

Speaker : Associate Pastor David Seah
Title : The Eleventh Hour
Text : Revelation 22:7

Introduction

“For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ, and will deceive many. ⁶You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth pains” (Matt 24:5-8).

“There will be terrible times in the last days. ²People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God - ⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power” (2 Tim 3: 1-5).

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father... Therefore, keep watch... So you must also be ready” (Matthew 24:36, 42a & 44).

How do we live at this eleventh hour?

Content

I. Encounter the Holy Spirit

“⁷But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you” (John 16:7).

“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. ¹⁵All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you” (John 16:13-15).

i. The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus

‘He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.’ (John 16:14)

ii. The Holy Spirit guides us through vision & dreams

“In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy” (Acts 2:16-18, cf. Joel 2:28-29).

iii. The Holy Spirit bestows gifts

“to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” (Eph 4: 12-13).

When we do not encounter the Holy Spirit, we succumb to deception.

“The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons” (1 Timothy 4: 1).

“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth” (John 16:13).

II. Embrace sound doctrine

“Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers” (1 Tim 4:16)

Sound doctrine, to be fruitful, must accompany with the Spirit

“This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. ¹⁴The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor 2:13-14)

Without the Holy Spirit’s illumination, sound doctrine will be forsaken.

³For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths” (2 Tim 4: 3-4)

III. Excel in good works

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Tim 3:14-17)

“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Eph 2:10)

How do we excel?

- i. Serve with joy
- ii. Fulfill our role
- iii. Influence others to do likewise

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father” (John 14:12)

Conclusion

In Matthew 24, Jesus showed the disciples signs.

In Matthew 25, Jesus taught them how to live amidst the signs.

- i. Parable of the 10 Virgins speaks of being prepared with the oil & lamp – encounter the Spirit & embrace the Word
- ii. Parable of the Talents speaks of being responsible to use the gifts entrusted
- iii. Parable of the Sheep & Goat – speaks of the importance of works

“ Behold, I am coming soon! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book” (Rev 22: 7)

¹²Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End” (Rev 22:12 & 13)

¹⁶"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." ¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life" (Rev 22:16-17)

²⁰He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus" (Rev 22:20)