"The church is not a select circle of the immaculate, but a home where the outcast may come in."
James H. Aughey

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THE LAST DAYS

LESSON FIVE

DAYS OF NOAH AND DAYS OF LOT

But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
Matthew 24:37

And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage; until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, the sold, they planted, they built; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.
Luke 17:26-30

Are we living life like those in the days of Noah and the days of Lot? A Look at the Characteristics of Those Days

1. **There was plenty of warning**, with Noah spending decades building the Ark outside where the people could see, and angels even visiting Sodom, but the people made no preparation and were complacent. Today the Lord is

warning America in multiple ways. For one example, we have gone from a "LENDER" nation to a "BORROWER" nation in just the last few decades. 911 is another example and should have turned us back to the Lord. Weird weather patterns and natural disasters, such as Katrina and more recently, Florence and the wildfires in California, are others.

1st Peter 3:20b

…w*hen once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.*

2nd Peter 2:4-5

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, A PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly

2. **The earth was filled with violence**. In 1993 William Bennett, former Secretary of Education, put out "Index of Cultural Indicators." He said that a 1940 list of problems, that teachers had the most concern with, were talking out of turn, chewing gum, making noise, running in the halls, cutting in line, dress code infractions, and littering. A similar list by teachers in 1990 reports that the top problems were drug and alcohol abuse, suicides, rape, pregnancy, robbery,

and assault. Today that list has gotten even worse and would include terroristic threats and mass murder. Often the school shootings of our generation target evangelical Christian students. For example, 8 of 13 of the Columbine students killed were evangelical Christians. We live in a Culture of Death.

Genesis 6:11

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

3. **Immorality was rampant,** with people giving themselves over to blatant sexual sin, particularly in the areas of homosexuality and adultery. Our society today is based on "*what feels, good-do it",* and let me be entertained. Our morals have fallen as low as at any time in our history.

2nd Peter 2:7-8

…and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked, (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)-….

4. **The people were unappreciative of the mercy and grace extended to them by God.** It took Noah 120 years to build the Ark. During that time, no one would listen to Noah, the preacher of righteousness. This was God's grace and mercy giving them time to turn from their wicked ways. Also, the

Lord promised to spare Sodom if only 10 righteous people could be found. As we said last week, our current generation is a very ungrateful generation. Paul said in 2nd Timothy 3 that one characteristic of the last days would be a lack of gratitude. This is an entitlement generation which shows little appreciation.

Genesis 18:32

"*Then he* [Abraham] *said, Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there* [Sodom]?" *And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten."*

5. **Everyone did what was right in their own eyes**, similar to those in a later time in Judges. (We call that situational ethics or political correctness). In our society there are almost no absolute truths anymore. Everyone is doing what they want and making up their own rules.

Judges 21:25

In those days, there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

Some practical suggestions for living in the Last Days

1. **Slow down!** Stop running "to and fro" and filling every waking minute with activity.

2nd Timothy 2:4

No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

2. **Wake up spiritually and test everything by the Word**, including prophets, who insist that there is nothing to be concerned about, since America will be in peace and safety according to their prophecies.

1st Thessalonians 5:1-6

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. And when they say, "Peace and safety!' then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

3. **Constantly abide in the secret place of the Most High**.

Psalm 91:1-2

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress: My God, in Him I will trust."

AND

Isaiah 26:20-21a

Come my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you: Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past. For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity…

4. **Look-up for your redemption draweth nigh.**

Luke 21:25-28

"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

5. **Walk in holiness**.

Matthew 5:27-28

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

6. **Refuse to hate**.

1st John 3:15

Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

7. **Fight the Good Fight.**

Revelation 12:12

"…For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

The Time of the Open Door

1. *After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."* Revelation 4:1
2. *'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'* Jeremiah 33:3
3. *Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with Me.* Revelation 3:20

Where are we, as a ministry, at this time of Open Door? <u>Some Prophetic Words from Various Prophetic Voices Concerning FLM:</u>

The first thing that I heard the Lord say was FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS. He spoke this real strong in my spirit. I felt like He was saying for FLM to remain with the foundational truths that the ministry was birthed in. I then heard Him say the word STANDARDS. There are standards that He requires. Then I heard Him say pray against the spirit of rebellion. He said God-centered and not man-centered. God's agenda is to be the primary focus. He said come against the spirit of offense.

I see a storm coming of unprecedented hate, evil and great fear. It is going to be unleashed on America for her great sins against God Almighty. God is going to use you as a foundation of hope when this storm hits. You will be the calm in the midst of the storm.

In my opinion, there is still preparation for all of us in the days to come, but it seems like the ministry is quickly approaching a BREAKTHROUGH, one that changes everything. I believe God is taking us as a body into a breakthrough that will prepare us for the breakthrough coming on the earth. It is coming first to the church. It is very near for First Love. Truly the soul of First Love waits silently for God. He alone is the foundation. Oh, First Love, may your soul wait silently for God.

God will definitely be communicating to you about any decision that needs to be made and He will make clear the way. So rest in the fact that God loves you so much that He chooses to make things crystal clear for you, leaving no room for confusion.

Words to the Body of Christ in America

Already we have spoken of this coming for a number of years now. I believe we are in a time of great spiritual "purging," and that this crisis will-in the end-bring a cleansing to places like America, which have years of crisis ahead of it yet. It will be painful, but ultimately I believe it will be good for our nations, which have become selfish and materialistic. The West has some very troubled times in store. But spiritually I believe it will be for the best in the end. Keep looking to Him-the author and finisher of our faith, my friends.

Andrew Strom

There is a generation of reformers emerging in this hour. They are truth-seekers. They have questions about why things are done in the way they are and how come we can't find them in Scripture. This generation of reformers will become the new leadership of the Church in 2013 and beyond. The torch is being passed. I see a new wineskin coming for the churches of America. Business as usual is not going to cut it. The Holy Spirit is preparing His Church for a massive harvest of souls. The current wineskin will not be able to contain the new wine that's about to be poured out. The wineskin will blow out at the seams with the power and new life of this new wine.

Ivan Roman

I had a vision of large severed heads suddenly dropping in front of Believers. The Holy Spirit said, "Many have been fighting fierce battles and growing weary, but as David killed Goliath and cut his head off, so are the heads of many demonic giants [which are] about to fall causing a ripple effect for great victories in ministries and individuals. Many are facing giants…but heads are about to roll.

Al Thomas

Be the One
Al Denson

In a world full of broken dreams where the truth is hard to find
For every promise that is kept there are many left behind
Though it seems that nobody cares it still matters what you do
Cause there's a difference you can make but the choice is up to you.

Will you be the one to answer to His call?
Will you stand when those around you fall?
Will you be the one to take his light into a darkened world?
Tell me will you be the one?

Oh, sometimes it's hard to know who is right and what is wrong
And where are you suppose to stand when the battle lines are drawn
There's a voice that is calling out for someone who's not afraid
To be a beacon in the night to a world that's lost its way.

There are still some battles that I must fight from day to day.
Yet the Lord provides the power for me to stand and say:

I will be the one to answer to His call.
I will stand when those around me fall.
I will be the one to take His light into a darkened world.
I will be the one.

Friends, don't get me wrong. By no means do I count myself as an expert in all of this; but I've got my eyes on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.
Philippians 3:13-14 The Message Bible