yahweh laments; He is sorry he made man and warns that His Spirit will not strive with man forever. He is ready to destroy man and beast from the face of the earth.
3. **Noah Pleases God:** Yahweh considers Noah perfect in his generations and his three sons are introduced. *“And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.”* (Genesis 6:10) And the rest of the flesh of the earth are called corrupt.
4. **The Ark is Prepared:** Yahweh instructs Noah to make an ark and gives him the details on size and shape. And He makes a covenant with Noah and his immediate family. God tells Noah that He will bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all flesh in which there is breath. Noah is instructed to preserve, on the ark, a male and female of every sort of animal (more clarification on

this in Genesis 7). And to bring food for his family and the animals. And now we see why Yahweh chose Noah! *“Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.”* Genesis 6:22

5. **The Great Flood:** Noah and his family are invited into the ark as those who are righteous before Yahweh. The details of how many of each animal to bring on board are elaborated. *“You shall take with you **seven** each of every clean animal, a male and his female; **two** each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female;”* Genesis 7:2 NKJV
  - A. **Note:** Noah can distinguish clean and unclean animals, even before the written code at Mt. Sinai. Also, the animals go into the ark two by two, but this does not mean there were only two of each animal as we clearly see in Genesis 7:2.
  - B. **Note:** See sermon notes from last year’s teaching from Genesis 6-11, [All Burned Up](#), as we elaborated in detail on this subject.
6. The rain is coming in seven days and will last forty days. And again we see why Yahweh chose Noah! *“And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.”* Genesis 7:5
7. Noah is six hundred years old when the rain comes... *“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, ...”* (Genesis 7:11) On the very

day Noah, his family and the animals entered the ark, the rain came for forty days, and all in whose nostrils there was breath died. The waters lasted in the earth for one hundred and fifty days.

8. **Noah's Deliverance as the Flood Subsides:** Yahweh remembers Noah and the animals and dries up the earth as the ark comes to rest on dry ground one hundred and fifty days after the rain started, *"Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat."* (Genesis 8:4) By the tenth month the tops of the mountains were visible and forty days later he opened the ark and sent out a raven which kept flying about until the waters had dried up. He also sent out a dove which returned with no place to rest. He sent the dove out again seven days later which then returned with an olive leaf! Seven days after that he sent out the dove a third time which did never return.
9. Noah is instructed to leave the ark with all the animals. He builds an altar and offers clean animals and birds to Yahweh as fully burned up sacrifices.
  - A. **Note:** See sermon notes from last year's teaching from Genesis 6-11, [All Burned Up](#), when we focused on this subject.
10. Yahweh makes three promises to mankind:

A. *“I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake, although the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.”* Genesis 8:21

B. *“While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.”* Genesis 8:22

11. **Yahweh Makes Personal Promises to Noah:** *“So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.”* Genesis 9:1 NKJV

12. Now man is given to eat the clean animals and birds, but not with blood; *“But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.”* Genesis 9:4

1. **Note:** See sermon notes from last year’s teaching from Genesis 6-11, [All Burned Up](#), when we spend time comparing the commands to Adam to the commands to Noah (Multiply, Rule the earth, and Eat!). Plus we elaborate fully on Yahweh’s command to abstained from blood and its relevance for Christians today.

13. **The Covenant with Noah:** *“Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the*

earth.”” (Genesis 9:11) And Yahweh brings a rainbow as a sign of the covenant.

14. **Noah and His Sons:** An incident with Noah and his sons is described in which Noah is found drunk and his youngest son Ham sees his father naked, but his two older sons, Shem and Japheth, cover their dad’s nakedness. Noah blesses Shem and Japheth for their integrity, and Ham is cursed for his poor choice.
15. **Nations Descended from Noah:** Chapter 10 catalogs Noah’s genealogy through his children. *“Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.”* Genesis 10:1
16. **The Tower of Babel:** The new line of humanity seeks to bring glory to themselves so Yahweh must take decisive action. *“Now the whole earth had one language and one speech...let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves...”* Genesis 11:1, 4
17. **But Yahweh will have no part of it!** *And the LORD said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.””* Genesis 11:6-7



18. The portions ends with the descendants of Shem and Terah being elaborated.

## PREPARE AN ARK

### 1. Heir of Righteousness

#### A. Irreversible Corruption

(1) Yahweh is ready to destroy corrupt an violent men along with the earth!

(a) **“The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.** So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, **“The end of all flesh has come before Me,** for the **earth is filled with violence** through them; and **behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”** Genesis 6:11-13 NKJV

(2) How will He do such? With a Flood!

(a) “And behold, I Myself am **bringing floodwaters** on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.” Genesis 6:17 NKJV

#### B. A Covenant of Safety—preservation of the righteous

(1) Yahweh offers a covenant with Noah...and you shall go into the ark!

- (a) “But I will establish My **covenant** with you; and **you shall go into the ark**—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.” Genesis 6:18 NKJV
- (2) Come into the ark because you are righteous in my eyes
  - (a) “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.” Genesis 6:8 NKJV
  - (b) “Then the LORD said to Noah, “Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that **you are righteous before Me** in this generation.” Genesis 7:1 NKJV
- (3) Noah had to demonstrate unimaginable faith! He had no evidence that a boat was needed!
  - (a) “Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.** Hebrews 11:1 NKJV
  - (b) But **without faith it is impossible to please Him**, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a **rewarder of those** who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6 NKJV
  - (c) “**By faith** Noah, **being divinely warned of things not yet seen**, moved with godly fear, **prepared an ark for the saving of his household**, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” Hebrews 11:7 NKJV

- (4) Point of interest—Noah’s Line Leads to Christ (Luke 3:23-38 NKJV)
- (a) “the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech,” Luke 3:36

### **C. Build an Ark**

- (1) Obedience and Longsuffering
- (a) “And Noah was **five hundred** years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.” Genesis 5:32 NKJV
- (b) “Noah was **six hundred** years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.” Genesis 7:6 NKJV
1. Sometime between the birth of his sons and the flood, approximately 100 years, the building of the ark takes place. Yahweh gave an entire lifespan for the people to “get it!”
- (c) Note: Faith without action (obedience) is Dead!
1. “**Make yourself an ark** of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch...**Thus Noah did**; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.” Genesis 6:14, 22 NKJV
  2. “Then the LORD said to Noah, “**Come into the ark**, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation...**And**

**Noah did** according to all that the LORD commanded him.” Genesis 7:1, 5 NKJV

3. “What does it profit, my brethren, **if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?**...Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” **Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that **faith was working together with his works,** and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. **You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only...** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:14, 17-24, 26 NKJV

(2) Inside the Ark

- (a) “**On the very same day** Noah and Noah’s sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, **entered the ark**— they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. **And they went into the ark to Noah**, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; **and the LORD shut him in.**” Genesis 7:13-16 NKJV

(3) Outside the Ark

- (a) “**All in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, all that was on the dry land, died.** So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. **Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained alive.**” Genesis 7:22-23 NKJV

**1. Summary of PREPARE AN ARK:**

2. The earth was so corrupt and filled with violence that Yahweh was ready to destroy it and its inhabitants

with a flood. (Look later at the conditions on the earth in Isaiah 59!)

3. He sees Noah as righteous and faithful and promises to preserve him and his family.
4. Faith is not faith unless it is backed with obedience (action). So, Noah is told to make an ark... Noah did! Told to come into the ark... Noah did!
5. It takes one entire lifespan to build the ark, enough time for a generation to repent.
6. On the day Noah entered the ark the foods came!
7. All in whose nostrils there was breath, all that was on the dry land, died

## TENDER BRANCHES

### **2. When you see theses things...what should we be looking our for in our world today?**

#### **A. As in the Days of Noah**

##### (1) The Sign of Your Coming

- (a) "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?"**" Matthew 24:3 NKJV

(2) Parable from the Fig Tree and the Kingdom

(a) **Matthew's Version:** “**“Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away [the generation between the “obvious sign” and the “flood”] till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”**

Matthew 24:32-35 NKJV

(b) **Luke's Version:** “Now when He was asked by the Pharisees **when the kingdom of God would come**, He answered them and said, “**The kingdom of God does not come with observation**; nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, **the kingdom of God is within you.**” Then He said to the disciples, “**The days will come** when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. And they will say to you, ‘Look here!’ or ‘Look there!’ Do not go after them or follow them. **For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven**, so also the Son of Man will be in His

day. But first He must suffer many things and be **rejected by this generation.** *[the generation between the “obvious sign” and the “flood”]* Luke 17:20-25  
NKJV

(3) The Days of Noah

(a) **Matthew’s Version:** “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. **But as the days of Noah** were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. **For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,** and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, **so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**” Matthew 24:36-39 NKJV

(b) **Luke’s Version:** “And as it was in **the days of Noah**, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: **They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.**” Luke 17:26-27  
NKJV

(c) **Luke Adds:** “**Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot:** They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of



Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.” Luke 17:28-30 NKJV

(d) **One Chapter Later in Luke:** “Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: “**There was in a certain city a judge** who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘**Get justice for me from my adversary.**’ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ” Then the Lord said, “**Hear what the unjust judge said [even the secular leader brought justice]. And shall God not avenge His own elect [see Isaiah 59:15-21 when Yahweh is finally fed up with injustice] who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? [8] I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?!”**” Luke 18:1-8 NKJV

(e) **Reminds me of Genesis 18:23-33 when Yahweh avenges Lot:** “Abraham came near and said, “Would

You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? (V. 23)  
Then Abraham cycles through asking Yahweh if he  
would spare a city if there were 50, 45, 40, 30, 20, 10.

## **B. The Tale of Two Choices (light and darkness)**

- (1) Some will be sober and watching, some will be going about their daily lives!
  - (a) **Matthew's Version:** "Then **two men will be in the field:** one will be taken and the other left. **Two women will be grinding at the mill:** one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for **you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.** But know this, that if the master of the house **had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched** and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming **at an hour** you do not expect." Matthew 24:40-44 NKJV
  - (b) **Luke's Version again brings in Lot:** ""In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back.  
**Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.** I tell you, in that night there will be **two men** in one bed:

the one will be taken and the other will be left. **Two women** will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left. **Two men** will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left." And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So He said to them, **"Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together."**" Luke 17:31-37 NKJV

### C. Thievery

(1) Had you known what to look for...do YOU know what to look for?

(a) "But know this, that if the master of the house **had known what hour the thief would come**, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into." Matthew 24:43 NKJV

(b) **Sons of Light (see II Peter 1:19-21— a light shined in a dark place):** "But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of **the Lord so comes as a thief in the night**. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. **But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a**

**thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day.** We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober." I Thessalonians 5:1-6 NKJV

#### **D. The Faithful and Wise Servant**

(1) The one who knows what to look for!

(a) **“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.”** Matthew 24:45-46 NKJV

##### **1. Summary of TENDER BRANCHES:**

2. You should easily notice when the leaves bud on a tree and recognize the season that is approaching.
3. There is a generation between the leaves budding and the fruit coming.
4. It would seem that this generation will completely IGNORE the signs and go on living as if nothing will happen! LIKE RIGHT NOW!
5. Matthew and Luke both use examples to paint a picture of one person being prepared and another being completely surprised when the “time” comes!

6. Matthew and Luke both recall the days of Noah and make the clear distinction between those who die outside the ark and how they are completely enamored with the sins of the world, and Noah who lived by faith and obeyed Yahweh.
7. Matthew likens being overtaken by surprise to a thief breaking into your house because you are not on guard. In 1 Thessalonians, Paul says the Lord comes as a thief ONLY to those who do not know the times and seasons.
8. The thief can only surprise those who are in darkness and we **“sons of light”** and are not supposed to live in darkness so as to be overtaken.
  - a) **““You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **Let your light so shine** before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”Matthew 5:14-16 NKJV
9. That is why Y’shua uses the tender branch of a fig tree sprouting leaves as the word picture showing the importance of recognizing the times and seasons.

10. Rest assured...Justice IS COMING!

11. When you are prepared (like Noah) you are considered a wise and faithful servant.

## A PROPHETIC WORD CONFIRMED

### 3. An Antitype which Now Saves US!

#### A. Noah as Prophecy

(1) Light will shine in dark places!

(a) “And so **we have the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a **light that shines in a dark place**, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that **no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation**, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**” II Peter 1:19-21 NKJV

1. **Sneak Preview:** as justice is returned to the earth!

*“But judgment will return to righteousness, And all the upright in heart will follow it.”* Psalms 94:15 NKJV

a) But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all **sons of light** and sons of the day... I Thessalonians 5:1-6

- b) “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the **glory which shall be revealed in us.**” Romans 8:18 NKJV
- c) “Arise, shine; **For your light has come!** And **the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.** For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; **But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.** The **Gentiles shall come to your light,** And kings to the brightness of your rising.” Isaiah 60:1-3 NKJV

(2) Saved through water!

- (a) “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, [20] who formerly were disobedient, when once the **Divine longsuffering [this is the generation spoken about in *Matthew and Luke*] waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared,** in which a few, that is, eight souls, **were saved through water.** [21] There is also an **antitype [represents the opposite, or something represented by a symbol]** which now saves us—**baptism** (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer

of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him." I Peter 3:18-22 NKJV

1. **Note:** in 1 Peter 3:21 (antitype) a pattern, predictive symbol or image of the opposite to be a representative of a thing resembling its counterpart....coming from the Greek
  - a) **Anti**—denotes contrast but direct correspondence to
  - b) **Tupos**—a model or type forged by repetition based on a reliable precedent as predictive as a stamp struck by a die, certain to make the exact impression.
2. The water of the flood was actually destructive but the 8 were saved in spite of its destructive intent. The water of baptism has only saving qualities as an expression of a good conscience. In other words it is an antitype, one saves because you avoid the water, the other saves because you go into the water.

### **B. An Example to the Ungodly**

- (1) Peter, like Luke 17:28-30, refers to both Noah and Lot!



(a) “For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; **and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked [See Isaiah 59] (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)— *then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. [See Isaiah 59]* They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.” II Peter 2:4-11**

NKJV

(2) Next Time...Not Water but FIRE!

(a) “Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), **that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first:** that *scoffers will come in the last days* [See Isaiah 59], *walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”* **For this they willfully forget** [See Isaiah 59]: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth **standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.** But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are **reserved for fire** [See Isaiah 59] until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.” II Peter 3:1-7 NKJV

### C. The Prophets Arise

(1) Remember Noah and How I Ultimately preserved my chosen righteous (Genesis 7:1) by grace (Genesis 6:8) through faith (Hebrews 11:7) and then [See Isaiah 59]!

- (a) **““For a mere moment I have forsaken you, [while He allows Isaiah 59:1-15 to take place] But with great mercies I will gather you. With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you,” Says the LORD, your Redeemer. “For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn That the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, So have I sworn That I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” Says the LORD, who has mercy on you.”** Isaiah 54:7-10 NKJV

#### **D. Failed Leadership**

(1) Where are My Leaders?

- (a) **To God’s people who are being afflicted by evil leaders:**

“Awake, awake! Stand up, O Jerusalem, You who have drunk at the hand of the LORD The cup of His fury; You have drunk the dregs of the cup of trembling, And drained it out. **There is no one to guide her Among all the sons she has brought forth; Nor is there any who takes her by the hand Among all the sons she has brought up.** These two things have come to you; Who

will be sorry for you?— Desolation and destruction,  
famine and sword— **By whom will I comfort you? Your  
sons have fainted**, They lie at the head of all the streets,  
Like an antelope in a net; **They [negligent leaders] are  
full of the fury of the LORD, The rebuke of your God.**  
Therefore please hear this, you afflicted, And drunk but  
not with wine. Thus says your Lord, The LORD and your  
God, Who pleads the cause of His people: **“See, I have  
taken out of your hand The cup of trembling, The dregs  
of the cup of My fury; You shall no longer drink it. But I  
will put it into the hand of those who afflict you, Who  
have said to you, ‘Lie down, that we may walk over  
you.’** And you have laid your body like the ground, And  
as the street, for those who walk over.”” Isaiah 51:17-23  
NKJV

(2) Failed Pastors will be replaced!

- (a) **““Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the  
sheep of My pasture!”** says the LORD. Therefore thus  
says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who  
feed My people: **“You have scattered My flock, driven  
them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will  
attend to you for the evil of your doings,”** says the  
LORD. “But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of

all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. **I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them;** and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the LORD.”  
Jeremiah 23:1-4 NKJV

(3) Failed Prophets will be replaced!

(a) **“My heart within me is broken Because of the prophets;** All my bones shake. I am like a drunken man, And like a man whom wine has overcome, Because of the LORD, And because of His holy words. **For the land is full of adulterers;** For because of a curse the land mourns. The pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up. **Their course of life is evil, And their might is not right. “For both prophet and priest are profane; Yes, in My house I have found their wickedness,”** says the LORD. “Therefore their way shall be to them Like slippery ways; In the darkness they shall be driven on And fall in them; **For I will bring disaster on them, The year of their punishment,”** says the LORD. “And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria: They prophesied by Baal And caused My people Israel to err. Also I have seen a horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem: **They**

**commit adultery and walk in lies;** They also strengthen the hands of evildoers, So that no one turns back from his wickedness. **All of them are like Sodom to Me, And her inhabitants like Gomorrah. “Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets: ‘Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, And make them drink the water of gall; For from the prophets of Jerusalem Profaneness has gone out into all the land.’ ”** Thus says the LORD of hosts: **“Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the LORD.** They continually say to those who despise Me, ‘The LORD has said, **“You shall have peace” ’; And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart,** they say, ‘No evil shall come upon you.’ ””

Jeremiah 23:9-17 NKJV

(4) Time to WAKE UP!

(a) **“Awake, awake!** Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! For the uncircumcised and the unclean Shall no longer come to you. Shake yourself from the dust, arise; Sit down, O Jerusalem! Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck, O captive daughter of Zion! For thus says the

LORD: **"You have sold yourselves for nothing,** And you shall be redeemed without money." For thus says the Lord GOD: "My people went down at first Into Egypt to dwell there; Then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause. Now therefore, what have I here," says the LORD, **"That My people are taken away for nothing? Those who rule over them Make them wail,"** says the LORD, "And My name is blasphemed continually every day. Therefore My people shall know My name; Therefore they shall know in that day That I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I.' " How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" **Your watchmen shall lift up their voices,** With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye When the LORD brings back Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, You waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has made bare His holy arm In the eyes of all the nations; And all the ends of the earth shall see The salvation of our God. **Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no**

**unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the LORD.** For you shall not go out with haste, Nor go by flight; For the LORD will go before you, And the God of Israel will be your rear guard.” Isaiah 52:1-12 NKJV

### **E. The Ugly Outcome of Failed Leadership**

(1) Isaiah 59—the microcosm of today’s failed leadership!

(a) **First; DOES THIS LOOK FAMILIAR?** “**The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.** So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, “**The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.**” Genesis 6:11-13 NKJV

(b) “Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. **But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face** from you, So that He will not hear. For **your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity. No one calls for justice, Nor does any plead for truth. They trust in**



**empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity.** They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is crushed a viper breaks out. Their webs will not become garments, Nor will they cover themselves with their works; Their works are works of iniquity, **And the act of violence is in their hands. Their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction are in their paths. The way of peace they have not known, And there is no justice in their ways; They have made themselves crooked paths;** Whoever takes that way shall not know peace.

Therefore **justice is far from us,** Nor does righteousness overtake us; **We look for light, but there is darkness!** For brightness, but we walk in blackness! We **grope for the wall like the blind, And we grope as if we had no eyes;** We stumble at noonday as at twilight; We are as **dead men in desolate places.** We all growl like bears, And moan sadly like doves; **We look for justice, but there is none;** For salvation, but it is far from us. For **our transgressions are multiplied before You, And our sins testify against us;** For our transgressions are with us,

And as for our iniquities, we know them: **In transgressing and lying against the LORD, And departing from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw it, and it displeased Him That there was no justice.**" Isaiah 59:1-15 NKJV

- (2) Isaiah 59 and 60—the microcosm of Glory Restored!
  - (a) First remember these two things as we put an exclamation point on Yahweh's prophetic plan!
    1. "then the Lord knows **how to deliver the godly** out of temptations and to **reserve the unjust under punishment** for the day of judgment, and **especially those who walk according to the flesh** in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries," II Peter 2:9-10 NKJV
    2. "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which shall be revealed in us**. For the earnest expectation of

the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption **into the glorious liberty of the children of God.**" Romans 8:18-21 NKJV

- (b) **Now the turn in Isaiah 59:15, payback time!..."Then Yahweh saw it, and it displeased Him that there was no justice."** [16+] "He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him. For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak. **According to their deeds, accordingly He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies;** The coastlands He will fully repay. So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, **The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.** "The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to

those who turn from transgression in Jacob,” Says the LORD. “As for Me,” says the LORD, “this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants,” says the LORD, “from this time and forevermore.”” Isaiah 59:16-21 NKJV

- (c) **And then the GLORY....** “Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. “Lift up your eyes all around, and see: They all gather together, they come to you; Your sons shall come from afar, And your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; **Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.**” Isaiah 60:1-5 NKJV

1. **Summary of A PROPHETIC WORD CONFIRMED:**
2. Continuing with the theme of light and darkness from I Thessalonians 5:1-6, Peter helps us understand that the prophetic word is a light that shines in dark places.
3. We see that the flood of Noah, which killed because of corruption, has given way to the water of baptism, which saves because of a good conscience toward God.
4. Noah and Sodom and Gomorrah are examples of what happens to the ungodly!
5. The Lord WILL deliver the godly but reserves punishment for those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and who despise authority.
6. Scoffers will come and they will be reserved for God's fire!
7. Failed leadership (pastors and prophets) has dreadful consequences.
8. It's time for the Church to wake up.
9. God will repay all those who identify themselves as adversaries and his Glory will rise upon his true remnant.

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. Compare Noah's extreme act of faith to build an ark to the faith that Abraham had, to first believe Yahweh would bring him a son, and then to put that son on an alter.**
  - A. Contemplate what might have happened had Noah ignored Yahweh's warning?
- 2. God often prophetically calls a leader to step up with extreme faith to direct or shepherd His people:**
  - A. What has happened in the past when man refuses?
  - B. What is happening right now in the earth?
  - C. What will happen in the future should God's chosen vessels neglect to "prepare an ark"?
- 3. Y'shua said, "learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near."**
  - A. How does this relate to the "time" being near?
  - B. How does this relate to the "days of Noah"?
- 4. Discuss how Baptism is an antitype to the flood.**
- 5. What example did the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes leave for those who would afterward live ungodly? In your opinion:**
  - A. How is this influencing the Church today?

B. How is this influencing the world outside the Church today?

**6. Discuss the current and future results of failed leadership:**

A. In the Church

B. Outside the Church