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BE PREPARED

Ever since I was a child, I learned things about Jesus. We learned songs in Sunday School that taught us that He loved us and sang hymns that pointed to the blood shed at calvary. Much has been preached about salvation, and about God's love. I have heard many sermons about getting our heart right with God, and many other subjects.

Over the years I have heard very little taught on the Book of Revelation or the second coming of the Lord. I have heard many very dogmatic preachers say that there would be a rapture of believers before the Lord's return. Yet, there are instances in scripture that have led me to believe that we may go through very hard times and even the great tribulation before His return.

If that is the case, are you prepared for those hard days? Are you prepared to give your life if someone threatens to kill you if you don't renounce your faith in Jesus Christ? What if that happens and you weren't prepared? If you have ever faced death in the face, it isn't a very pretty thing to look at. I have been with several people as they left this world and entered into eternity. Those that I was with had received salvation, so it was a comfort to know where they went upon death. None of them had a gun to their head telling them to recant their faith. They left without that threat.

As I taught the book of Revelation line upon line three times in the past many years, I see that the greatest deception that could come to the body of Christ is that they aren't ready for bad days, especially those living in the United States. Many third world countries know the price to pay for being a Christian, and there are thousands every year martyred for their faith. If America is under judgment, and I believe it is, are we prepared for harsh judgment before His return?

Many think God would never do that, but I disagree. God hates sin, and America has turned its back on God from the highest office of the current President to the representatives and senators that lead this nation. If he judged Israel, don't think he isn't judging America.

Everything is in place for the Anti-Christ to come on the scene. He will be a smooth talker when he comes. He will bring a 7-year peace plan that most will buy into. Then after 3-1/2 years he will show his true self and go after those that oppose him, including Jews and Christians. It will be a time of mass devastation and death. Are you prepared for that? What if you aren't taken out before that starts? I suggest you think about the consequences of not being ready. To be prepared you must be sure of your salvation in Jesus Christ and be willing to die for him. The early Church in the Book of Acts had many martyrs. Are you prepared for that? I pray that you are.