

RISE TO THE OCCASION

Pastor H Steyn, 7 February 2021

- It is amazing times that we are living in and it is amazing time that the church is manifesting as the glorious people of God
- It is busy happening, do not let the media fool you
- God is on the move and is busy with His Holy Spirit
- There was a video clip of an evangelist in Afghanistan, where people can kill you for being a Christian but he ministered with so much boldness and authority not scared of what the people could do to him
- God and the Kingdom of God is not in the background but He is on the forefront with a powerful move of His church
- We can see God working and convicting people all around
- The Kingdom and the Spirit of God is moving
- It is like when the rain start to fall, droplets are falling everywhere and it is falling more frequently
- There is a rising in the church of China, even the ruling communist party is afraid because there is a movement of power
- It is happening all over the world, God is on the move in people's lives
- God is even working in people that are listening to the Word right now
- It is now the time to rise to the occasion
- We have been in lockdown but God cannot be limited and God is not in lockdown
- Some of us has made promises and we cannot go back on those promises
- It is time to rise up and to embrace this occasion
- We are living in the last days and it has become more evident in things happening around us
- God is a God of order
- We cannot be passive or uncertain of what is happening
- God is going to take the church out in the public and He is going to make the church visible
- People need to see the glory that we are radiating
- We are living in darkness and there is a lot of negativity. We need to be very careful of negativity. Negativity is not good for your spirit and your faith in God
- Be careful of what you are watching on social media and what you are doing with the information that you are receiving
- There is a movement of God and we need to respond

Colossians 1:13 (NIV)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

- We were rescued from eternal death, there was no way out but Jesus was the sacrificial lamb that died in our place and because of this there need to be a response from us
- Jesus has taken us out of darkness and has given us life and has given us the opportunity to be part of the Kingdom and the bride of Christ
- We need to respond and we need to rise to the occasion
- We cannot wait we need to respond now

Isaiah 60:1-2 (NIV)

“Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

- We can see the darkness all around us with an antichrist spirit that is rising everywhere but God wants us to become Christ-like
- The glory of God is going to be manifested
- The prophet is prophesying to a glorious, magnificent church that is representing Jesus in His fullness
- It is now the time to pull together because we are one in Christ

Matthew 9:9 (NIV)

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him and Matthew got up and followed him

- Matthew was busy with his normal occupation and life when Jesus told him, “Follow me” and Matthew got up and followed Christ
- God is calling us to respond – to rise up

Ephesians 5:14 (NIV)

This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.”

- We are a glorious church because of the finished work of Christ on the cross but that is not where it stops
- The people of God needs to speak about the glory and what is going to happen as we are going to respond collectively
- God is going to establish us on the highest mountain
- There is a calling for us to respond
- When we respond and follow Him, we will shine and then the glory will come
- We need to let go of self-pity and self-doubt and lay it down before the Lord as it is part of the rising up
- The church is a movement from strength to strength
- Even though we have done great things in the past we need to let go and we need to respond and say yes to God
- The moment that we get the courage to say, “Lord, I will respond to You, here I am” God comes and everything will fall into place again
- God will use every bad thing that happened as a testimony because the Word says that “all things will work together for the good of those who love Him and are called”
- If you know that you are called you need to rise up and God will meet you and He will restore you as the father who restored the prodigal son and put a mantle upon him as if nothing happened
- You are God’s workmanship, He has never left you even if it does not feel like that, He is still working in you

Romans 8:29 (AMPC)

For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

- We are being moulded constantly into the image of His Son Jesus Christ

Romans 8:30 (AMPC)

And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

- This is a process

Ephesians 2:10 (AMPC)

For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

- God is the Potter and He knows exactly what He is doing in our lives
- If we are open, the Potter comes and He continuously forms the clay for the glory to come
- Glory has to do with the presence and majesty of an Almighty God

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- The Word of God is clear that glory is coming
- God is not panel beating people to look better, there is a rebirth taking place in Christ
- The process has started 2000 years ago but it is happening in our lifetime and we can see the outpouring of the Spirit upon vessels
- Keep on responding to God, not religiously but come to Him because He has given His life, because of love
- We need to give our lives away and follow Him
- God promise that if we seek the Kingdom of God first, He will put all things in place
- We need to follow Jesus Christ and His commands
- Respond to Christ and connect with leadership and do what God wants you to do