

THE TIME IS NOW

PASTOR JERRY LEWIS
SUNDAY MESSAGE [August 9, 2026]

Sermon Summary: Drawing from the account of the feeding of the multitude in Matthew 14, Pastor Jerry delivers an urgent call for the church to pursue personal spiritual release, universal supernatural release, and spiritual awakening. Using historical examples of the great awakenings in American history, the sermon challenges believers to shed complacency, religious formality, and passive faith in exchange for a desperate, wholehearted pursuit of God's presence. Pastor Jerry emphasizes that the church is living in a critical moment in history where a new awakening is not only possible but necessary, and that God is calling people of all ages and backgrounds to unify, sacrifice the carnal for the spiritual, and position themselves for a fresh outpouring of His glory. The miracle of the loaves and fish serves as a spiritual blueprint for revival, illustrating how availability, cooperation, order, and intergenerational unity can produce supernatural results far beyond natural expectation.

Scripture Reference:

- Matthew 14:13-21, the feeding of the five thousand, which serves as the primary text
- Psalm 22:3, describing God as enthroned upon the praises of His people
- Romans 12:1-2, Paul's appeal to present oneself as a living sacrifice and resist conformity to the world
- Matthew 24:12, Jesus warning that love will grow cold as lawlessness increases
- Haggai 2:7-9, the prophetic declaration that God will shake the nations and fill His house with glory greater than the former
- Deuteronomy 32:35, referenced as the text of Jonathan Edwards' famous sermon warning of God's sovereign judgment

Key Points:

- The church is currently in three overlapping spiritual time zones: personal spiritual release, universal supernatural release, and spiritual awakening
- Personal spiritual release involves intentionally letting go of emotional baggage, old trauma, habits, and hang-ups that hinder spiritual progression
- Universal supernatural release means God is actively releasing signs, wonders, and miracles for those who believe
- Spiritual awakening is characterized by a disruption of the normal, a loss of personal pride and ego, and a heightened spiritual sensitivity and passion
- Historical great awakenings were triggered when the church grew spiritually stale and when secular rationalism attempted to replace divine intervention with human reasoning
- The church must resist a spirit of conformity that seeks to redefine marriage, truth, identity, and the church itself
- Praise and worship enthrone God's presence and produce a shift in the spiritual atmosphere of any environment
- The feeding of the multitude in Matthew 14 contains a recipe for revival requiring availability, cooperation, order, and intergenerational responsibility
- A young boy's willingness to give what he had was the catalyst for a miracle that fed approximately 15,000 people, illustrating that youth must be willing to yield and the seasoned generation must be willing to distribute
- Intergenerational unity is essential to the coming move of God, as the church is one body regardless of age, color, or denomination
- Revival comes to desperate churches, not contented ones, and is preceded by a great revival of prayer
- The glory of the latter house will be greater than the former, and God's provision and protection are assured for His people in the midst of global uncertainty

Quotes:

This generation is being ushered into eternity as fast as the unlocked wheels of time will carry it.

A lot of times when we come to the house of God, we don't need blessed, we need broken. Sometimes we come to the house of God, we don't need us a breakthrough, we need a breaking.

Revival will come only to a desperate church, not a contented one. He is ever the rewarder of those who diligently seek him, not the mere casual inquirer.

Is your desperation for God greater than your desperation for pleasure, promotion, and self-gratification?

Surely revival delays because prayer decays. Revival will come because someone in your generation is willing to pay a price for it.

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on Themes from "The Time Is Now"

Day 1: Letting Go and Moving Forward

Reading: Hebrews 12:1-2 — The author urges believers to strip away every weight and sin that slows their progress, fixing their eyes entirely on Jesus as the author and perfecter of their faith.

Devotional: Personal spiritual release is not a passive experience — it is a deliberate act of surrender. Every burden you carry that God never assigned to you is slowing your spiritual momentum. Old trauma, unresolved hurt, and deeply rooted habits do not simply dissolve with time. They are shed through intentional surrender at the feet of Jesus. The question is not whether God is willing to free you. He already made provision for that freedom. The question is whether you are willing to release what has become familiar, even when it has been painful. Today, identify one weight you have been carrying that belongs at the altar, not on your back.

Personal Reflection: What emotional or spiritual burden have you normalized that God is calling you to surrender today?

Practical Application: Write down one specific thing you are releasing to God. Pray over it, and commit to no longer picking it back up.

Day 2: The God Who Inhabits Praise

Reading: Psalm 22:3 — David declares that God is holy and that He is enthroned upon the praises of His people, establishing a direct connection between worship and divine presence.

Devotional: David understood something that many believers have yet to fully grasp: praise is not merely an emotional response to God's goodness — it is a throne. When you lift your voice in genuine worship, you are not simply expressing gratitude. You are constructing an atmosphere where God takes up residence. The Hebrew word *yashab*, translated as inhabits or enthroned, means to settle in, to dwell, to ambush. God does not pass through a room filled with authentic praise. He settles into it. And when He settles in, everything in that atmosphere becomes subject to His authority. Addictions bow. Anxiety breaks. Confusion clears. Your praise is not background noise to God. It is an invitation He will always accept.

Personal Reflection: Do you approach worship as a routine, or as a genuine act of enthronement?

Practical Application: Set aside ten minutes today for uninterrupted, intentional praise — no requests, no petitions, only adoration. Observe what shifts in your spirit.

Day 3: Signs, Wonders, and the Believing Life

Reading: Mark 16:17-18 — Jesus declares that signs and wonders will follow those who believe, describing a life marked by supernatural confirmation of the gospel message.

Devotional: Miracles are not reserved for a select group of spiritually elite individuals. According to Scripture, signs and wonders are the natural byproduct of genuine belief. If you are a believer, the miraculous is not something you must chase from a distance. It is something that follows you. The challenge for many is that they have accepted a version of Christianity that is intellectually credible but supernaturally hollow. Secular rationalism, the elevation of human reason over divine intervention, has quietly crept into the church and produced a generation of believers who are theologically informed but spiritually powerless. God is not asking you to abandon reason. He is asking you to make room for what reason alone cannot produce.

Personal Reflection: In what areas of your life have you defaulted to logic and self-sufficiency when God was inviting you to trust Him for something supernatural?

Practical Application: Recall one miracle God has performed in your life. Share it with someone today as an act of testimony and faith-building.

Day 4: Give What You Have

Reading: Matthew 14:15-21 — In a remote place with a massive crowd and no visible resources, Jesus takes a young boy's small offering of five loaves and two fish, blesses it, breaks it, and feeds approximately fifteen thousand people with twelve baskets of fragments remaining.

Devotional: The miracle at the feeding of the multitude did not begin with abundance. It began with availability. A young boy was willing to surrender his lunch — everything he had for that day — so that a multitude could be fed. He did not wait until he had more. He did not calculate whether his offering was sufficient. He simply gave what was in his hand. The disciples, by contrast, showed up with nothing and still called it "all we have." Revival does not wait for perfect conditions or unlimited resources. It waits for someone willing to give what they have to the Master, trusting that His blessing will make it more than enough. What is in your hand today?

Personal Reflection: Are you withholding something from God because it seems too small to matter?

Practical Application: Identify one gift, talent, or resource you have been reluctant to offer God. Take one concrete step today to place it in His hands.

Day 5: The Time Is Now

Reading: Romans 12:1-2 — Paul urges believers not to be shaped by the patterns of the present world but to be transformed through the renewal of their minds, offering their entire lives as a living and holy sacrifice to God.

Devotional: Every great awakening in history was preceded by a people who refused to remain comfortable. They grew desperate for God at a moment when desperation was deeply unpopular. They chose the altar over applause, the closet of prayer over the comfort of convenience. The world you are living in right now is not waiting for a more convenient season to press against the church. The spirit of conformity is active, bold, and patient. But God is raising up a people who are done with religious formality, done with spiritual passivity, and done with a faith that costs them nothing. The time to pursue God with everything you have is not next year, not next month, not after circumstances improve. The time is now.

Personal Reflection: What would it look like for you to pursue God with genuine desperation rather than casual interest?

Practical Application: Make one specific, measurable commitment to your spiritual life this week — a prayer time, a fast, a Scripture memorization goal — and tell someone who will hold you accountable.