

The 11th Hour

November 25, 2007

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You cannot pursue the Kingdom without pursuing the King. Jesus explains we will see these signs and know that the end times have come.

Matthew 24:14

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.

We are the 11th hour church – we're going to preach the gospel of the Kingdom (the Good News of the Gospel) which is that the sovereignty of God and the rule of God will be declared and demonstrated.

When we speak of the Kingdom of God – we must realize it has no beginning and no end- it is greater than we can comprehend.

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:3 tells us that God created this world from His Kingdom. He gave Adam – the first man – authority over this world. When Adam fell, he gave up that authority and we are now living in a fallen world. But when the end comes, you are to know who you are – a child of God.

In the end – the spirit of Elijah will come. Elijah was speaking to God's people when he said to them, "How long halt you between two opinions? If

God be God, follow Him. If Baal (an idol) be God, then follow him. God brought fire to consume the idol and demonstrated His supremacy.

The 11th hour church is going to come to the church and declare that now is the time to repent and that the Kingdom of is at hand.

As Pastor, I am not called to lead the church. I'm called to follow Him, and so are you. You're not called to make your life work; you're called to follow Him.

You belong to God – His DNA is in you. When you were born again – the DNA of God was placed inside you and breathes His life into you. Now, you are holy. You need to get that down in your spirit. Stop giving credit to your unholy past. You've been made holy by Christ's salvation.

Jesus went into God's temple and overthrew the money changers. He cleansed His church. We are a part of the most dynamic time in the history of the world – the hour preceding His second coming.

Purity – Holiness

When Christ comes back – he'll be looking for a church without spot or wrinkle. Now, He is purifying His church. But, our hand is on the dial that determines how much purifying light we will allow into our lives.

Malachi 3:1-3

"See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness.

He's coming to refine the church, to purify us. The refiner's fire melts- like Isaiah found out in Isaiah Chapter 6. Once melted, silver and gold is then poured into a mold to become something new. When our lives are purified

and melted, we are not soured back into a mold of ourselves but a mold of His image.

“Be ye holy, as I was holy.”

How can this be possible?

When God is governing your life instead of you ruling yourself (self rule).

In our day, self rule is the rule.

Holiness is possible when we allow the Holy Spirit to rule and reign in our lives. We can't try to be holy on our own strength or on our flesh.

Marriage is like a mystery. Really, what the word is saying is that it is supernatural. In our culture, marriage is like a contract rather than the covenant that God designed for it to be. A contract can be voided if the designated terms change; but a covenant is for richer and for poorer, better or worse, sickness and health. A covenant throws self rule out the window and allows the covenant to rule. When we enter into the marriage covenant we are to remember it is supernatural thing that God is with us in. He will empower and equip us to really become one.

As Christians, too often we have only learned how to “date” the Holy Spirit – we want the benefits- we even want to live together but it is all on our own terms. But to announce an engagement of marriage means to put the covenant first before myself.

Holiness/Purity-

God did not call me to live a perfect life. He called me to live in a perfect relationship with Him. Don't be more interested in having your outside all cleaned up than having holiness and purity on the inside.

When Christ come in He purifies then, Christ brings power. Power is exciting, and purity (purification) is painful at times.

The 11th hour church is purified, powerful and engaged in praise – a loving praise that goes up to the Lord.

Philippians 3:3

For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh.

“If you’re telling people to do something before telling them that God has already done something, you’re only preaching law.” – Dudley Hall

I’m not telling you to be Holy, as He is holy, without proclaiming to you that Christ has already made you holy and provided you with His Holy Spirit to keep you pure and set apart for Him.

We don’t give credit to our flesh. That would be saying that our flesh is superior to the Spirit’s work in us.

We can’t do anything without the Holy Spirit, but with Him we can let our own light shine before men so that they will see the Lord in us and be drawn to Him.