

Striking Midnight

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

Wake Up -- The Season Is Now

KEY VERSE:

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 -- "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."

REFLECTION:

I want you to hear my heart this morning -- we are living in the season of Christ's return. I'm not saying that to frighten you. I'm saying it to awaken you. When I walk through our city and talk to people, I see so much confusion, so much spiritual drowsiness. People have drifted. Life got busy. Faith got quiet. But friend, this is no time to sleep. The rapture isn't a distant fairy tale -- it is a promised, approaching reality. Jesus Himself said no one knows the day or hour, but we absolutely know the season. And beloved, we are in it. Let that truth light a fire in you today. Don't coast. Don't drift. Live with your eyes open and your heart fully surrendered to the King who is coming.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, wake me up to the reality of Your return. I don't want to sleepwalk through this season -- I want to live fully awake and fully Yours. Come quickly, Lord. Maranatha.

DAILY ACTION:

Set a reminder on your phone today that simply reads "Maranatha -- Live Ready." Let it prompt a moment of prayer and renewed surrender every time it appears.

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

Don't Drift -- The Falling Away Is Real

KEY VERSE:

1 Timothy 4:1 -- "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons."

REFLECTION:

I have to be honest with you -- this verse breaks my heart and sharpens my resolve at the same time. In the year 2000, there were around 129 million practicing Christians in America. Twenty years later, that number had been cut nearly in half. That is not a statistic. Those are people. People who once raised their hands in worship, who once opened their Bibles, who once called Jesus Lord -- and drifted. The Spirit expressly warned us this would happen. Deceiving spirits don't announce themselves. They whisper. They justify. They lull you into a comfortable distance from God where everything feels fine but nothing is truly surrendered. I

want to challenge you today -- check your heart honestly. Is your faith alive and growing, or has it quietly cooled? The Word of God is your anchor. Hold it tight and don't let the current of this age pull you downstream.

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, expose any area in my heart where deception has crept in quietly. I want my faith to be real, alive, and growing -- not just a memory of what used to be. Keep me anchored in Your Word.

DAILY ACTION:

Read one chapter of the Gospel of John today and ask God to show you one truth you may have been neglecting or drifting from in your daily walk.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

Perilous Times Call for Powerful Faith

KEY VERSE:

2 Timothy 3:1 -- "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come."

REFLECTION:

Paul didn't write those words to scare Timothy -- he wrote them to prepare him. And I'm sharing them with you for the same reason. We are living in perilous times. The moral boundaries that once held our society together are being dismantled one by one. Lawlessness is rising. Persecution of believers is at a level the world hasn't seen before -- over 50,000 Christians killed in northern Nigeria alone in the last fifteen years. That is staggering. But here is what I want you to hold onto: perilous times have never once stopped the purposes of God. In fact, the church has historically shone brightest in her darkest moments. Your faith was never designed for comfort alone -- it was built for pressure. The same God who sustained the early church through lions and flames is sustaining you right now. Don't shrink back. Stand firm. Your faith is your victory.

PRAYER:

Father, I refuse to be shaken by the chaos around me. Strengthen my faith for these perilous times and let my life be a testimony that You are still on the throne. I trust You completely.

DAILY ACTION:

Pray specifically today for persecuted Christians around the world -- look up one country where believers are suffering and lift them before God by name in intercession.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

Oil in Your Lamp -- Are You Truly Ready?

KEY VERSE:

Matthew 25:10 -- "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with

him to the wedding; and the door was shut."

REFLECTION:

I have to ask you the same question I ask myself -- are you truly ready? Not just church-attending ready. Not just head-nodding ready. Truly, deeply, oil-in-your-lamp ready? The ten virgins in Matthew 25 were all waiting for the same bridegroom. They all called themselves believers. But five of them hadn't paid the price of real dedication. Their lamps were running dry because they hadn't committed fully. That oil represents genuine, active, surrendered devotion to Jesus. It cannot be borrowed from someone else's relationship with God. You cannot ride on your spouse's faith or your parents' prayers. You need your own oil -- bought through your own prayer life, your own time in the Word, your own obedience, your own sacrifice. The door shut for five of them. That is the most sobering sentence in this passage. Don't let it be your story. Buy your oil now while there is still time.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I want a full lamp -- not a halfway life. Search my heart and show me where I've been coasting spiritually. I choose today to go all in with You, no holding back.

DAILY ACTION:

Spend fifteen intentional, uninterrupted minutes in prayer today -- no phone, no noise, just you and God. Treat it as buying oil for your lamp and make it a daily appointment this week.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Live Like He's Coming -- Because He Is

KEY VERSE:

2 Thessalonians 2:7 -- "For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way."

REFLECTION:

Lawlessness is not coming -- it is already here, already working, already increasing. We feel it in our culture, in our schools, in the rising hostility toward everything that is holy and true. But here is the glorious flip side of that reality: if the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, then the mystery of the rapture is already unfolding too. Jesus is coming. Not as a baby in a manger this time -- but on a white horse, King of kings and Lord of lords, coming to take back what is His. And we get to be part of that story. I want to close this week by reminding you that following Jesus is not a side activity -- it is everything. It is your mandate, your mission, your magnificent hope. Work while it is still day. Reach someone this week. Share your faith. Live out loud for the One who is returning in glory. Pedal to the metal, church. He is worth every ounce of all you've got.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I believe You are coming soon and I want to be found faithful when You arrive. Let my life this week be an act of worship -- active, bold, and fully surrendered to Your kingdom purpose. Come, Lord Jesus.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one person in your life who needs to hear the gospel and take one tangible step toward them today -- send a text, make a call, invite them to church, or simply share why Jesus matters to you.