

If there is one thing which is constant, as they say, it is that things will surely change. We are presently living in such times of change and uncertainty. Jesus said that in the last days “knowledge would increase.” With the super information highway, increased technology, and the Internet, there is more knowledge and information available to the world than ever before.

Christians need those whom they can trust to lead, those whom they

We can see the truth of Jesus’ prophecy coming to pass. He also said “as in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the end days.” In the days of Noah, there was preparation made by a few for something that they knew was coming. Yet because the world had never experienced what was prophesied, those who were busy preparing could not comprehend what it was they were about to experience. We, likewise, live in such times. There are those who have their spiritual ears open to

the warnings of what we are about to experience, as well as the foretelling of the glory that will be experienced by many. Yet, we cannot comprehend what, exactly, we are about to enter into. The prophets are giving the Church warnings of what is coming in order that those who have ears to hear might be better prepared. The time ahead will be stressful upon many. Those who have put their trust in the means and methods devised by man will be unprepared. But those who are listening now, and making preparations now according to God’s order, will do well. We have been told by the Holy Spirit that if we will prepare now, that in the days to come we will actually have people flock to us for instruction. We will need to learn how to help many ardent people, hungry to learn and hear in those days. Recently, while I had some much cherished time alone with the Lord in His magnificent out of

doors, I asked Him for insight on what could be suggested in order to prepare for the days ahead. I enjoyed my time with Him, and the following list of five suggestions are the result of what I received that day. I believe that if you will follow these five suggestions, you will find yourself prepared for what is about to happen in these last days. These suggestions are in no

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way intended to replace personal insight which the Lord may have given to people, or will give to individuals and families. They are delivered here as general rules to follow as a foundation for peace, as our Lord is the author of peace for His people, and peace is the foundation of our spiritual armor (Eph 6:15). In February of this year the Lord gave me this prophecy, “I have kept hidden the plans for the end times, they are like a tidal wave much bigger than your biggest visions. I am moving quickly in these days and can not explain myself to anyone. I must keep my moves secret from even my children so that my enemy will be taken by surprise. But you do not need to understand in order to obey. You need only to be humble and obey in order to move. Understanding will come. But if you hesitate until you understand you will wait behind while others go forward in obedience. I will not hinder the destruction of the enemy by explaining my moves and directions even to my own people.” If we will obey the Lord and follow Him with the mind set which He has asked for we, will do well, and have a significant part in the great harvest which is soon to begin.

The first thing which the Lord impressed upon me is: 1) **It is not what you have, but WHO you know. We need to KNOW THE LORD.** When Jesus called His disciples, it was His first purpose “that they might be with Him.” (Mark 3:14). Now is the time to build a personal and intimate relationship with the Lord. There has been a resurgence and an increased hunger among many of God’s people for the presence of the Lord. This is according to God’s plan and timing, and part of preparing the way. We are at a point; ready for the Holy Spirit to teach us a new understanding of the fear of the Lord. Those who understand the fear of the Lord will never fear what man can do. Isaiah 55:6, “Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him

while He is near.”

The second thing which I received is (also): 2) **It is not what you have but WHO you know.** This point was given to refer to **KNOWING THE PEOPLE** whom God has put with us to labor. The apostle Paul had those whom he called his fellow soldiers, co-laborers, and fellow laborers in the Lord. It is very important that the best soldier, the most highly trained of all, will not be released into battle until he becomes attached to a unit with whom he will fight. He literally is assigned fellow soldiers, and will not advance until he knows who they are. Likewise, as the army of God is preparing for events which we have no experiential understanding of, we will find it ever more important to know who God would have us to labor beside. Each Christian must have those whom he or she can trust. Those whom they can trust to lead, those whom they trust to follow and cover their back, and those with whom they can stand shoulder to shoulder. 1 Thes 5:12, “And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you...”

The third point which I was given is: 3) **EQUIP THOSE WHO ARE WANTING TO BE EQUIPPED.** Each of us should be involved in the training up of laborers for the harvest. (Matt 9:38, “Pray the Lord of the harvest...”). Not all are called to help equip the saints at the same level or in the same way, but all should be involved in some way. David set a precedence in Israel when he declared the word that “those that go forth into battle and those that stay back with the stuff shall both part alike.” (1 Sam 30:24) Not all are called to the same type of ministry, but all of us should be involved at one level or another in the equipping of the laborers for the harvest. II Tim 2:2, “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

The fourth point I was given is: 4) **OWE NO MAN.** In other words, do all possible to get debt under control, and get out of debt if at all possible. Prov 22:7b, “... the borrower is servant to the lender.” This year is the year of Israel’s Jubilee, and many believe there is a special anointing for getting out of debt. In any case, it is a good time to pray and allow the Holy Spirit to give you a strategy which will lead to being free from unnecessary financial obligations. Many will find it impossible, or at least highly improbable, that they could get out of debt immediately. However, by putting a strategy before the Lord, He will be allowed an avenue to work on your behalf in this area. Romans 13:8, “Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.”

The fifth point, definitely not the least important and maybe the easiest to consistently implement and monitor, is: 5) **GIVE AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN.** As we enter the uncertain times ahead it will become more apparent who the givers have been and who they are not. Those who have the heart to work so that they may bless those who have need (Eph 4:28) will be blessed of the Lord regardless of what the economy or the secular world may endure. If we want to be in a position to have Elijah’s pot of flour and jar of oil, we must likewise be willing to do what the widow woman did, which was to give first (1 Kings 17:13) in order to place herself in a position to receive. There are those who will not give during times of abundance, and they will be tested to change during times of lack. Better to enter the times ahead with the confidence of God’s promise of blessings. Luke 6:38, “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

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Thomas Jefferson

It is evident that we are preparing for uncertain times. Those who are listening to the voice of the Spirit are preparing now to prosper always. Jeremiah 12:5 (NIV), "If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickets by the Jordan?" Now is the time to strengthen our selves in our God; yet with all the talk of Y2K, Government problems and a host of other distractions, it is possible to spend too much time on problems. Thomas Jefferson long ago gave this good advice to his granddaughter Cornelia, "**How much pain have cost us the evils which never happened.**" Those who will seek the presence of the Lord now, find their fellow laborers, assist in equipping others, get out of debt, and live a generous lifestyle, will find that they will be in a position of peace as one prepared to serve and prosper in the days which are ahead.

Lloyd C. Phillips  
The Fellow Laborers' International Network (FLInt Net)  
P.O. Box 113  
Missoula, MT 59806 Phone (406) 251- 8580  
[flintnet@flintnet.org](mailto:flintnet@flintnet.org)  
<http://www.flintnet.org>

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