

Believe For a Mighty Move of God

Annual Consecration

Week I

2 Timothy 1:7

This is the greatest hour for the church of Jesus Christ. The church is experiencing a massive harvest all over the world. Statistics will show that more people are coming to know Jesus at this point than at any other time in history. This is one of the signs that the end of time is near, but while all of this is happening, other events have occurred throughout the earth that have shaken the nations of the world and filled men's hearts with fear. We have seen dictator after dictator fall; communism as we have known it destroyed. Along with all of these positive events there has been a great deal of negative events as well. The economies of the nations have been shaken; people have lost homes and businesses.

I am convinced that part of this has been the devil's attempt to put believers in fear. I do believe that we need to be wise so that we can protect ourselves in times like these, but we do not need to react in fear. Fear is never the answer. It will always blur our thinking and cause us to make bad decisions. The Word of God promises us a sound mind, if we will only claim it.

When Timothy was faced with difficult times, Paul wrote to him in 2 Timothy 1:7 and said, "For God have not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind." This verse says that God has given us a sound mind. This is a mind that is saved and protected, or a mind that is sound. A mind that is given to fear is just the opposite. It is overwhelmed by panic or unfounded and unreasonable thinking. Because God has given us a sound mind, we can think on "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things" (Philippians 4:8 NIV).

The Bible makes it clear that in the last days that Satan will make wearing out the saints top priority. I believe that he seeks to do this mentally. 2 Timothy 3:1 predicts that perilous times will come. The word perilous literally means something that is difficult, dangerous, or filled with risks. I believe that this a prophetic warning to let us know that those who live in the last days will be confronted with a strange period of time like mankind has never seen before. It will be a time filled with difficulties, danger, and risk.

I want to give you what Denise and I believe is a biblical approach to living in the last days. To ensure that we are doing all that we can to remain in the will of God here are a few things that you can do. Allow the Lord to direct your life. Many of us do not render total control of our lives to God. We give Him a part of it and try to keep the other part to ourselves. We follow God sometimes and this is not good. God wants all of our heart; all of our bodies.

Romans 8:14 declares that one of the privileges of being a son of God is that the Spirit of God leads us. The word lead is a picture of someone extending his hand to you so that he can gently lead you.

In these difficult days, we must be led by the Holy Spirit, but he will only lead us if we let him. There have been many times in my life when he wanted to lead me and I would not let him, and ultimately, I suffered the consequences of being disobedient. You see, he knows exactly how to lead us past every attack and how to avoid every strategy of the devil. It is true what has been said, that while you are trying to figure it out, God has already worked it out. The Bible says that he knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation. The problem with us is that oftentimes we are not willing to follow.

Jesus said in John 16:13 that the Holy Spirit will show you things to come. The word show in that verse is the word for a guide who shows a traveler the safest course through an unknown country which means the Holy Spirit is our guide. He knows the way that we should go; he understands how to avoid every trap and obstacle along the way. When we are going into an area that we have never been before, the Holy Spirit wants to show us the safest route. He knows exactly how to get us safely to our future point of destination.

The consecration will begin on Monday, January 2, 2012. This week, we will be sacrificing all items sweetened by sugar, caffeine drinks and sodas of any kind. During the lunch hour, we will have 16 ounces of 100% pure juice with no additives. We will refrain from eating our one meal per day until after 6:00 p.m. Please join us in prayer on Monday nights at 7:00 pm and Friday nights at 7:30 pm. We want to be praying for increase; pray that we understand the blessings that God has already bestowed upon us and for continued blessings, increase in faith, increase in wisdom, and increase in the numbers of our loved ones saved.