

Study Guide #5
Should We, or Should We Not Prepare Physically?

1. Jn 14:26, RH 3/22/1887 –Is the way _____ so the Holy Spirit can teach us?
2. Important Bible Study Principles:
 - a. Mal 3:6, Heb 13:8 –God does not _____ (Isa 33:16)
 - b. Isa 28:10, 1SM 42 –Scripture explains _____
 - c. GC 371 –If we find passages that appear to differ, we need to find out how they _____
 - d. Prov 3:5-6, Isa 55:8-9, HS 217 –Trusting in God, includes doing things _____ way
3. GC 30-31 –The Christians fleeing to Pella tells us that they had a _____ :
 - (1) _____ to go
 - (2) Places where they would _____
 - (3) What to _____
 - (4) They would have _____ themselves, and especially their children, to flee
4. Would taking things like a knife, fire-starter, water bottle and a blanket when we flee not be trusting wholly in God? and trying to save ourselves? _____
 - a. CL 6 –Life in the cities is _____ and _____ (switches, buttons, and knobs)
 - This has given us a false _____ (point to measure from)
 - b. Historically, people regularly carried: a Knife, Fire-Starter, Water Jug, Blanket, Cordage, Food —our false baseline makes us think, What do I need _____ for?
 - Blanket examples: Matt 9:20-22, 27:35, 1Ki 19:13, 19, 2Ki 2:8, 11-14, Ex 22:26-27
5. 1 Thess 5:2-6 –Although things will happen suddenly and unexpectedly to most people, it should _____ overtake _____ as a thief
 - a. Matt 24:42-44 –Jesus tell us to _____ and _____
 - b. This is another _____ of the ‘Olivet Discourse’
 - Matt 25:10 –Those who were _____ went with the Bridegroom into the wedding
 - Matt 24:17-18 –If we’re going “Be Ready,” we must ‘Get Ready’ _____ of _____
6. Matt 24:17-18 –But, were those who ‘fled’ without taking anything, “Ready” _____
 - a. Matt 24:16 –Where did they ‘flee’ to? —the _____ (Pella was 3 days away)
 - b. By not taking anything, were they “ready” for their first night in the mountains? _____
 - c. Was an ‘angel at the crossroads,’ passing out blankets, water bottles, and food? _____
 - d. Matt 6:32 –“Your heavenly Father _____ that you _____ all these things”
 - e. Acts 12:8 –The angel told Peter to _____ his cloak
7. Matt 24:17-18 –Is Jesus telling us here to, ‘Drop everything and run?’ _____
 - a. He’s just said, “ _____ ”

- b. So to obey, is it necessary to leave everything behind when we flee? _____
- c. Would it be OK to take something, if we had it, or could pick it up on our way out? _____
8. Matt 24:42-44, Rev 16:15 –“Watch” and “ _____ ” your “garments” so you’re not “naked”
- a. How do you “keep” your clothing so you are not “naked?” You “keep” them _____
- b. The person who fled without his cloak didn’t “ _____ ” his “garments”
9. So what does it mean to “Be Ready?”
- a. Using the End-Time ‘Birth-Pains’ imagery of Matt 24:7-8: What does a pregnant lady do to “Be Ready?” —her _____ is all packed, by the _____ —pick it up on way out
- b. Ex 12:11 –How were they to eat the Passover? —all _____ and “Ready” to _____
10. 4T 44-45 –Would fleeing to the mountains without taking anything be rushing “recklessly into danger, violating the laws of nature and disregarding prudence” and good judgment? _____
- a. Con 84-86 –If we needlessly expose ourselves to danger and go where, God does not require us to go, will God send angels to preserve us? _____
- b. So, since we *know* we will be going into the wilderness, wouldn’t fleeing unprepared and unequipped, yet claiming God’s promises actually be presumption? _____
11. If we’re “Watching” and “Ready,” there is *no reason* anyone would have to flee without even taking their cloak! It would *only* be those who are _____ “Watching” or “Ready”
12. Keep in mind that ‘flee’ means to _____ & _____
- a. Possibly from _____ (EW 56-57)
- b. So no _____ packs full of enough provisions to last until Jesus comes
- c. Instead, our packs should be _____ weight and _____ bulk, containing key equipment for _____ what God has provided for us in nature (5T 152)
13. EW 56 (1) –Can this statement negate everything else that’s said about preparing? _____
14. EW 56 (2-3) –“ _____ will be the time for us to trust _____ in God”
- a. GC 622 –It _____ possible to make the Time of Trouble harder on ourselves
- We need to make “it a habit to trust in God” _____ and not wait until _____
15. EW 56 (4) –“God is able to spread a _____ for us in the wilderness” (Ps 78:19)
- a. MH 200 –God’s blessing which spread “a table in the wilderness,” “will _____ cease”
- They’ve been there since creation, they’re there _____ , and will be there in the _____
16. SC 123 –How do we get Gods ‘wilderness blessings?’
- a. He “does _____ drop the food into their bills!”
- b. “They must _____ the grains,” and make their nests
- c. _____ too will have to gather/make what _____ need from what God provides in nature
- d. Matt 7:7, Phil 4:19 –“Sacred Hunt” —as we _____ and _____ , God will _____

17. EW 56 (5) – God will “send _____ to feed us ... or rain _____ ”
- a. EW 282 –An additional promise that _____ will provide us with “food and water”
18. Do the promises of the “ravens,” “manna,” and “angels,” and, the promise of God’s ‘wilderness blessings,’ “destroy” each other? _____ (GC 371)
19. Would relying on God’s ‘wilderness blessings,’ be trusting “wholly in God” the same as relying on the “ravens,” “manna,” and “angels?” _____
20. Note that the first 2 words in EW 56 (5) are “ _____ ”
- a. God’s promised ‘wilderness blessings’ “will never ceases,” but because of the _____ of nature, “if necessary” He will send “ravens,” “manna,” or “angels”
- a. GC 623, HS 217 –Let’s not try to tell God _____ He has to provide for us
21. As long as we had them all “Ready” and with us, would taking things like a knife, fire-starter, and cook pot, to process what God provides in nature, be ‘making provisions’ for our “temporal wants?” _____ –(Note: clothing is also a ‘temporal want,’ so should we leave our clothes when we flee? [Matt 24:18], or is our false baseline deceiving us?)
22. EW (1) –So what does it mean to not “make any provisions for our temporal wants?”
- a. EW 56 (2) –This refers to having “food _____ up” —Note, the mentality here is to stock up enough to last till Jesus comes, so this would also include trying to _____ enough toilet paper, (or ??? ‘provision’), when we flee to last until Jesus comes
23. Learn to “trust wholly in God” “ _____ ,” don’t wait until “ _____ ” to develop this habit
- a. ST 8/8/1892 –“You will _____ all the faith you have”
- b. 2T 584 –Experience God’s ‘wilderness blessings’ “ _____ ,” don’t wait until “ _____ ”

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.

2. *Selected Messages Book 1*, page 42

The testimonies themselves will be the key that will explain the messages given, as scripture is explained by scripture.

3. *Great Controversy*, pages 371

One saying of the Saviour must not be made to destroy another.

4. *Historical Sketches*, page 217

We are not to follow our own will and judgment, and flatter ourselves that God will come to our terms. God tests our faith by giving us some part to act in connection with his

interposition in our behalf. To those who comply with the conditions, his promises will be fulfilled; but all that venture to depart from his instructions, to follow a way of their own choosing, will perish with the wicked when his judgments are visited upon the earth.

5. *Great Controversy*, pages 30-31

Not one Christian perished in the destruction of Jerusalem. Christ had given His disciples warning, and all who believed His words watched for the promised sign. "When ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies," said Jesus, "then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out." Luke 21:20, 21. After the Romans under Cestius had surrounded the city, they unexpectedly abandoned the siege when everything seemed favorable for an immediate attack. The besieged, despairing of successful resistance, were on the point of surrender, when the Roman general withdrew his forces without the least apparent reason. But God's merciful providence was directing events for the good of His own people. The promised sign had been given to the waiting Christians, and now an opportunity was offered for all who would, to obey the Saviour's warning. Events were so overruled that neither Jews nor Romans should hinder the flight of the Christians. Upon the retreat of Cestius, the Jews, sallying from Jerusalem, pursued after his retiring army; and while both forces were thus fully engaged, the Christians had an opportunity to leave the city. At this time the country also had been cleared of enemies who might have endeavored to intercept them. At the time of the siege, the Jews were assembled at Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, and thus the Christians throughout the land were able to make their escape unmolested. Without delay they fled to a place of safety—the city of Pella, in the land of Perea, beyond Jordan.

6. *Country Living*, page 6

Life in the cities is false and artificial.

7. *Testimonies to the Church Vol. 4*, page 44-45

Presumption is a common temptation, and as Satan assails men with this, he obtains the victory nine times out of ten. ... The promises of God are not for us rashly to claim while we rush on recklessly into danger, violating the laws of nature and disregarding prudence and the judgment with which God has endowed us. This is the most flagrant presumption.

8. *Confrontation*, pages 84-86

There are many who fail to distinguish between the rashness of presumption and the intelligent confidence of faith. ...

God has given man precious promises upon conditions of faith and obedience; but they are not to sustain him in any rash act. If men needlessly place themselves in peril, and go where God does not require them to go, and self-confidently expose themselves to danger, disregarding the dictates of reason, God will not work a miracle to relieve them. He will not send His angels to preserve any from being burned if they choose to place themselves in the fire.

9. *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.

10. *Early Writings*, pages 56-57

(1) The Lord has shown me repeatedly that it is contrary to the Bible to make any provision for our temporal wants in the time of trouble.

(2) I saw that if the saints had food laid up by them or in the field in the time of trouble, when sword, famine, and pestilence are in the land, it would be taken from them by violent hands and strangers would reap their fields.

(3) Then will be the time for us to trust wholly in God, and He will sustain us.

(4) I saw that our bread and water will be sure at that time, and that we shall not lack or suffer hunger; for God is able to spread a table for us in the wilderness.

(5) If necessary He would send ravens to feed us, as He did to feed Elijah, or rain manna from heaven, as He did for the Israelites.

Houses and lands will be of no use to the saints in the time of trouble, for they will then have to flee before infuriated mobs, and at that time their possessions cannot be disposed of to advance the cause of present truth. I was shown that it is the will of God that the saints should cut loose from every encumbrance before the time of trouble comes, and make a covenant with God through sacrifice. If they have their property on the altar and earnestly inquire of God for duty, He will teach them when to dispose of these things. Then they will be free in the time of trouble and have no clogs to weigh them down.

11. *Great Controversy*, page 622

Those who exercise but little faith now, are in the greatest danger of falling under the power of satanic delusions and the decree to compel the conscience. And even if they endure the test they will be plunged into deeper distress and anguish in the time of trouble, because they have never made it a habit to trust in God. The lessons of faith which they have neglected they will be forced to learn under a terrible pressure of discouragement.

12. *The Ministry of Healing*, page 200

The mountains and hills are changing; the earth is waxing old like a garment; but the blessing of God, which spreads for His people a table in the wilderness, will never cease.

13. *Steps to Christ*, page 123

In His Sermon on the Mount, Christ taught His disciples precious lessons in regard to the necessity of trusting in God. These lessons were designed to encourage the children of God through all ages, and they have come down to our time full of instruction and comfort. The Saviour pointed His followers to the birds of the air as they warbled their carols of praise, unencumbered with thoughts of care, for "they sow not, neither do they reap." And yet the great Father provides for their needs. The Saviour asks, "Are ye not much better than they?" Matthew 6:26. The great Provider for man and beast opens His hand and supplies all His creatures. The birds of the air are not beneath His notice. He does not drop the food into their bills, but He makes provision for their needs. They must gather the grains He has scattered for them. They must prepare the material for their little nests. They must feed their young.

14. *Early Writings*, page 282

I saw the saints leaving the cities and villages, and associating together in companies, and living in the most solitary places. Angels provided them food and water, while the wicked were suffering from hunger and thirst.

15. *Great Controversy*, page 623

The Lord is ever setting before us, not the way we would choose, which seems easier and pleasanter to us, but the true aims of life. It rests with us to co-operate with the agencies which Heaven employs in the work of conforming our characters to the divine model. None can neglect or defer this work but at the most fearful peril to their souls.

16. *Country Living*, page 6

Life in the cities is false and artificial.

17. *Signs of the Times* 8/8/1892

You will act out all the faith you have.

18. *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.