

Part 2, But . . . Haven't We Been Told *Not* to Prepare to Flee to the Wilderness?

1. Jn 14:26, RH 3/22/1887 – _____ the way so the Holy Spirit can teach us
2. Jn 16:13, Isa 28:10, 1SM 42 –Guidance of _____ and let _____ explain Scripture
 - a. Lk 23:43 –“assuredly isay toyoutodayyouwillbewithmeinparadise.” (Jn 19:31-33, 20:17)
3. Mar 181, EW 56 –Can this sentence negate all that IS said about preparing? _____ –GC 371
 - a. CL 9:10 –Houses and lands _____ be of use to the saints when we can't buy or sell
 - b. GC 626 –But they will _____ be of use when we flee to the wilderness
 - EW 36 –‘Death Decree’ happens _____ the Plagues, _____ the Close of Probation, (Rev 15:8), so “the cause of present truth” can _____ be advanced anymore
 - c. So these quotes are referring to the Time of the _____ when we flee to wilderness
4. Mar 181 –Note: motive spoken against is “_____” –as opposed to trusting “wholly in God”
 - a. Those who “fear” are _____ food for the Time of Trouble –Time of the Plagues
 - b. CL 9-10 –During the first part of the T of T we *are* to _____ provisions
 - Prov 6:6-8 –We _____ store up enough to last until next year's harvest
 - c. So these quotes speaking against trying to stock up enough to last until _____ !
5. EW 56 –“God is able to spread a _____ for us in the wilderness” (Ps 78:19)
 - a. Note: He will send ravens or manna “_____” –What if they're not “necessary?”
 - b. MH 200 –God's blessing which spread a table in the wilderness, “will _____”
 - They've been there since _____, they're there _____, and will be there in the _____
 - c. SC 123 –God does _____ drop food into their bills! –they must _____ grain, _____ nests
 - We too will have to gather/make what we need from what God _____ in _____
 - d. Would relying on God's ‘wilderness blessings’ this way be trusting “wholly in God?” _____
6. What about Elijah? –1 Ki 17:1-2 –He wasn't told go to wilderness until _____ he went
 - a. We've *known* we will be going into the wilderness for almost _____ –1 Thess 5:4
 - b. If we “bury” our “talents” of the *time* (COL 342) and *opportunity* (5T 321) we *have* been given to ‘Get Ready,’ can we expect God to work miracles to provide for us? _____
7. 4T 44-45, Con 84 –If we deliberately go into the wilderness unprepared/unequipped, yet claimed God's promises, wouldn't it be _____?
8. GC 623, HS 217 –Let's not try to tell God _____ He has to provide for us
9. Clearly, we should not try to _____, or _____ enough ‘provision’ to last till Jesus Comes
 - a. But, would bringing some basic equipment to help process what God provides in nature, (like: knife, cook pot, sleeping bag), be ‘making provisions’ for our “temporal wants?” _____
10. GC 622 –Note: it _____ possible to make the Time of Trouble harder on ourselves
 - a. Let's make “it a habit to trust in God” _____, & not wait until _____ “to trust wholly in God”
 - b. 2T 584 –And, let's not wait until ‘then’ to learn to trust God's ‘_____’

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. *Maranatha*, page 181

The Lord has shown me in vision, repeatedly, that it is contrary to the Bible to make any provision for our temporal wants in the time of trouble. I saw that if the saints have food laid up by them, or in the fields, in the time of trouble when sword, famine, and pestilence are in the land, it will be taken from them by violent hands, and strangers would reap their fields. Then will be the time for us to trust wholly in God, and He will sustain us. I saw that our bread and water would be sure at that time, and we should not lack, or suffer hunger. The Lord has shown me that some of His children would fear when they see the price of food rising, and they would buy food and lay it by for the time of trouble. Then in a time of need, I saw them go to their food and look at it, and it had bred worms, and was full of living creatures, and not fit for use.

5. Early Writings, pages 56-57

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

6. *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.

7. *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.

8. *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.

9. *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.

10. *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.

11. *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 342

Our time belongs to God. Every moment is His, and we are under the most solemn obligation to improve it to His glory. Of no talent He has given will He require a more strict account than of our time.

12. *Testimonies to the Church Vol. 5*, page 321

God gives opportunities; success depends upon the use made of them. The openings of Providence must be quickly discerned and eagerly seized upon.

13. *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.

14. 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.

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. 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.

17. 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.

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.

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