SUDDENLY

May 24, 2020

Thank you for joining us today friends, as we look together into Gods Word Our topic for today is on the subject of <u>suddenness</u>.

God has his appointed times to move, and when he does, Often it is with great suddenness.

Jesus taught us, at a moment <u>you think not</u> the Son of Man will come. "Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not." Luke 12:40, <u>Unexpectedly, by surprise, suddenly.</u>

Not only His second coming, but also at other times when he visits us Many of us have had promises, and we've waited for fulfillment for years. But when God moves, it can come to pass <u>very quickly</u>. Great suddenness.

In Isaiah 66:8b -it says, Zion shall bring forth in a day. Zion spiritually can represent God's people or nation, the church. When she travails, she can bring forth much in one day.

In Acts 2:2-4 - "And <u>suddenly</u> there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind... and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has promised the coming of The Holy Spirit, before the cross.

Then he died on the cross, and rose from the dead three days later.

He was on earth for another 40 days, then he ascended back in heaven.

The disciples sought the Lord earnestly in the upper room.

But then, <u>suddenly</u> came a mighty rushing wind, all were filled with the Spirit.

Almost never does God tell us the exact day or the hour of his visitation. That would destroy faith. Sometimes, He reveals the times and the seasons. But almost never tells us the exact dates.

John the Baptist resurrected a dead nation in just a few months.

Malachi 3:1 - is a prophecy of the first coming of the Messiah. And that a messenger, (who was John the Baptist), would prepare the way of the Lord. And the Lord whom you seek, will <u>suddenly</u> come to his temple.

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall <u>suddenly</u> come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts." Malachi 3:1 Christ came on the scene suddenly. When God visits us, it can be suddenly. Spiritually we are the temple of God.

Jesus told us it will be like the days of Noah at the time of his coming. There had been warnings for many years, that world judgment was coming. 120 years had passed.

Then suddenly, God spoke to Noah one week before the flood. Genesis 7:4 God said; in seven days it's going to rain 40 days and 40 nights.

Get into the ark, you, your family, and all animals

So in 7:10, after seven days, the waters of flood came upon the earth.

You see, after many many years of warning, suddenly judgment came.

In around 1920, God visited Ivan Q Spencer, founder of Elim Bible Institute. God showed him a coming tremendous world revival.

People were picked up like Philip, and transported from place to place. Tremendous signs and wonders. God said, start preparing people for this. This was a hundred years ago.

Smith Wigglesworth was shown the coming end time revival, years ago. Dr. Brian Bailey, in 1955, shown the greatest revival the world had ever seen And many others, but when revival does come I believe it will be very sudden.

In Isaiah 60:1-5 we have an amazing prophecy of an end-time harvest. It starts, arise shine, for the light has come, glory of the Lord is risen on you In verse 3, the Gentiles will come to the light, and Kings to thy brightness In Verse 5b the abundance of the Gentiles will be converted unto thee.

In Revelation 14:14-20, we see two world harvests.

In verse 14:14-16 we see the harvest of the righteous.

At the end of verse 16 it says "and the earth was reaped"

It is already written, it is going to happen. And It will happen quickly.

In Revelation 14:17-20, is the harvest of the wicked.

All this is going to happen in the last few years just before Jesus comes. And when God moves, it is going to be sudden. Things will happen quickly.

Romans 9:28 - God is going to do a quick work in the earth, and in Israel.

And he will cut it short in righteousness.

The Church Age will end abruptly, Israel will be purged.

And Christ will reign In the Earth, with his overcoming Saints.

"For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth."

Remember - God can do much in a little time! Let's not limit God!

Now, let's consider the prophet Jonah.

In just a few days, he had 120,000 repent, and be spared from judgment.

We know the story very well. God told Jonah to go preach to Nineveh.

They were very wicked, and Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh.

He went another direction, and ended up in the belly of a whale.

He repented, and went to Nineveh. - In 40 days you will be destroyed.

The Fear of God fell on The nation, repented, and were spared.

Can you imagine, 120,000 repenting?

God can do much, in just a little time.

What about Moses? He was prepared for 80 years.

In a very short time, he delivered 2 or 3 million people from Egypt.

50 days after they left Egypt, they came to Mount Sinai.

In just a few months, Think about all that happened on Mount Sinai.

At Mount Sinai from Exodus 19:1 to Numbers 10:11 a total of 58 chapters.

This period Is less than one year.

Came out of Egypt in April:

Came to Sinai in June, in the third month.

At Sinai a total of about 11 months.

They left Sinai the next year, in May.

During these 11 months, look at all that happened.

Moses was given the law.

The instructions for the Tabernacle, and all its dimensions.

All the sacrifices were instituted

All the feasts, and the feast days.

The priesthood was established. The tribe of Levi was chosen

All the rules and regulations for the priesthood.

And so, God accomplished much in and through Moses, in one year.

After 80 years of preparation.

In Matthew 20:1-16 <u>Jesus gives a parable on the laborers in the vineyard -</u> I call it - <u>the 11th hour believers</u>.

In this parable, A man needed laborers (workers) in his vineyard.

He was able to hire some early in the morning.

Others he hired a little later in the day.

But, In 20:6, he hired some very late in the day.

In the 11th hour - that would be 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

When the time came for them to be paid,

The ones who worked the longest expected to be paid more.

But Jesus taught - many that are first shall be last, the last shall be first.

In Matthew 20:16, Jesus interprets the parable.

Here is the meaning of the parable. Many are called to work in his vineyard. Some have been in church for many years, but have produced very little fruit. Others who come in much later, are wholehearted and become very fruitful. The interpretation - Many who are first shall be last, and the last shall be first.

So what is the point here? It's not how long we have sat in church.

But have we been wholehearted?

Some who are new Christians, are very aggressive and productive.

And they start bringing many new people into church.

When the apostle Paul was first converted, it says in Acts 9:20,

"immediately he preached Christ in the synagogues that he's the Son of God Suddenly, the greatest persecutor of church, becomes its greatest defender.

I heard a story some years ago, about a 75 year old woman. In her old age, she was sent to the mission field, in Africa. She opened a Christian bookstore, and hundreds of people were saved. In just a very short time.

God can take a worm and thrash a mountain. Remember the song, - Little is much, when God is in it.

We all remember the story of the five loaves and two fish.

The Lord supernaturally multiplied this, and fed 5000.

Instantly, there was more than enough food to feed thousands of people

They had more left over, than when he began to feed the multitude.

How quickly God was able to provide all this food

They did not go into the city, and bring wagon load after wagon load of food.

I believe in these last days, God is going to do miracles like this.

Especially, when there is a shortage of food.

I was in another country years ago. Invited to dinner, asked to say grace.

I put my hands on the table and blessed the table.

Something happened, and I did not know until some time later.

Their beans never run out for number of weeks. Just as fresh everyday.

God did a miracle! He multiplied their food.

Let's talk about speed. A number of years ago, a man was late for a meeting This man was sailing across the Atlantic Ocean, for a meeting in America. He knew he would never be there on time for the meeting.

God did a miracle. I'm sure the man prayed for God to get him there faster.

Amazingly, he was there in one second. God transported him, like Philip.

Remember in the book of Acts 8:39-40:

Philip with baptizing a eunuch. When the eunuch came up out of the water, Philip disappeared. God had transported to another city. Amazing.

With God nothing is impossible. God can do things very quickly, suddenly. Time is getting short! Let's believe God to perform many miracles.

He can multiply time, travel, provision, money.

Let's be prepared for God to move suddenly. Let's be on guard. Amen!