

Three Important Invitations

Invitation to Parliament - tea with Theresa May

- a written or verbal request inviting someone to go somewhere or to do something

Introduction

from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do-200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command; **1 Chronicles**

12:32

- Understand the Time
- Know what to do
- Do what you know to do

Our world has changed and continues to change

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. [21] Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight. **Isaiah**

5:20-21

- This is not the world I grew up in 30 years ago
- Hostility, Anger, Angst
- Development of Ai
- Truth has become subjective
- Anti Biblical worldview
- Persecution is coming

Difficult seasons lie ahead

- In the eye of the storm
- Storms are coming

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" [4] Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. [5] For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. [6] You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. [7] Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. [8] All these are the beginning of birth pains. [9] "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. [10] At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, [11] and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. [12] Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, [13] but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. [14] And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole

world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. **Matthew 24:3-14**

- Financial
- Political
- Natural disasters - pandemics

These are wonderful days for Christ Followers

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. [2] See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. [3] Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Isaiah 60:1-3

- We are not to live in fear but faith
- There will be great joy that marks our lives

Three Important Invitations

Love First - speaks of heart

One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: [36]

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" [37] Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' [38] This is the first and greatest commandment. [39] And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' [40] All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." **Matthew 22:35-40**

- Relationship with God - Intimacy
- Relationship with Others - Unity and community
- There is coming a necessary restoration of relationships
- Torben Sondergaard - A great unity needed

Seek First - speaks of priority

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? [26] Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? [27] Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? [28] "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. [29] Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. [30] If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you- you of little faith? [31] So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32] For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. [33] But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be

given to you as well. [34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:25-34

- Do not worry about your life, food, drink, clothes
- Heavenly Father feeds the birds, you are much more valuable
- Flowers clothe the fields - he will clothe you
- But you seek first the kingdom of God and his right ways

Go deep - speaks of Trust

As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle-deep. [4] He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. [5] He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in-a river that no one could cross. **Ezekiel 47:3-5**

- I hear the call to abandoned absolute trust in God
- Will i hold onto the control or will i give the control to the Lord?