NOW IS THE TIME TO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE
Now is the time to wake up and live prophetically.

Matthew 5:15-16 Jesus said, ”Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven”.

God’s wrath on a Sinful World

- Scripture tells us that embedded within the mind and conscience of every human is the knowledge of God’s divine character and existence, visible in creation.
- Denying this fact requires wilful suppression and results in wrath and judgment

Romans 1:18-21 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened

- By denying God as Creator and Sustainer of all things by the Theory of Evolution, and rejecting the Bible as our standard of truth, our Culture, Government and Law has become Atheistic and Humanistic, resulting in God’s judgement.
- Nations built on Christianity have received much blessing, but now as we have rejected God and the church is slumbering, the wrath of God is being seen in the degeneration of our culture.
- Our foolish hearts are darkened by the prince of this world, Satan, and the people who do not receive Jesus live in darkness

Romans 1:28-31 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.
The love of God in Judgement (1) Part (2)

Now a Kairos Time: Our Spiritual Opportunity
The Christian today is challenged to set his or her own concept of time aside—and indeed not to worry about time—but rather to trust in the Lord, and know all things work together for His glory, and align ourselves with prioritizing God’s time and God’s purposes in our lives.

Mark 1:15 “The time is fulfilled (Kairos), and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

- Historically, believers in Christ have enjoyed 2,000 years’ worth of opportunities to be salt and light in our world.
- But we currently find ourselves in a strange and unique moment in God’s time (Kairos)—an hour that is perilous and prophetic, but also providential if we seek God’s plan (Mtt. 6:33).
- Our world will almost certainly face future pandemics, as well as a host of political, cultural, moral, economic, geophysical crises, and military crises in the days to come.
- This is the nature and pattern of a fallen planet, and the times we live in.

The Sovereignty of God is Assured:
The Bible reminds us that as we look ahead at even the worst times (tribulation) God is still on His throne (Revelation 4:1-11) and no purpose of His can ever be thwarted (Job 42:2). Our Sovereign God is never surprised and always in control.

The Risen, Ascended and Glorified Christ has all rule and authority and power and dominion over all things seen and unseen. (The Supremacy of God)

Jesus empowered us with His Spirit to achieve His purposes in our lives.

Jesus is Head of the Church, us believers, so we can be salt and light in His world.

The Christ we worship today is not limited by time and space, He is risen and glorified, reigning over everything seen and unseen, He I the Head of the church and our hearts.

Ephesians 1:19-23 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This was a truth King Nebuchadnezzar learned the hard way, later confessing, “He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, ‘What have you done?’” (Daniel 4:35).

Revelation tells us that what God has in store for planet Earth are things that “must take place” (Revelation 4:1).

We can’t simply ignore or wish away the challenging times ahead, post pandemic. The Bible reassures us that whatever human sin or Satan’s power does in history God is ultimately always in control and victorious.

It is understandable that in our chaotic world events people are wondering whether life will ever be normal again.

But what if that’s not the case? What if our world situation becomes even more perilous and challenging? (covid, world politics, world economics, geophysical events, spiritually…)

What does that mean for us Christians? What kind of mindset should we Christians adopt?

How can we seize the day (Kairos) for Christ and glorify God?

**HOW TO SEIZE OUR KAIROS OPPORTUNITIES**

Where others see obstacles, we must see as Kairos Opportunities (divine moments)

Instead of wondering “How are we going to make it?” We should ask, “How can I capture this moment for the glory of God?”

What does the Lord want me to do, now?

Jesus expected us to interpret the “signs of the times” Matt. 16:2-3 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. He answered them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.

Unfortunately, the church today is like the Jewish leaders who failed to interpret the “signs of the times” of Jesus’ words and works, they killed the Messiah, and suffered judgement.

In the last great move of God Pentecostal, Charismatic Renewal (1900-1990) 90% of God’s people rejected the out pouring of the Holy Spirit, and eventually it faded away.

Today, as God is shaking the world and the church, the leaders of the church are largely silent and there is little repentance. No longing for a great awakening, a visitation of God.

We must apply Jesus’ teaching Matt. 6:33-34 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble".
• When we focus on the unseen power and purposes of God, we are led by the Spirit to live for His glory.  *(Having a Kingdom Focus)*


**NOW IS A KAIROS TIMES OF DISCERNMENT**

• As we continue to witness stage-setting prophecies developing before our eyes, we must also develop the ability to “understand the times, with knowledge of what [we] should do” *(1 Chronicles 12:32).*
• It was this very ability to understand and navigate life that characterized Paul's most passionate prayers for the Philippians: “This I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment” *(1:9).*
• Jesus came to reconcile us to God, to be in relationship with Him, so we know His plans.

*John 15:4-5* Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. *Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

• Jesus calls us to abide in Him and Him in us, a deep personal relationship with our Lord.
• Only then can we understand His purposes “signs of the times” and bear fruit for His glory.
• The pathway to this is study the Word of God by the revelation of the Spirit, so His Word abides in us.

*John 15:7-8* If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

**Jesus Warned us**

*Matt. 4:4* Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

*John 3:3-36* For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “*I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.* But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe

• Among churchgoing adults, 19 percent read it daily, with 14 percent opening it once a week and 18 percent never reading it at all. only 3 percent of teenagers who own a Bible read it daily.
• More than half of those who profess to be Christians believe their good works will help them get to heaven.
• This is no surprise, given the statistics above about Bible reading.
• Is it any wonder, then, that professing believers today not only fail to discern how the events of our world fit seamlessly into Bible prophecy, but also struggle to cope in an ever-increasingly godless culture?
• Jesus severely rebuked the churches at Pergamum and Thyatira for ignoring and dishonouring His Word by holding to wrong teaching and immorality *(Revelation 2:14-16).*
• It is imperative that we who are Christians develop discernment concerning this prophetic season in which we find ourselves.
• But the Holy Spirit can only bring revelation if the the Word of God abiding in you, is in your heart and memory. *(Increasing our understanding of God)*
NOW IS A TIME OF SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

- In Mark 13:32-37, Jesus warned Jewish believers suffering in the future tribulation to pay attention and to “Be on the alert!” concerning His second coming.
- He then listed specific signs that would precede His return at the close of the tribulation (Matthew 24:4-35), instructing them to be like a “doorkeeper” watching for these things (Mark 13:34).
- If Jesus was concerned those believers in tribulation times would be unprepared for an event that is preceded by multiple, visible, supernatural signs, how much more do we as Christians today need to be awake, alert, to the purposes of God in our times.
- As believers living in the last days, we mustn’t look for signs, but rather, for “the blessed hope” itself.

2Cor. 4:16-18 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. (Kingdom spiritual authority)

NOW IS A TIME TO ENGAGE OUR CULTURE

2Cor. 5:18-20 It is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

- We must be lovers of the Word of God—reading, studying, discussing, and hearing it regularly. For when the Bible speaks, God speaks. And in these days, we desperately need to hear from God.
- At the heart of Christ’s commission to us is the fact that He has divinely called us to be His witnesses, not merely to do witnessing (Acts 1:8). His command to “go therefore and make disciples of all the nations” was given to us in the context of our everyday lives (“go” = “in your goings”).
- Our influence for Jesus must first be a natural and genuine overflow of our relationship with Him and our growth in His Word. We cannot be His witnesses if our lives contradict His message.
- Loving God passionately, leads to us loving our neighbours. Matt 22:37-40 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

But they will read you!

- Church surveys show that the vast majority of unbelievers will never read a Bible or attend a church. But unbeliever will read you. In fact, they already have, and are.
- You are Jesus’ hands, feet, and voice in your culture.
- You are His light in the darkness (Matthew 5:14-16).
- His representative (John 17:18; 20:21). His royal ambassador, representing the King of kings in a foreign land (2 Corinthians 5:20).
- You are not responsible for how people react to God’s truth and the message of the cross. some will sneer, while others will want to hear more, and some coming to belief (Acts 17:32-34).
• Your message, and even your very presence, will be an aroma of death to some, while to others it will be the fragrance of life itself (2 Corinthians 2:16).
• To effectively represent Christ, we must continue being in the world while at the same time guarding ourselves from its pervasive influences and values (John 17:14-16, 18).
• We must learn how to insulate ourselves without isolating ourselves. Matt 5:16, *let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven*. (My destiny in the kingdom of God)

**NOW IS THE TIME TO SEIZE YOUR GOD GIVEN DESTINY**

• The prophetic clock is ticking.
• We cannot afford to miss God’s open doors, as they will not always be available to us.
• Time is not on our side; therefore, (life is short) we must embrace a sense of urgency in our mission.
• This is your time. Your chance. Your opportunity. And your choice.

• Now is the time to be His witness.
• Now is the time to serve the saints.
• Now is the time to do ministry.
• Now is the time to penetrate culture.
• The time is now to wake up and speak out. Don’t be deceived—this moment of opportunity will pass.
• What will you do with it?
• What will you do with the time you have left?
• How will you manage your life and navigate the coming seasons of crisis?
• How will you, by God’s grace and wisdom, take advantage of the opportunities staring you in the face?
• How will you use your stewardship for His gospel and glory?

See [Living a Kingdom Lifestyle](#), [How to be in the world and not of the world](#)

**NOW IS THE TIME TO PUT THE FIRST COMMANDMENT FIRST**

Matt 22:37-40  *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.*

If this has been a blessing, please share your testimony so we can give thanks: denisplant@bigpond.com

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