

## Study #5 Outline

### How the Prophecies Describe Our End-Time Wilderness Experience

#### 1. John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

–What is the promise here? —That the Holy Spirit will teach us all things.

–Do we want to be taught by the Holy Spirit?

a. *Review and Herald*, March 22, 1887; (quotation #5-1)

There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out his Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. ... When the way is prepared for the Spirit of God, the blessing will come.

–If we want to be taught by the Holy Spirit we must “clear the way by removing every hindrance” —get rid of anything that might be standing between us and God

#### 2. Proverbs 22:3

Wise people foresee trouble coming and avoid it, but foolish people keep going and suffer.

–What coming trouble have we been warned about? Let’s review a little bit.

#### 3. Matthew 24:15-16

Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

–As we noted in study #2, there are 2 phases of “flee to the mountains.”

(1<sup>st</sup>) *Testimonies for the Church Vol. 5*, pages 464-465; (quotation #5-2)

The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large

cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.

–The first national Sunday law in the U.S.A. marks the beginning of the Time of Trouble. At this law we are to flee from the cities to the country.

- *Country Living*, pages 9-10, (Letter 5, 1904; also on 2SM 141; (quotation #5-3)

Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one.

–Here we will raise our own provisions when we cannot buy/sell. Note: we should already be living in the country in preparation for this.

- From these country homes we will continue to evangelize, as Probation has not Closed yet.

#### Part 1 **Fleeing to the “Most Desolate and Solitary Places”**

(2<sup>nd</sup>) *Great Controversy*, page 626; (quotation #5-4)

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains.

–After the Close of Probation the Seven Last Plagues are poured out, (see Revelation 15:8, 16:1). This ‘Death Decree,’ as it is commonly called, will happen in connection with the 3<sup>rd</sup> plague, (see: Revelation 16:4-6, *Early Writings*, pages 36-37, and *Great Controversy*, pages 627-628); (quotations #5-5, #5-6). In response, we will flee to the “most desolate and solitary places” we can get to, where we will live until Jesus comes. Since Probation has already Closed, there is no point in staying around for evangelism any more.

–So, learning to live in the wilderness is not just some interesting activity to do, or something to learn just in case we happen to get stuck in the woods someday. If we stay true to God, we will be doing it!

–Where are these “most desolate and solitary places?”

Suppose we drive way back up into the mountains, to the very end of the road. Are we there? —No. Suppose we get out and hike for the rest of the day down a trail from there. Are we there yet? —No. To get to the “most desolate and solitary

places,” after we had gone down the trail a ways, we would have to get off the trail and back up into the rocks!

#### 4. Revelation 13:16-17

He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

–It will be *after* we are not able to buy or sell when we will flee to the “most desolate and solitary places.” So we will most likely be traveling there on foot. And, the only way to get around in the deep, rugged wilderness is on foot anyway.

–It would be a good idea to be located during the first part of the Time of Trouble where we could literally ‘walk out our back door’ and into the wilderness.

#### 5. S.D.A. Bible Commentary Vol. 7, page 971: (quotation #5-7)

This time, which the angel declares with a solemn oath, is not the end of this world's history, neither of probationary time, but of prophetic time, which should precede the advent of our Lord. That is, the people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time, reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.

–There is no more time prophecy after 1844. So we don't know how long we will be living in the “most desolate and solitary places.” Therefore we would be wise to plan on staying there *indefinitely*. (At any rate, we'll be there until Jesus comes.)

–This is significant, because although they may not think about it this way, many people take a ‘tough-it-out-until-you-get-out’ approach to wilderness living. When they go camping, or go on bushcraft or practice wilderness survival trips, they typically plan on doing certain things, such as washing themselves or their clothing, when they get back home.

Similarly, many of the ‘survival’ shows on the media, place the actors in a remote setting where they demonstrate various survival techniques for a couple days until they are ‘rescued’ or able to walk out. This formula *is* based on good statistics as most people who find themselves in a survival situation *are* able to either find their way out, or be rescued within three to four days.

Now, we *can* get by without many things for three or four days. But in a long-term / *indefinite* situation, sooner or later we will have to do *everything* we need to do to stay alive and healthy. Therefore, the ‘tough-it-out-until-you-get-out’ approach to wilderness survival simply won't work for us in the final end-times. We will need to learn how, and do everything we need to do to stay alive and healthy in the wilderness.

## 6. Luke 17:28-30

Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: . . . Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

–Jesus points us to Lot’s story in connection with the end-times as there are several important lessons we need to learn from Lot’s experience.

### Genesis 19:15-19

When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, “Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city.” And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife’s hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, “Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed.”

–They were told, “Escape to the mountains!” the same as we have been told to do!

–But notice how Lot responds.

### Genesis 19:18-19

Then Lot said to them, “Please, no, my lords! Indeed now, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have increased your mercy which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, lest some evil overtake me and I die.”

–Like many of us, Lot had lived in the city so long that he was afraid to “flee to the mountains.” He felt something bad would happen to him there and he would die!

–But think about it. If we consider the wilderness is a scary place, will we want to flee there for safety? —No! We want to “flee” to a place where we *feel safe*.

a. However if nature really is a scary and hostile place, what does that say about nature’s Creator? —Wouldn’t that mean that He too must be scary and hostile?

b. But what about the wild animals? Notice the following verse.

### Job 5:22-23

You shall laugh at destruction and famine,  
And you shall not be afraid of the beasts of the earth.  
For you shall have a covenant with the stones of the field,  
And the beasts of the field shall be at peace with you.



–We are God’s people, and the wild animals are God’s creatures, so we’re actually on the same side!

–A big part of the problem is that we’ve all seen too many movies! The formula for a typical motion picture is that there is ‘good guy’ and a ‘bad guy,’ and the story is about the conflict between the two. Since most people aren’t familiar with natural areas, movie makers take advantage of our fear of the unknown and make a movie in a wilderness setting. Because there really aren’t any ‘bad guys’ out in the wilderness they have a bear, cougar, or snake play the part—it’s the ‘big bad wolf’ all over again!

Now don’t misunderstand me, we do need to *respect* these animals and *give them their space*. We probably *will* get into trouble if we get between the proverbial mother bear and her cubs, walk through a patch of stinging nettles, or step on a ground hornet’s nest. But none of these things are ‘out to get us.’ For the most part they all have a ‘live and let live’ attitude—you leave them alone, they will leave you alone. So we don’t need to be *afraid* of them.

–The only way I know how to overcome a fear of nature is to spend enough time in it to learn from *our own experience* that it is *not* a scary and hostile place!

–Remember too that at the time of the Death Decree, we will be ‘fleeing to the wilderness’ because ‘civilization’ will be scary and hostile!

–Before we get too far away from Lot’s story, there’s one other idea we need to touch on. Jesus warned us, “Remember Lot’s wife.” (Luke 17:32.) Even though she was moving out physically, she wasn’t prepared to leave it all behind mentally, emotionally, or spiritually. As a result, she turned back, and became a pillar of salt. Let’s not be like her. Let’s not be so attached to the things of this world that we will be unprepared to leave them all behind.

7. God has places prepared in the wilderness where He will provide for us. Notice the following scriptures:

Revelation 12:6,14,

Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

–From the prophetic time periods mentioned in these verses, it is obvious that they are a direct reference to the Dark Ages parallel of the prophecy in Matthew 24. And, if God had places prepared for them, He will surely do the same for us in the end-times parallel of this same prophecy. Notice the following quotations.

*Maranatha*, page 270; (quotation #5-8)

During the night a very impressive scene passed before me. There seemed to be great confusion and the conflict of armies. A messenger from the Lord stood before me, and said, "Call your household. I will lead you; follow me." He led me down a dark passage, through a forest, then through the clefts of mountains, and said, "Here you are safe." There were others who had been led to this retreat. The heavenly messenger said. "The time of trouble has come as a thief in the night, as the Lord warned you it would come."

*The Upward Look*, page 327, (also on TDG 241); (quotation #5-9)

He has made the strength of the everlasting hills to be a safe retreat for His people. He has prepared the mountains and the caves for His oppressed and persecuted children.

- a. The following verse also mentions the places that God has prepared for us in the wilderness and contains an important promise.

Isaiah 33:16

He will dwell on high;  
His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks;  
Bread will be given him,  
His water will be sure.

–But notice the following quotation.

*Last Day Events*, page 265, (SR 129); (quotation #5-10)

Bread and water is all that is promised to the remnant in the time of trouble.

–And we have other needs besides food and water. As Jesus said, there is more to life than food, (see Matthew 6:25).

8. Before we go on, we need to go back and notice a couple of phrases from two of the quotations that we have already looked at.

*Great Controversy*, page 626 (emphasis supplied); (quotation #5-4)

. . . The people of God will flee from the cities and villages an *associate together in companies*, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places.

*Maranatha*, page 270 (emphasis supplied); (quotation #5-8)

There were *others* who had been led to this retreat.

–So when we flee to the wilderness, we will be in groups.

–This has several interesting implications:

(1) Other people will provide welcome support and encouragement. By working together and being able to divide up tasks that need to be done, groups are usually able to accomplish things much more efficiently than individuals by themselves.

(2) There is also the possibility that one person in the group will be able to do something that will benefit everyone else. For example, if only one person in the group has the knowledge and the equipment to be able to make a fire, everyone in the group will be blessed with light, heat, purified water, and cooked food. Or, if only one person knows that a particular plant is good to eat, the entire group can have something to eat.

(3) On the other hand, simply because there are more people involved, *more* of many things will be needed. For example, each person will want to have their own portion of food at meal time. And, everyone is going to need their own spot in the shelter—especially when a storm comes! But over all, groups are more efficient than individuals by themselves.

–This also raises an important question. Will we be an ‘asset’ or a ‘liability,’ a ‘blessing’ or a ‘burden’ to the group God connects us with? Note John 15:1-8, Luke 13:6-9, and Ephesians 2:10—God created us to be a blessing to others. The things that will make us an ‘asset,’ or a ‘blessing’ to our group will be: having a willingness to work and to get done the things that need to be done, having developed important skills, and having essential equipment.

–Unfortunately, much of the current survival teaching is aimed at showing individuals how they can survive in the wilderness on their own. Although a lot of the information presented may be valuable, we need to recognize the differences between individual and group approaches, and work out group solutions for our survival needs.

–There is another aspect of being in groups that might easily be overlooked. In John 13:35, Jesus said, “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love *one another*.” (Emphasis supplied). This type of love can only occur in a group setting. You simply cannot learn, or practice, it by yourself. So, being able to ‘get along,’ and to work together in a loving way, even when we are in an uncomfortable situation and under a lot of stress, will be a significant witness, and an important part of our training for the rest of eternity.

## Part 2 **How Can We Prepare?**

9. Before we make the next point we need to introduce a term. It’s called, ‘Naked Survival.’ Now don’t misunderstand, ‘naked survival’ has nothing to do with taking off our clothes and running around naked in the woods. The word ‘naked,’ is used in

this term in the same sense as it is used in Job 1:21, Ecclesiastes 5:15, 1 Timothy 6:7, which essentially say that we were 'naked' when we came into the world, and we will be 'naked' when we go out of it. 'Naked' here is simply as far as we can go in the direction of having nothing, or taking nothing with us. 'Naked Survival' therefore simply refers to being in a survival situation without any survival equipment. For our purposes, it would mean having to survive with just the 'clothes on our back,' so to speak. Our pockets would essentially be empty, and the clothing we did have may not be adequate for the weather.

a. It is worth noting that 'Naked Survival' is actually done by two groups:

(1) The first group is made up of those who are highly skilled, and who are wanting to practice and develop their skills even further.

–They know, and expect, that they will be cold, hungry, and uncomfortable for a while until they have had a chance to gather and make a few things.

(2) Those in the second have few if any wilderness skills. They end up doing 'naked survival' as a result of poor planning and/or lack of preparation.

–These people are even more cold, hungry, and uncomfortable —some of them die.

–The rest of us would be wise to bring a few things along with us.

10. However, with this in mind, let's look at,

Matthew 24:17-18

Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes [cloak].

–Is Jesus telling us in these verses that when we "flee to the mountains" we are supposed to, "Drop everything and run?"

–To illustrate the point here, let's picture a Christian who lived in Jerusalem just before it was destroyed. One morning he goes out to work in his field. A couple hours later the day warms up, so he takes off his cloak and lays it at the side of the field where he can easily pick it up when he goes back home. As he continues working however, he hears some strange noises up by the city. Looking up, he sees the Roman army surrounding Jerusalem. Immediately, he remembers Jesus' words in Luke 21:20-21, "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, ..." However he pauses just a moment before he turns to flee, as he thinks, 'It's going to get *cold* tonight! I'm going to need my cloak!' But then he also remembers that Jesus said, "let him who is in the field not go back to get his cloak," and his cloak is over on the side of the field closest to the city. So obediently, he flees without it.

–He just set himself up for ‘naked survival!’ Although he may have escaped the destruction of the city, he is going to be very cold, hungry, and uncomfortable for a while —especially if he doesn’t have any survival skills.

–But let’s consider another possibility. Suppose the army came *before* he took off his cloak? Based on what Jesus said in these verses, should he take it off and leave it behind? Or, would it be OK for him to keep it as he fled?

–And, what if when he took it off he *happened* to have placed it where he could easily pick it up as he fled past. Would it be OK to pick it up and take it along?

–Let’s re-read these verses and note what Jesus actually said.

Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his cloak.

a. Note that Jesus *did not* say “Drop everything and run!” He just said, “*Don’t go back.*”

–Although it may not seem like anything significant at first, there is a big difference between “Dropping Everything,” and “Not Going Back.”

–Possibly, because of the way we were taught to do fire-drills back in grade school, many people have assumed that in these verses Jesus *has* told us that we *are* supposed to ‘drop everything and run’ when we “flee to the mountains.” As a result, they feel we should not take anything with us —and the common idea that ‘wilderness survival’ means surviving ‘without anything’ adds to this view. They put these thoughts together with God’s promises to provide for us as we trust *wholly* in Him, and conclude that since we aren’t supposed to take anything anyway, there is no point in making any physical preparation for our end-time wilderness experience. Some even feel that making physical preparations show a *lack of faith*, and that we should only concern ourselves with spiritual preparation.

–Unfortunately, like the Christian in our example, those who hold these views are setting themselves up for ‘naked survival.’ Their lack of readiness will cause them to be unnecessarily cold, hungry, and uncomfortable.

–If we put ourselves through additional suffering because of our lack of preparation will it be God’s fault, or our own fault? Brothers and sisters, things are going to be hard enough at that time without having to do ‘naked survival’ on top of it all! So let’s not make things extra difficult because we have not prepared!

–If Jesus truly intended for us to ‘drop everything and run!’ then we had better plan on doing ‘naked survival’ —and I have yet to run into someone who holds this view who is training for that. Instead, they all seem to be using it as an excuse to do nothing.

–But, since we are only told not to “go back” and get anything, it *would be* OK to take things with us when we flee —as long as we either already had them with us or were able to easily pick them up on our way out.

b. So, it is *not* necessary to do ‘naked survival’ to obey Jesus’ instructions.

–God knows that we need certain things in order to survive. Notice what the angel tells Peter as he breaks him out of prison.

- Acts 12:8

Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.”

–By the way, the Greek word that is translated “garment” here is *himation*. This is the same Greek word that is translated “clothes” in Matthew 24:18 above. In both of these contexts it essentially refers to an unfitted outer garment that is used as a cloak during the day, and a blanket during the night, (see also Exodus 22:26-27).

–The angel knew that it was cold outside, so he reminded Peter, who is probably still a bit sleepy, to put on his sandals and cloak.

- It is OK to take survival equipment with us when we flee. We just need to have it ready to go before the time comes —which means we *do* need to make some physically preparations.

c. However, we also need to note here that, ‘flee,’ means to move fast and travel light.

- We may even “have to flee before infuriated mobs.” *Early Writings*, page 56 ; (quotation #5-11).

- So, suppose we are trying to flee with a big heavy backpack that is filled with enough food and toilet paper to last until Jesus comes. What would happen to that pack if we suddenly had to flee from an angry mob? —It would get left behind! And we would have just set ourselves up for ‘naked survival.’ So no heavy, bulky packs!

- Instead, our packs should be *light weight* and *low bulk* —something that we can ‘flee’ with. Notice also the following quotation.

*Testimonies for the Church Vol. 5*, pages 152 ; (quotation #5-12)

We ought now to be heeding the injunction of our Saviour: "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not." It is now that our brethren should be cutting down their possessions instead of increasing them. We are about to move to a

better country, even a heavenly. Then let us not be dwellers upon the earth, but be getting things into as compact a compass as possible.

–Our ‘grab and go packs’ may have an initial supply of “provisions” in them. But more importantly they need to contain the key equipment necessary for processing the things God has provided in nature.

–This means we are going to have to learn some skills! —Specifically: What are the things God provides in nature? How to identify them. And how to use these minimal equipment items, to process them.

–There is another point we need to consider before we leave the ideas connected with the meaning of the word ‘flee.’ And that is, if you are lost, why do they tell you to stay in one spot, rather than wander around trying to find your way out? —Because you will be easier to find if you stay in one place. So . . . if you *don’t want to be found*, should you remain in one place, or move around? In other words, unless an angel takes you somewhere, (as in the *Maranatha*, page 270 quotation mentioned earlier), and tells you to stay there, you should probably plan on moving your camp every couple weeks. Therefore, we should probably plan on being ‘nomadic,’ rather than just hiking into one spot and ‘settling’ there for the whole time. Most hunter-gatherer groups who have lived off the land have lived a similar ‘semi-nomadic’ lifestyle. Wandering in the wilderness enabled them to make use of the resources over a much wider area. So the equipment we carry needs to be portable, not just something we manage to lug in and drop at our camp with a ‘Whew! Sure glad I don’t have to carry that any more,’ attitude.

d. Before we go on, there is an idea in these verses in Matthew 24:17-18 that we have been studying which we’ve touched on, but we need to be sure to emphasize. And that is, if we are going to prepare, we must do so ahead of time! When the time comes to flee, it will be too late to get ready. In the following verses from a little farther down in this chapter, note the two things we are told to do because we don’t know when it is going to happen.

Matthew 24:42-44

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.

–We are told to “watch” and “be ready!” Don’t wait to get ready, we need to “*be ready*.” We also need to be *watching*, so we don’t miss our signal to flee.

–If we study the history of what happened in this parallel to the end-times, we’ll find that there really wasn’t any reason for a Christian who was “watching” and “ready” to suddenly be surprised by Jerusalem being surrounded, and have to end up fleeing

without their cloak. If they had been studying the prophecies, and paying attention to what was going on in the world, they could have known what would happen months before the army actually came and surrounded Jerusalem.

In the prophecies of Daniel, Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece are all named in the succession of the ancient superpowers, (see Daniel 2:37-38, 8:20-21, 10:20-11:4). These empires were to be followed by a “fourth beast,” which from the obvious history could only point to Rome.

The 70 weeks prophecy of Daniel chapter 9, gave the time of the Messiah’s coming and death. This is what Jesus was referring to when He began His ministry by preaching, “*The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.*” (Mark 1:15, emphasis supplied.) The Christians back then knew about this prophecy. (See also Desire of Ages, page 233.) This same prophecy states, “And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.” (Daniel 9:26.)

So, when the Jews revolted against Rome in the spring of A.D. 66, it shouldn’t have been hard to figure out that it would only be a matter of time before the Romans came to re-conquer Judea and its capital, Jerusalem. And sure enough, they came that autumn! So the Christians back then who were ‘*watching*’ essentially had half a year’s warning! They could have left ahead of time and taken anything they wanted to. The ‘armies surrounding Jerusalem’ therefore, was more like the ‘last call’ to flee, rather than being a statement that they should wait until the armies showed up and then leave without taking anything.

The Apostle Paul tells us, “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.” (1 Thessalonians 5:4.) So the end-times will be similar.

11. In a survival situation, especially at the beginning of a survival situation, it is very important to put first things first. We need to be sure that we do the things that really needs to be done to stay alive. In other words, we simply do not have time to waste on non-essentials.

a. Some things are just going to have to wait until later.

12. The things we need in order to survive are called the Survival Priorities. They are listed in order of importance in the first column of the chart.

<u>Survival Priorities</u>	<u>Survival Priority Equipment</u>
1. Shelter	Clothing & Footwear Bedding Structural Shelter
2. Water	Water Bottle
3. Health Concerns	Hygiene Items
4. Fire	Fire- Starter & Fuel
5. Food	Food Cook Pot & Utensils Cutting & Chopping
Tools:	Digging Cordage Containers



–Shelter, is first, because within a few hours we will most likely need shelter from something. If nothing else, after the sun goes down it will probably get colder and we will want something to wrap up in. But we may also need shelter from: rain, snow, the sun, wind, biting insects, etc. Water, is second, because under most conditions we could make it into the next day without water. Food, is last, because we could survive a couple weeks without food—we may not feel very good about it, but we’ll live. Health Concerns represents things like safety, sanitation and hygiene. It is in the middle as it ‘umbrellas’ over the other Priorities because we always want to stay safe and healthy. Even under ‘normal’ circumstances, if we were to get sick or injured it would make our situation worse, and we definitely wouldn’t want something like that to happen in a survival situation! Fire, is also in the middle and ‘umbrellas’ over the other Priorities, as fire may be needed in connection with our Shelter for light and heat, to boil Water to purify it, for cooking Food, and making tools, etc.

–Based on the Survival Priorities, there is an expanded list of actual equipment item categories which we need in order to provide ourselves with these Priorities. We will call this expanded list the Survival Priority Equipment. (See the second column of the chart.)

–‘Tools’ are also included here. Although tools are not a direct need, they enable us to get the things we do need more easily and efficiently—and in some cases get things we would not be able to get otherwise. For example: you can not eat a cook pot, but you can use the pot to cook food making it more digestible and palatable.

13. In any long term situation, we will need all of these.

a. Anything we did not have, we would need to gather and/or make.

–We may be able to ‘get by’ without some of these things for a while, but in an indefinite / long-term situation, we will eventually need each one of them. Our friend Brian made the observation that, one way or the other, you have to ‘do the work,’ either you will have to ‘work’ to gather and make what you need once you get to your wilderness camp, or you will have to ‘work’ to carry it in. From our experience, we have learned that: some things are easier and/or safer to carry in, whereas some things are easier to gather and make in the wilderness. (We will talk a bit more about this later.)

14. All of these things are available from nature.

a. Many groups of native peoples have ‘lived off the land’ for 1000's of years.

b. For them going into nature was like going to the mall, the grocery store, the hardware store, etc. all rolled into one.

c. Since we will be staying there ‘indefinitely,’ we should learn to look at nature more like a native.

15. There are 2 sub-groups on this list that we need to make a note of:

(1) 'Equipment' or 'Tools.' These are things that, if given proper care and treatment, could be used over & over again. For example, a metal cook pot, or a digging stick.

a. Now some 'equipment' items that we could easily bring with us from civilization would be superior to what we could make from nature. An example would be: a steel knife, as opposed to using the sharp edge of a broken rock as a stone knife.

- These items would be extremely difficult, if not essentially impossible to get and/or make in the wilderness. Therefore, in any survival situation, especially a long-term situation, (without the possibility of re-supply), these particular items would become our 'most valuable possessions.'

- They are primarily the items made of cloth, metal, and plastic.

- We should be sure to have these equipment items in our survival kits!

b. Any equipment we carry needs to be durable —not some of the flimsy 'survival gadgets' on the market. They also need to be maintainable in the wilderness. For example: if we had taken a gas canister stove, once the canisters were used up, the stove would be worthless!

(2) 'Supplies' or 'Provisions.' These are things that get used up as we use them.

a. Whether we are in the wilderness or at home, we have to continually replenish our supplies of these items.

- 'Provisions' correspond roughly to items connected with the last four of the Survival Priorities. For example, when we drink water, use toilet paper, burn firewood, or eat food it gets used up, and we would have to get more for the next time we need them.

b. In any long-term situation, no matter how much of these items we may have brought with us, sooner or later, they would get used up —and then what? So if we were to only carry 'supplies' or 'provisions' in our pack when we flee, (such as trying to carry enough food, or enough toilet paper, to last until Jesus comes), once these provisions get used up we'd have nothing, and we would end up doing 'naked survival!'

—We need to learn to replenish our 'provisions' from what God provides in nature.

c. In addition to key 'equipment' items, it would also be a good idea to include an initial supply of 'provisions' in our packs. Based on several sources, about 3 days worth seems appropriate.

*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 483 ; (quotation #5-13)

Orders were now issued to make ready for an advance. The people were to prepare a three days' supply of food, and the army was to be put in readiness for battle.

–This way it would be possible to travel for a couple days without having to worry about finding food.

–Of course it would definitely be a good idea to gather and eat whatever we happened to find along the way in order to make this initial supply last as long as possible.

16. We can replenish our supplies of 'provisions' from what God provides in nature as long as we needed to if we:

(1) Know how to identify the things God had provided in nature.

(2) Have developed primitive / bushcraft skills so we know how to process them.

(3) Have the equipment we need to be able to process these things in our packs.

–This is what will enable us to stay indefinitely.

17. *Desire of Ages*, pages 121-122; (quotation #5-14)

In the last great conflict of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell. It will finally be decreed that they shall be put to death. See Rev. 13:11-17. But to the obedient is given the promise, "He shall dwell on high: his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." Isa. 33:16. By this promise the children of God will live. . . .

–During this time, we will literally be living by God's promises.

a. Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
And lean not on your own understanding;  
In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.

–A lot of people have different ideas about how to get through this time. We need to *trust in the Lord, and His plan* for us. Let's not lean on our own understanding, or try to improve on God's plan. Remember, none of the other boat builders in Noah's day made it through the flood —no matter how ingenious their boat's design may have

been. The only ones who made it through, were the ones who prepared according to God's plan.

- If we are going to claim God's promises, we need to be following His instructions. It would be presumptuous to expect God to fulfill His promises when we are not in harmony with His plan.

b. Some native groups had a concept they called the 'sacred hunt.'

- This idea is essentially the same thing as the following verses put together.

Matthew 7:7

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

Philippians 4:19

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

—As they “asked,” and then went out “seeking” for what they needed, the Creator would somehow bring them and what they needed together to “supply” their needs.

—Suppose we feel that since God has promised to provide for us we don't need to prepare. So when we flee to the wilderness, all we do is “ask.” Will God give us something to eat, or provide our other needs?

—Jesus said “seek, and you will find.” Can we expect to “find,” if we don't “seek?”

—This also means we need to know what to “seek” for. For example: suppose we are led to a big patch of edible plants. But because we never studied wild edible plants we don't know that these particular plants are edible. Would it be God's fault, or our fault that we go hungry?

—As an example of how this might work: Let's suppose that when we flee to the wilderness our group is led to a cave. That evening, we eat the last of the food we had brought with us. So the next morning, we wake up and pray, 'Lord, we are here because this is where You have told us to go. As You know, we ate all of the food we brought with us last night, and we don't have anything more to eat. We're hungry. So we claim Your promise that, “bread shall be given.” And because You've also said, “seek and you will find,” we are going to go out looking for something to eat this morning, trusting that You will “supply all our needs.” (Isaiah 33:16, Matthew 7:7, Philippians 4:19.)



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~ to prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord ~

## How to Get Started

1. Unfortunately, nature and natural areas are so completely foreign to many people nowadays that they can't even imagine what it might be like to live in the "most desolate and solitary places." All some can picture is being in the deep dark woods huddled around a campfire. As a result, the question has been asked, "How can you prepare for that?" Although it is understandable that people would have a hard time preparing for something they can't relate to, there is a lot more to life than huddling around a fire, and there *is* still the need to prepare.

So let's break this down a bit. Suppose all we had was the clothes we are wearing, ('naked survival' as discussed in point #9 in the study), what would we want in order to stay overnight in the wilderness? —We would probably want a fully stocked cabin! Although we realize this isn't the 'right answer,' it illustrates another part of the problem. Culturally, we are not accustomed doing things for ourselves. We're used to having everything already prepared and laid out for us. For example, when we want some water, we just go and turn on the faucet without even thinking about everything that needs to happen in order for water to come out of the faucet.

- a. In the "most desolate and solitary places," there are no faucets or cabins. In other words, *nothing* is already laid out for us. So, to help us understand what we need to do to prepare, let's analyze what that fully stocked cabin would have. (The list here is organized according to the Survival Priorities as in point #12 in the study.)
  - A warm, dry Shelter, with beds and warm Bedding, and some rugged Clothing and sturdy shoes in the closet and dresser.
  - Spring-Water piped in to the kitchen sink and bathroom. Or possibly a well with a hand-pump and some buckets.
  - A bathroom stocked with toilet paper, toothbrushes and tooth paste, soap and towels. Or at least a washbasin with a large kettle to heat water on the wood stove and an outhouse out back.
  - A wood-stove or fireplace, something to start a Fire with, and a pile of firewood just outside the cabin.
  - Food and cooking utensils in the cupboards.
- b. We can easily relate to this cabin because it has things we are familiar with. In the wilderness we will continue to have these same needs, but we have difficulty relating to it because our needs may have to be met in ways we are not used to.
- c. In point #10 in the study we noted that it is not necessary to do 'naked survival' to obey Jesus' instructions; therefore it is OK to bring survival equipment; but, to 'flee' means to travel light, as a result we need to choose our equipment very carefully. So, based on the list of what a cabin would have, let's make a couple more lists of what we should be sure to either bring with us, or know how to do, so that our needs can be met even in the "most desolate and solitary places."

### Bring

- Be Wearing Adequate Clothing and Shoes
- Bedding
- A Tarp and Cordage
- A Water Bottle and a way to purify water
- A sustainable Fire-Starter
- Cook Pot
- A Knife and a Chopping Tool
- A Pack to carry all these things in
- An initial supply of Food

### Know how to do

- Make a Debris Bed
- Set up a Tarp Shelter, and make Shelters from Natural Materials
- Dig a 'Cat-Hole,' and what to use for Toilet Paper
- Make a Toothbrush
- Identify Soap Plants
- Start a Fire
- Identify and prepare Wild Edible Plants
- Carve simple cooking and eating Utensils

2. As noted in point #16 of the study, we can replenish our 'supplies' indefinitely from the things God has provided in nature, if we:

- (1) Know how to identify them
- (2) Have developed primitive / bushcraft skills
- (3) Have the necessary equipment



a. Start by getting your 'equipment' together. You can't learn how to play the violin unless you have a violin to play. In the same way, you will need to have the equipment in order to develop your primitive / bushcraft skills.

- Buy quality equipment. But keep in mind that ultimately, skills are more important than equipment. Remember the old poem by Myra Brooks Welch, entitled 'The Touch of the Master's Hand' —even 'average quality' equipment, in the hands of a skilled person can produce outstanding results! The reverse is also true, even if you have the 'best' violin, it is not going to make you any better of a violin player. So get quality equipment but don't let a focus on equipment cause you to neglect developing your skills.

b. Also start by learning to identify the things in nature that are in your area.

- Invest in some field guides that cover what lives and grows your area. Browse through these field guides before and after outings.
- Learn not only to how to identify the things of nature, but to also get to know their qualities. For example, there is a big difference between carving willow, and carving oak. Which of these woods we would want to use depends on what we need to make. If we needed a digging stick, the toughness of oak would make a more durable tool than willow. On the other hand if we needed to carve a spoon, willow would be the better choice as the toughness of oak would not be necessary, and oak would be much more difficult to carve.

3. Harvesting and crafting things from nature brings up another concern. What was the job God gave Adam and Eve to do? —To take care of the garden. (See Genesis 2:15.)
  - a. And by extension, as their children, we have the same job. However for the most part, people haven't followed God's plan and we have pretty much trashed the planet.
  - b. But God still cares about His creation. In Revelation 11:18 as a part of a declaration that is made in heaven just before Jesus comes it says He will destroy those who have destroyed the earth.
  - c. When practicing, or actually doing wilderness survival, we can do a lot of damage to nature. On the other hand, it is possible to get everything we need from nature and leave it better off than we found it. So, it is important for us to have a 'Caretaker Attitude,' rather than just being 'Careless Takers.'
    - To do this, we need to think about the impact our activities will have on nature. For example if we are wanting a digging stick, rather than cutting that perfectly shaped little sapling growing off by itself, do some thinning or pruning from an area where things are growing too thickly.
4. Learning wilderness survival is *not* an arm-chair activity! Yes, you can, and should spend some time reading and watching videos, (there is a lot of good videos on YouTube about wild edible plants and primitive / bushcraft skills), but there is simply no substitute for getting out into nature and doing it!

a *Testimonies for the Church Vol. 2, page 584*

Those who sacrifice simplicity to fashion, and shut themselves away from the beauties of nature, cannot be spiritually minded.

b. Go exploring on Sabbath afternoon hikes. Get to know what is out there!

- Take your basic equipment with you so you will be able to practice with the things you find. Gather materials to bring home and craft in the evenings.

- And, be sure to work at developing your direction finding skills!

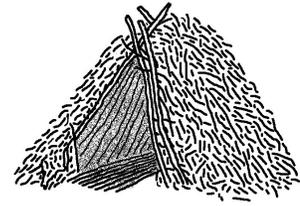
c. Find places that would work for an over night outing, and as soon as you are able, start going on overnight and longer trips.



## What to Put in Your Survival Kit / 'Grab-and-Go' Pack

1. If we were in a survival situation, where we had essentially 'nothing,' ('naked survival'), and therefore we had to gather and/or make essentially everything we needed, what would we gather and make?

- Shelter (near a water source)
- Cutting/Chopping Tools
- Fire-Drill Set
- Cordage
- Hygiene Items: (toilet paper subs, soap, tooth brush, hair brush, ...)
- Blanket Mats
- Clothing / Footwear
- Digging Stick
- Wild Edibles
- Water Container
- Containers: (baskets, net bags, ...)



a. Which of these items would we continue to carry with us whenever we moved camp? —Actually, everything we could practically carry with us! Which would amount to basically, everything on the above list except the Shelter!

b. So, since we know we are going into the wilderness, why not bring these things with us in the first place?

2. When just going on a 'day hike,' people tend not to bring anything. But if they know they are going to be spending the night, then they want to bring everything! So, it is very easy for our packs to get so heavy that we won't want to carry them on just a 'day hike.' As a result we won't have our equipment with us to experiment with things that we find on the hike, and we'll miss out on an opportunity to develop our skills. So, let's ask another question. What are you willing to carry on a hike when you are *not* planning to spend the night, so that you would have it with you if you *did* end up having to spend the night? (This *has* happened! —more than once!)

- Pack
- Knife, and a folding camp saw or pruning saw, or 'bush knife' or ±10 in. / 25 cm. machete, or hatchet
- Fire-Starter
- Water Bottle —Stainless, non-insulated
- Poncho or Tarp
- Cordage
- Extra Warm Clothing —Blanket
- Scarf/Bandanna
- Food, Salt
- Cook Pot
- Light, (flashlight/headlamp)
- First-Aid Kit
- Toilet Paper

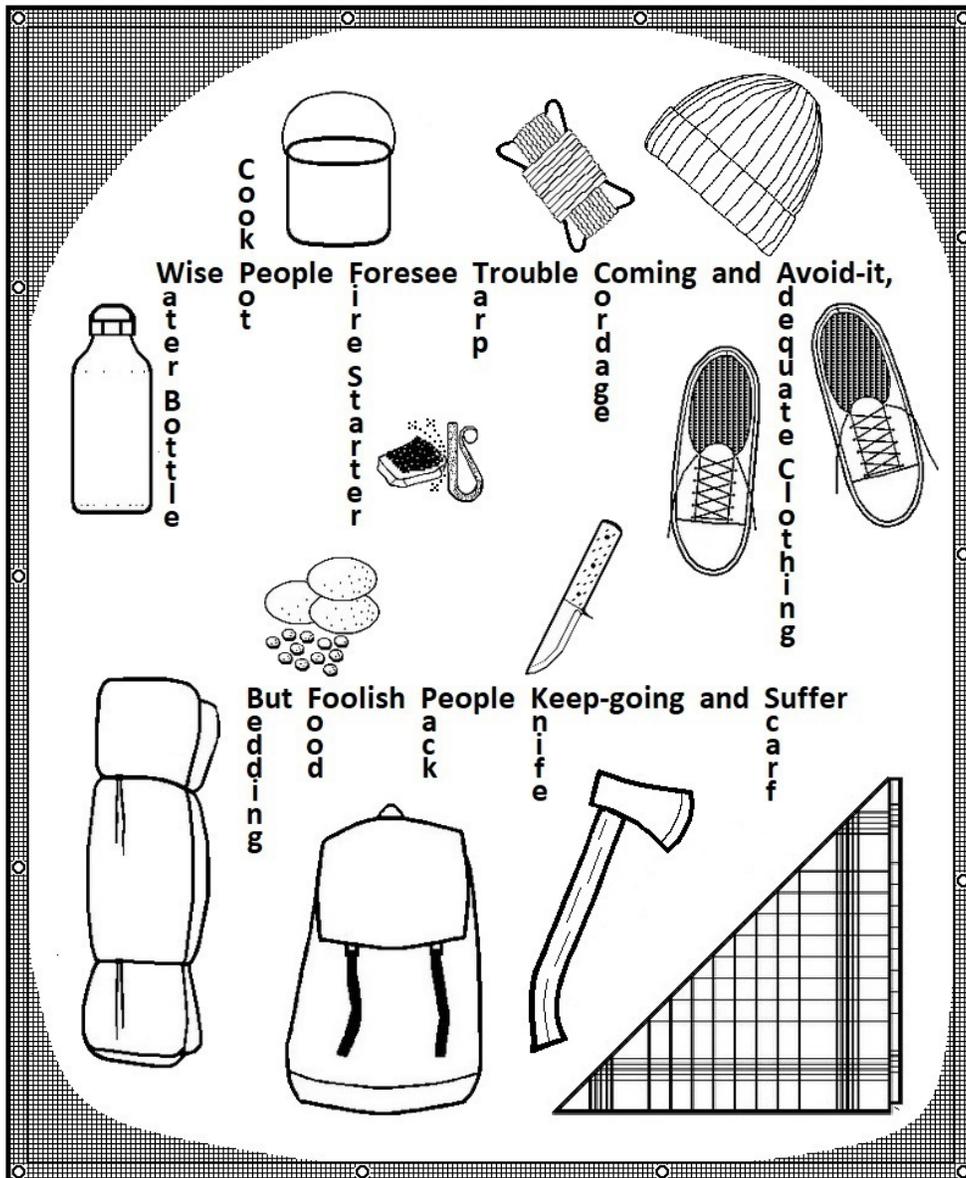
3. Survival Priority Equipment items evaluated as per the groupings in study point #15

Survival Priority Equipment	Used Over and Over?	Most Valuable Possession?	Include in Kit?	Notes (See also 'Notes on Survival Kit Equipment Items' on the following pages)
Clothing/Footwear	X	X	X	Be sure to wear Adequate Clothing. Carry a warm hat, extra wool socks, and rain poncho.
Bedding	X	X	X	A blanket mat can be made, but a blanket or sleeping bag is easier to use.
Structural Shelter (Tarp)	X	X	X	Shelter can be made entirely from natural materials –but carry a tarp.
Water Bottle	X	X	X	Stainless steel water bottles can boil water to purify it.
Hygiene Items			X	Toothbrushes are easy to make. Soap from plants. Carry a first-aid kit and an initial supply of toilet paper.
Fire-Starter/Fuel	X	X	X	After you use your last match, then what? Carry a sustainable fire-starter such as the historic flint & steel.
Food			X	Carry salt and an initial supply of food.
Cook Pot/Utensil	X	X	X	Carry a cook-pot –one of the most important items. Utensils are easy to make.
Cutting/Chopping	X	X	X	Some type of cutting tool is needed for most tasks!
Digging				A digging stick is easy to make with cutting/chopping tools.
Cordage	X		X	Cordage is easy to make, but carrying an initial supply saves time.
Containers	X	X	X	Water Bottles and Cook Pots are specialized containers. Another important 'container' is your pack.

## The Proverbs 22:3 Survival Kit

This idea started out with a question about what would be the fewest number of items to have in a survival kit that would still cover the essentials for wilderness survival. After a lot of thought and prayer, the following, based on Proverbs 22:3, came together. Note the connection between this and the chart on the previous page.

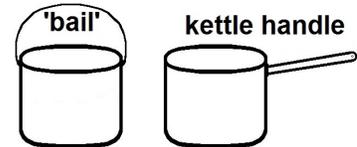
Don't necessarily limit yourself to the items listed here. Its purpose is mainly to emphasize the most important equipment items —the things you will want to be sure to include in your survival kit. You may also want to bring: some salt, a first aid kit, a repair kit, an initial supply of toilet paper, etc. Keep in mind that 'knife' here also includes cutting and chopping tools as well as the equipment needed to keep them sharp. If at all possible, everyone should carry their own survival kit. This way everybody will have what they need, even if they happen to somehow get separated from the group.



## Notes on Survival Kit Equipment Items

- Water Bottle —Unless you are a young child, your water bottle should hold at least 1 qt / 1 lt. If you have a bottle made of stainless steel you can also boil water in it. By being able to boil water in both your water bottle and your cook pot, you can purify twice as much in essentially the same amount of time. Wide mouth bottles also seem to be more practical than those with narrow lids. In addition to boiling, water can also be purified by, chemicals such as purification tablets, or with a filter.

- Cook Pot —Because it can be used for cooking, purifying water, and as a container in general, your cook pot is one of the most important items in your kit. Pots with a 'bail' seem to be easier to work with over a campfire than those with 'kettle handles.' A simple cook-pot can be made by attaching a wire "bail" to a can. The most practical size cook pots to carry for personal use hold a little over 1 qt / 1 lt. If you are responsible for small children who are not able to carry their own kit, you may want to carry something a bit larger. For a simple utensil, carve some chop sticks, or flatten a stick for a spatula.

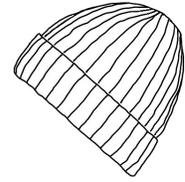


- Fire-Starter —Because fire plays such a big part in wilderness living, a fire-starter is also one of the most important items in your kit. When choosing which fire-starter(s) to include, keep in mind that we will be staying indefinitely. Sooner or later you will use that last match, the lighter will run out, the 'ferro rod' will wear down. Then what? The only methods we have found of making fire indefinitely in the wilderness are historic flint & steel kits, friction fire methods, and possibly fire pistons. Practice making fire under different weather conditions to be competent with both fire making and fire safety.

- Tarp —It is possible to make adequate shelters using only materials found in nature. But tarps are fairly light weight and easy to carry, and with just some twine and a few poles cut near the campsite, a tarp shelter can usually be set up more quickly and easily. Unlike most tents, many tarp shelter designs can have a fire in connection with them. This enables your shelter to be heated, and can let you boil water and cook without having to leave the shelter. For average sized people a 6 ft x 8 ft / 2 m x 2.6 m tarp would probably be adequate. If you are taller, or have young children that are not be able to carry their own equipment, you may want to carry an 8 ft x 10 ft / 2.6 m x 3.3 m tarp. Remember to *make the frame to fit the tarp(s)*. Don't just set up a frame, and then try to get the tarp(s) to somehow cover it. Practice setting up tarp shelters so you can put one up easily and quickly.

- Cordage —(the root word here is 'cord'). This is probably one of the easier items on this list to find and make in nature. However, about 100 ft / 30 m of twine it is fairly light weight, relatively inexpensive, and easy to carry. Including some cordage in your kit far out weighs the time and effort it would take to make some! Carry at least 50-100 ft. / 15-30 m. Natural fiber twine will biodegrade if it gets left behind, and if necessary, it can also be used as tinder for fire-starting.

• Adequate Clothing —Statistically, whether a person is wearing adequate clothing or not is the single most important factor determining whether they will be able to stay alive in an actual survival situation. Also remember that you lose over 70% of your body heat from your neck up, and that if you will lose a lot of extra body heat if you get wet. So stay dry, and be sure to include a warm hat, an extra pair of wool socks, and a rain poncho in your kit. Historically it has also been shown that your shoes are the most important item of clothing, as they are what enable you to get around to get everything else you need. So possibly keep your light weight hiking boots next to your 'grab-and-go' pack.



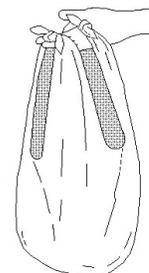
• Bedding —Although some type of bedding will probably be the bulkiest item in your kit, it is also one of the most important. Keep in mind that we spend about a third of our time each day in bed, and that a good night's sleep makes a huge difference with just about everything. Choose the thickest wool blanket you can get, (possibly using a lighter one for day-trips). Although wool is heavy, it is quite durable, and wool will keep you warm even if it gets wet. It has been said that wool blankets are one of the greatest inventions of mankind —I agree! A military "poncho liner" might be another option. And remember that sleeping bags are just 'glorified blankets.'

• Food —Yes, this is going to get used up, and you will need to get more from nature. But a three-day's supply of food, as noted earlier, will give you time to travel and to find more. Choose foods that are light weight, low in bulk, high in nutrition, and that won't get crushed in your pack. Some examples are: nuts, dried fruits, dried soup mixes, whole grain flour and meal. Salt also goes a long way to make wild foods taste better, and replaces needed electrolytes.

• Pack —This may not necessarily be an 'essential' item for survival, but imagine trying to carry all these things without it. Be sure your pack fits *you*.

• Knife —This is probably the most important item in your kit. Keep in mind that 'knife' here also includes other sharp edged cutting tools as well. Besides a 'knife' for fine carving and meal preparation, (a 'cutting tool'), you will also need something for more heavy wood shaping that can be used for cutting shelter poles, splitting firewood and similar tasks (a 'chopping tool'). So, a small axe or hatchet, a machete or 'bush knife,' or a saw is also included in this category. Everyone should be sure to have their own knife, and preferably one of these other 'chopping tools' included in their kit. Although it would be too much for one person to carry all three of these heavier 'chopping tools,' it would be nice to end up with each of them in camp, so possibly each group member can carry a different one. Also keep in mind that another important part of this category is the equipment needed to keep these tools sharp. See Ecclesiastes 10:10.

• Scarf —This is probably the least 'essential' item on this list. But it is so useful for so many things that it has earned a place here anyway. Scarves can be used for: a towel, washcloth, 'hot pad,' table cloth, head band, head cover, a bag, cordage, bandaging, clothing, diapers, etc. Because of this, I do know of at least one person who said that if they were stranded on a deserted island, and could only have one item, it would be their scarf.



## Study Guide # 5

### How the Prophecies Describe Our End-Time Wilderness Experience

1. 1. Jn 14:26 –Do we want to be \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit?
  - a. RH 3/22/1887 –If so, we must \_\_\_\_\_ the way by \_\_\_\_\_ every hindrance
2. Prov 22:3 –Wise people foresee trouble coming and \_\_\_\_\_ it, but foolish people keep going and suffer.
3. Matt 24:15-16 –There are \_\_\_\_\_ phases of “flee to the mountains”
  - (1<sup>st</sup>) 5T 464-5 –Flee from the cities to the \_\_\_\_\_ at the first national Sunday law
    - CL 9-10 –Here we will \_\_\_\_\_ our own \_\_\_\_\_ when we cannot buy/sell
    - And continue to \_\_\_\_\_ , as Probation has not Closed yet
  - (2<sup>nd</sup>) GC 626 –Flee to the \_\_\_\_\_ places in response to the Death Decree
    - This will happen in connection with the 3<sup>rd</sup> plague, (Rev 16:4-6, EW 36-37, GC 627-628), so probation will have \_\_\_\_\_ , and there is no point in further evangelism
4. Rev 13:16-17 –This will be after ‘no buy/sell,’ so we’ll most likely be traveling \_\_\_\_\_
5. 7BC 971 –We will be living in the wilderness \_\_\_\_\_ (until Jesus comes)
6. Luke 17:28-30, Gen 19:16-19 –If we consider the wilderness is a \_\_\_\_\_ place, will we want to flee there for \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. If nature really is hostile, what does that say about the \_\_\_\_\_ ?
  - b. Job 5:22-23 –The wild animals are on \_\_\_\_\_
7. Rev 12:6,14, Mar 270, UL 327 –God has places \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness where He will \_\_\_\_\_ for us
  - a. Isa 33:16, LDE 265 –God has promised to provide for us, but \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is all that is promised, and we have other needs besides food and water, (Mt 6:25)
8. GC 626, Mar 270 –We will be in \_\_\_\_\_ —will we be an ‘asset’ or a ‘liability?’
9. Being in a survival situation without any equipment is called, ‘ \_\_\_\_\_ ’
  - (The word ‘naked’ is used here the same as in Job 1:21, Eccl 5:15, 1 Tim 6:7)
  - a. ‘Naked Survival’ is actually done by two groups:
    - (1) Those who are \_\_\_\_\_ skilled, and wanting to practice
    - (2) Those with few skills, as a result of poor planning and \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_
10. Matt 24:17-18 –Did Jesus say, “Drop everything and run?” \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. He just said, “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
  - b. So, it is \_\_\_\_\_ necessary to do ‘naked survival’ to obey Jesus’ instructions here
    - Acts 12:8 –God knows that we need certain \_\_\_\_\_ in order to survive



- We should be sure to have these items in our \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Any equipment needs to be \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness
- (2) 'Supplies'/'Provisions' = things that get \_\_\_\_\_ as we use them
  - a. We have to continually \_\_\_\_\_ our supplies of these items
    - 'Provisions' correspond roughly to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Survival Priorities
  - b. If we only carried 'provisions,' when we \_\_\_\_\_ we'll be doing naked survival
  - c. It would be good to include about a \_\_\_\_\_ days supply of 'provisions' (PP 483)
- 16. We can replenish our supplies indefinitely from nature, if we:
  - (1) Know how to \_\_\_\_\_ what God provides in nature
  - (2) Have developed 'primitive' / 'bushcraft' \_\_\_\_\_
  - (3) Have the \_\_\_\_\_ needed to process these things
- 17. DA 121-122 –We will be living by God's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Prov 3:5-6 –Trust in the Lord, don't lean on \_\_\_\_\_ understanding
    - If we are going to claim God's promises, we need to be following His \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Some native groups had a concept they call the ' \_\_\_\_\_ '
    - This is essentially the same as Matt 7:7 and Phil 4:19 –As we “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” and “ \_\_\_\_\_ ,” the Creator will “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” our needs

As an example of how this might work: Let's suppose that when we flee to the wilderness our group is led to a cave. That evening, we eat the last of the food we had brought with us. So the next morning, we wake up and pray, 'Lord, we are here because this is where You have told us to go. As You know, we ate all of the food we brought with us last night, and we don't have anything more to eat. We're hungry. So we claim Your promise that, "bread shall be given." And because You've also said, "seek and you will find," we are going to go out looking for something to eat this morning, trusting that You will "supply all our needs."' (Isaiah 33:16, Matthew 7:7, Philippians 4:19.)



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 ~ to prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord ~

#5-1. *Review and Herald*, March 22, 1887

There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God shall clear the way by removing every hindrance, so that the Lord can pour out his Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. ... When the way is prepared for the Spirit of God, the blessing will come.

#5-2. *Testimonies for the Church Vol. 5*, pages 464-465

The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains.

#5-3. *Country Living*, pages 9-10, (Letter 5, 1904; also on 2SM 141)

Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one. We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.

#5-4. *Great Controversy*, page 626

As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment keepers shall withdraw the protection of government and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains.

#5-5. *Early Writings*, pages 36-37

I saw that the four angels would hold the four winds until Jesus' work was done in the sanctuary, and then will come the seven last plagues. These plagues enraged the wicked against the righteous; they thought that we had brought the judgments of God upon them, and that if they could rid the earth of us, the plagues would then be stayed. A decree went forth to slay the saints, which caused them to cry day and night for deliverance.

#5-6. *Great Controversy*, pages 627-628

When Christ ceases His intercession in the sanctuary, the unmingled wrath threatened against those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark (Revelation 14:9, 10), will be poured out. The plagues upon Egypt when God was about to deliver Israel were similar in character to those more terrible and extensive judgments which are to fall upon the world just before the final deliverance of God's people. Says the revelator, in describing those terrific scourges: "There fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshiped his image." The sea "became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea." And "the rivers and fountains of waters . . . became blood."

Terrible as these inflictions are, God's justice stands fully vindicated. The angel of God declares: "Thou art righteous, O Lord, . . . because Thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and Thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy." Revelation 16:2-6. By condemning the people of God to death, they have as truly incurred the guilt of their blood as if it had been shed by their hands.

#5-7. *S.D.A. Bible Commentary Vol. 7*, page 971

This time, which the angel declares with a solemn oath, is not the end of this world's history, neither of probationary time, but of prophetic time, which should precede the advent of our Lord. That is, the people will not have another message upon definite time. After this period of time, reaching from 1842 to 1844, there can be no definite tracing of the prophetic time. The longest reckoning reaches to the autumn of 1844.

#5-8. *Maranatha*, page 270

During the night a very impressive scene passed before me. There seemed to be great confusion and the conflict of armies. A messenger from the Lord stood before me, and said, "Call your household. I will lead you; follow me." He led me down a dark passage, through a forest, then through the clefts of mountains, and said, "Here you are safe." There were others who had been led to this retreat. The heavenly messenger said. "The time of trouble has come as a thief in the night, as the Lord warned you it would come."

#5-9. *The Upward Look*, page 327, (also on TDG 241)

He has made the strength of the everlasting hills to be a safe retreat for His people. He has prepared the mountains and the caves for His oppressed and persecuted children.

#5-10. *Last Day Events*, page 265, (SR 129)

Bread and water is all that is promised to the remnant in the time of trouble.

#5-11. *Early Writings*, pages 56-57

... They will then have to flee before infuriated mobs, ...

#5-12. *Testimonies for the Church Vol. 5*, page 152

We ought now to be heeding the injunction of our Saviour: "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not." It is now that our brethren should be cutting down their possessions instead of increasing them. We are about to move to a better country, even a heavenly. Then let us not be dwellers upon the earth, but be getting things into as compact a compass as possible.

#5-13. *Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 483

Orders were now issued to make ready for an advance. The people were to prepare a three days' supply of food, and the army was to be put in readiness for battle.

#5-14 *Desire of Ages*, pages 121-122

In the last great conflict of the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell. It will finally be decreed that they shall be put to death. See Rev. 13:11-17. But to the obedient is given the promise, "He shall dwell on high: his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." Isa. 33:16. By this promise the children of God will live. . . .

Jim Buller

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~ to prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord ~

## How to Get Started

1. Many people nowadays can't imagine what it might be like to live in the \_\_\_\_\_

a. What would a fully stocked cabin have?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

b. In the wilderness we will continue to have these same needs, but they may have to be met in ways we are not \_\_\_\_\_

c. So that our needs can be met even in the "most desolate and solitary places," what should we be sure to:

Bring

Know how to do

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

2. We can replenish our 'supplies' indefinitely from what God provides in nature, if we:

- (1) Know how to \_\_\_\_\_ them
- (2) Have developed primitive / bushcraft \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Have the necessary \_\_\_\_\_



a. Start by getting \_\_\_\_\_, you will need it to develop primitive / bushcraft \_\_\_\_\_

- Buy quality equipment, but \_\_\_\_\_ are more important than equipment

b. Also start learning to \_\_\_\_\_ the things in nature that are in your area

- Invest in some \_\_\_\_\_
- And learn the \_\_\_\_\_ of the various thing in nature —which will require some experimentation

3. Gen 2:15 –What job did God give Adam and Eve? –to \_\_\_\_\_ of the garden

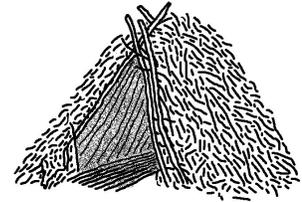
- a. As their children, we have the \_\_\_\_\_ job
  - b. Rev 11:18 –In the end, God will destroy those who \_\_\_\_\_ the earth
  - c. So it is important for us to have a ‘ \_\_\_\_\_ Attitude,’ rather than being just a ‘Careless Takers’
    - We can do this by thinking about the \_\_\_\_\_ of our activities on nature, and try to leave it \_\_\_\_\_ than we found it
4. There is no substitute for \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ into nature!
- a. 2T 584 –“Those who sacrifice simplicity to fashion, and shut themselves away from the beauties of nature, cannot be spiritually minded.”
  - b. Go exploring on Sabbath afternoon \_\_\_\_\_
    - Take your equipment so you can \_\_\_\_\_ with what you find.
    - And be sure to work on developing your \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ skills
  - c. Find places that would work for an \_\_\_\_\_ outings, and do longer trips



## What to Put in Your Survival Kit / 'Grab-and-Go' Pack

1. In a survival situation, where we had essentially 'nothing,' ('naked survival'), and we would therefore have to gather and/or make essentially everything we needed, what would we gather and make?

- \_\_\_\_\_
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a. Which of these items would we continue to carry with us whenever we moved camp? \_\_\_\_\_

b. So, why not \_\_\_\_\_ these things \_\_\_\_\_ when we go into the wilderness in the first place?

2. If our packs are too heavy, we won't want to carry them on a day hike. Then we won't have our equipment to experiment with the things that we find, and therefore we'll miss out on opportunities to develop our skills. So, let's ask another question. What are you willing to carry on a hike when you are *not* planning to spend the night, so that you would have it with you if you *did* end up having to spend the night?

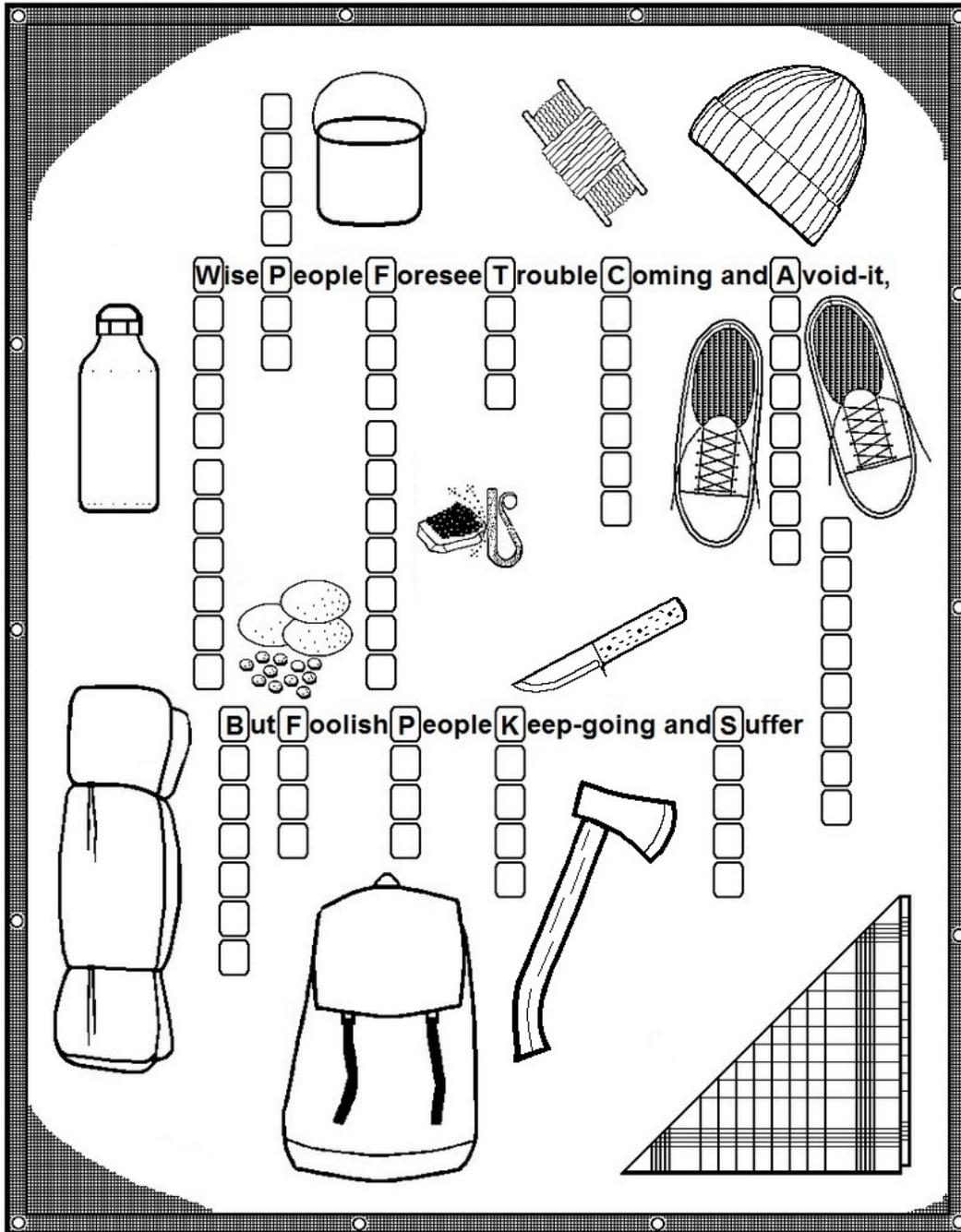
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3. Survival Priority Equipment items evaluated by the groupings in study point #15

Survival Priority Equipment	Used Over and Over?	Most Valuable Possession?	Include in Kit?	Notes
Clothing/Footwear				
Bedding				
Structural Shelter (Tarp)				
Water Bottle				
Hygiene Items				
Fire-Starter				
Food				
Cook Pot/Utensils				
Cutting/Chopping				
Digging				
Cordage				
Containers				

## The Proverbs 22:3 Survival Kit

This idea started out with a question about the fewest number of items that would cover the essentials for long-term wilderness survival. Note: 'Knife' here would also include an axe, or machete, or saw. You may also want to add things, like: a first-aid kit, salt, a headlamp, and some toilet paper. Just be sure you have each of these items.



Adequate Clothing  
Bedding  
Cook Pot

Cordage  
Fire Starter  
Food

Knife  
Pack  
Scarf

Tarp  
Water Bottle