

Father, this evening, we are in Your house. We are in Your presence. We've come together as Your people, as Your children, as Your family. As the very Body of Christ, we join our hearts with millions of the Your other children around the world, O Lord, we come together in faith. In the presence of innumerable saints and angels and saints who have gone before us surrounding us, we just want to magnify Your Holy name, Lord. We thank You for the gift of life today. Sixth day of the fifth month, we have life. It's a gift, O Lord. We have strength, it's a gift, Lord. We have ears, it's a gift, Lord. And I pray, as the ministry of Word begins, we'll have faith, more faith because Your Word says, "The Word of God has power to work in those who believe." I pray we'll believe, people will obey, and we'll see the works of God manifested in mortal men and women and children. Speak to us, O Lord. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

So, listen carefully. Like I said, both God and the world, the enemy, through the world, wants our mind. Whoever has your mind has your body. So, don't leave your body here and wander in your mind. Focus, young children. Don't look here and there and don't stare at me also. Just focus. We'll think that we come through ten years, and it's kind of over. It's not over; it's just beginning. It's another phase, another dimension with God. In the beginning, like we often listen, Dickens said, if I am right, in his famous novel, "We live in the best of time and yet, in worst of times." To understand that, because we are caught in this body, therefore, sight the senses, delivers; therefore, faith. Let's imagine a person sitting here is absolutely blind. He can't see. 100 % blind. He sees nothing, but he hears. He can hear very clearly. And therefore, when he comes and when he goes, he moves because of his earring, he uses his stick taps, and he can find his way because he doesn't have eyes. Imagine we all sit here and he's also here. One level, we all can hear. The service is over and we are leaving. And then, the power goes, absolutely pitch dark. Now, who can see? He can see. He knows his way out. Okay? So, we think we see. But faith sees. That's the difference. Only when you are born of God and you have the light of God and you grow in the light, you actually see the darkness outside and you know it is darkness and you see the works of darkness. And you see darkness increasing and not decreasing. On one side, human technology inventions everything – best of times. But, another side, worst of times because we see darkness increasing. That's why Scripture says that, "The day of the Lord approaches, the day of judgement approaches." Darkness actually increases, and He says, "*Do not forsake the gathering.*" We come together because that's the very sign that we actually believe it's is coming closer and closer because we see.

One of the most, if not, one of the oldest places on planet earth is Antarctica. In Antarctica, the winter temperature drops down to minus fifty, minus sixty and almost every bird, if not every bird that lives in Antarctica during better days, they all leave, except the penguins. Penguins don't leave; they still continue. And as outside; they have no outside because they live outside. And as the temperature keeps on dropping, it's gets colder and colder. You know what happens? The penguins huddle closer together. Because they realize – "If we need to come out alive through this cold, we need to stick closer." That's exactly what Bible is talking about. People who are alive in the Lord and they know the darkness is increasing actually realize, they cannot survive alone. We need to come together in prayer, in Word, in fellowship, because we know if we stand alone, we'll fall away; we'll fall apart.

So, like in the days of Noah, God says, "Times." Like the days of Noah, in *Genesis 6*.

Genesis 6:11-13

¹¹ ***The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.*** (Before God, it's absolutely dark. Not before man.) ¹² ***So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.*** ¹³ ***And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.***

That's not what the people on earth are thinking; this is what God is telling one man who can hear Him. That report from heaven and the report on earth absolutely different. In the days of Lot, we're using a terminology of judgment, just before judgment, 100 years, 120 years before judgment, and this, a day before judgment. The Lord says, "Because the outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great and because their sin is very grave." In the first case, it took around almost 120 years preparation time. In this case, just a day, the report is the same. And we know, spiritually speaking, it's going to get worse. Spiritually, the darkness is increasing but we, as God's people, because we know Him, and we know His Word, we have seen

the end from the beginning, when all these things are happening and there is anxiety and fear in the hearts of people, God says, "You should not be disheartened or discouraged because everything is happening exactly as if foretold it would happen." Like if you prepared for an exam and the teacher gave you a set of questions before the exams and when he went to the board exam and you open the question paper and you look, "Hey, I got the question which my teacher gave," are you going to be upset? God said, "His people alone should not be upset because everything that is happening is exactly what He told would happen in the last days." So that's why God says, "Lift up your heads because your redemption is near." Unless we're like Hezekiah who doesn't want to go, unless our hopes, our dreams and desires and aspirations are connected with this world and not in the coming One. It's with the coming one, God says, "When you see each of these signs, you need to be excited he says." So, 2000 years ago, 3000 years ago, 3500 years ago, 4000 years ago – different categories of prophecies are there in the Bible seen by godly men. They had the prophetic visions. And they wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. They didn't understand what they were writing often. They saw they wrote in their terms.

Imagine John the Apostle writing 2000 years ago, sitting in the island of Patmos according to the vision he saw, that the day will come. When the end is very close, it's actually here that no one can buy or sell without a mark on his hand. But it's so easy for us; all of us go supermarket and swipe our card. It's in your hand. The click of an online, we have made our purchases bills are paid, you see. Did they ever think this is what this meant? They were bartering and carrying coins all kinds things they did. And here with a click and it's right here. So, lot of stuff is written which we don't understand, they didn't understand. It's so common for us, but don't take it as usual as it's unusual because things are falling into place.

Matthew 24:7

⁷ ...nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom

The actually meaning here is 'ethnic groups against ethnic groups'. And we are at the verge, if things don't work out, of a caste war in India – ethnic groups against ethnic groups. The whole of Europe and north Africa and all ethnic groups after ethnic groups. North America, US – ethnic groups after ethnic groups. This is happening before our eyes "*famines, pestilences, and earthquakes.*" It's right, Hawaii is still bleeding, New York and Guatemala, yesterday 26-28 died. It's all happened before but you see, our minds are so scientifically tuned we explain it away as scientific. We read the paper and say, "Yeah," we forgot to read the Scripture. That's the danger. We go to school, we get our degrees and our minds have been taken by new age God called "Science" and we'll forget to see things that are happening right before our eyes. In *Matthew 24:10* He said,

Matthew 24:10, 12

¹⁰ And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

You've to hear the stories that keeps coming in every day. The betrayals that takes place in Churches, in families in homes and it's only increasing its not coming down. Betrayal like never ever before, where you have sadly to say – Pastors who write to the government betraying another servant of God. Anonymous letter and they'll continue serving as if they did something great. In *Matthew 24:12*, He says,

¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

Lawlessness. Love of many will grow cold. What is this 'love' He is talking about? There is something which the Bible talks about. A natural affection. You don't have to be a believer to have natural affection. A mother's loves, a parent loves their children. It doesn't matter what faith you come from – parents love their children, children love their parents, sibling love each other, friends. But He is talking about this natural affection will go. It will go. Every day, you hear about mothers having left their children in the car in the heat and they come back, the police arrest them, the kids are dead. In the heat. All kinds of crazy stuff happening – putting the children by mistake into the washing machine. I don't know the crazy stories you hear. I am just giving you the little good ones which can be spoken; not the horrendous things. Not even natural affection that is gone. Do you see? In *Romans 1:21*, God says,

Romans 1:21

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

You see, all this doesn't happen in action first; it happens in the mind. Whenever mind goes, either way the devil knows – if he has your mind, he has your body. Two ways, primary way, he works. Even through a multitude of ideas and ideologies, he gets your mind and then, controls your body to do things, because your mind has been controlled. When you do these things and because your natural affection has gone, you don't even feel the guilt. Because whenever you do something, God has wired us in such a way that we need to justify ourselves. So, so many ideas float around, which your mind takes it and it justifies.

Or he'll take your mind through your body. Alcoholics, drug addicts – what has happened? Because the substances have gone into their bodies and they have become addicts, their minds do not function anymore. So, Scripture says, "First, it is the mind." Once the mind goes, the body follows. Once the mind goes, mind is futile in their thoughts. They don't think futile, they think they are wise because of these futile thoughts, they've got their doctorate, their PhD. But the body will follow, in *chapter 1*, same verse 26 and 27.

Romans 1:26-27

²⁶For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged (what?) the natural (affection is gone) use for what is against nature. ²⁷Likewise also the men, leaving the natural..

Natural affection is gone. It is natural for a woman to love a man. That's gone. Because the mind is gone. The mind is gone, the body follows. The woman is now marrying a woman, the man is marrying a man. Because the mind has gone wonky. And they don't see it as wrong; they call it as equality and rights. And they call themselves, if you use their term 'progressives'. They are progressing. That's why God said, "Evil will become good, and good will be called evil." Darkness is called light and light is called darkness. So, remember, they are after our minds. So, there is absolute, total confusion. It's coming into India; everywhere, it is coming. Governments will start changing laws. In the west, what you call it is absolute total gender confusion. Men don't know whether their women; women don't know whether they are men. And they keep on changing through the day. You know what the reason for this? These things don't happen overnight. It took years for the generation to rise which is absolutely confused gender wise. Because if you look in the west, they have at least 70 million homes without fathers. How many? 70 million. And if I were to ask to people to stand up in this room in whose life there is no father, you would be surprised. So, what is happening these children? Both boys and girls are primarily raised by one parent who is their mother and their father. And they are absolutely confused – what is masculine and what is feminine? Half the time, the mother is the father, and half the time, she's a mother. And these children grow up absolutely confused and when they are 17, 18, they get out of their house. Their gender confusion is part of their life. See how the enemy has attacked all this because when they said, "Jesus, teach us how to pray," His first words were "Abba Father." And father is missing. There is no father on earth. "Our Father in heaven." "Thank You, Lord, You said, 'Our Father in heaven' because You are never missing." Understand what's happening. It's all over here.

So, God's answer to all of this; He has only one answer – it is called the 'Church'. He has only one answer. When Jesus left, He left a set of 120 disciples called the 'Church' and said, "I leave it all into your hands. You work it out." It's His hands. So, when a very dark time in Israel's history, there was a man called Nehemiah who will say in *Nehemiah 2:18*; he said,

Nehemiah 2:18

¹⁸...So they said, "Let us rise up and build." Then they set their hands to this good work.

Even in the darkest hour, remember – Church is called to do one thing. We are called to build what is broken, build what has been destroyed, build what has been confused. And the Church is a building place and the Church itself is a spiritual building.

We saw on Sunday, if you remember that what God has given to us for building is faith and faith is an equalizer. The only medium acceptable to God in this work of building; we build in love, but it built through faith. And faith and sight, you cannot mix. You see, for most believers, the confusion is – the default settings haven't been disabled. You hear and then, you go out in sight. It's like mixing darkness and light. It simply will not work. You will continue to struggle all your life unless you decide once and for all, "Lord, help me. Let me start building my life in faith." In the first 6 chapters of the Bible, when you are talking about before the first judgment, there are only two builders mentioned. In the first 6 chapters, He is talking from Adam down to Noah, ten generations, tens and millions of people in these ten generations; only two builders are mentioned by name. The first builder mentioned is Cain.

Genesis 4:17

¹⁷ And Cain knew his wife and she conceived and bore Enoch. And build a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son-Enoch.

He is the first builder mentioned in the Bible. You can call it 'Cain constructions'. First builder but you know what? He had built it on a foundation of blood. He has killed his brother and on the ground he is building, the spiritual ground he is building is on the foundation of blood. In verse 10 and 12 God says.

Genesis 4:10-12

¹⁰ And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. ¹¹ So now you are cured from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you till your ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive ad a vagabond you shall be on the earth."

See, when we build, the spiritual ground we build on is very important. Cain built on a ground that was cursed because he has spilled the blood of his brother and never sought forgiveness, never sought restoration, never came to God on his terms. So, he built on a foundation which would not last. So, ten generations later, when the judgment comes, everything built by Cain and his generations are swept away. There is no trace of it at all, absolutely.

The second builder in the Biblical record is Noah. He is the tenth from Adam, the two builders in the first six chapters. In his resume, builders also have a resume. When you want to build something big, go check it out and you see their prototypes and their previous buildings, it's in their resume. Look at Noah's resume.

Genesis 6:9

⁹ This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

That's his resume. Noah was a just man, a righteous man. He was perfect in his generation. We are called to be perfect in, not in Noah's generation but, in our generation. *To whom much has been given, much has been required.* You and I, being perfect in Noah's generation, is not going to work. With all the technology and all the junk that is filling the airways and midways and everything, we are called to be perfect according to our generation because to us, much more is given than Noah was given.

...Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

Noah walked with God – that is the key. This is the foundation on which he is building. He is not building on a foundation which is of blood and unrighteousness. He is building on a foundation which is laid in righteousness. Unless one's foundation is righteous, there is no point in building because the first work God does in a person's life is to justify us or proclaim we are righteous. Until He does that, He does no work in us and any work which is not built on this foundation is worthless. It will not stand the judgment that comes and when judgment came, everything was swept away; in our case, everything else will be burnt away. So, Noah had a foundation which was by faith and God considered him righteous. We see that and another thing is that he walked with God. Meaning, when Scripture says, when he walked with God, it also means in terms of heart; not just mind. He was a person who is committed to God. The question is this in this eleventh year: are we still committed to God over and above anybody else? Are we committed to God? God is not asking little Ajay or Sai or Venkat all who are sleeping over there to be committed like me. He is only asking them only to be committed like them, their age. But the question is this: are you committed even at your age? When you are at your age, you have to look at the children of your age mentioned in the Bible. God is not saying, "Ajay, look at Moses." God is saying, "Ajay, look at Samuel who heard the voice of God." So, little Samuel should encourage the little ones among you. Young David, Joseph and Daniel should encourage the teenagers and the little older ones. Everybody is encouraged by their age group and God asks, "Are you committed to God at that level of your age?" He was committed to God; therefore, He walked with God because a work of God can only proceed out of a walk. Because His work is continuous; therefore, the walk has to be continuous. It's not that you built in three months and finish and give the hand keys to somebody. It's not that; a continuous work is going in us, in our lives which will only finish when we die. Therefore, the walk also has to be continuous; it's a walk of faith. So, *Hebrews* says.

Hebrews 11:6

⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, (it is impossible to please God without faith) **for he who comes to God must believe that He is...**

Not He was but He is. That is the difference between God and us because God doesn't change and He is eternally the same and what He said two thousand years ago is true today if He has said something, you and I need to believe that He never changes. He is. We may change but God never changes. *Anyone who comes to God must believe*; otherwise, using our scientific brains, we say, "Ah, this is *Genesis* and teacher told me that we evolved." But God says, "I created." That itself will change the way you approach the Bible. Are you evolved or were you created? If you evolved, you owe nothing to anybody but if you were created, you owe everything to your Creator. If you are confused and Bible says, "I made you male and female," you can do a DNA test and find out what your chromosome is and confusion is gone and you will say, "I am so confused in my mind but I look into this DNA report and it says Y or X and that's what I am because God says that what I am." Your confusion is gone. You don't have to do cross dressing and do none of these because He says, "This is what I am. I refute every other thought and imagination out of my mind because what God is what I am." Why? Because I go to *Genesis 1* and I believe that is true and not what science says.

He who comes to God must believe that He is, without faith it is impossible to please God and faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God.

Hebrews 11:1

¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Look at the work Noah did in *Hebrews 11:7*,

Hebrews 11:7

⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen,

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. And what was he warned of? "A flood is coming; I am going to destroy the entire earth, built something. I'm going to give you the dimensions; build according to what I tell you, get your family in," and evidence of things not seen; then, he has to start doing a work as a proof that, "I believe what He has said that is going to pass though I have not seen it." *Warned of things not yet seen.* You put *Hebrews 11:1* and *11:7* together and we will understand whether we have faith or not. He was divinely warned of God. Noah has never seen rain before if you read Scripture, he has never seen a flood but he was divinely warned of a scientific reality as we would call today of something called rain an unpresidential overflow of water whatever there would be flood and everything seen with the eye and not seen would be going to be destroyed. That's what faith means. *Faith is the substance of things hoped for.* What did God say? "I'm going to destroy everything and if you build the way I build and tell it to build the way I tell you to build, then you and your family will get in and you would be saved." And he built. We too are warned in the Bible. The Bible is full of warning of the judgments that is coming. We have been divinely warned just as Noah was warned.

2 Peter 3:10

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, (meaning, nobody has any clue. Has anybody seen The Day of the Lord? No) **in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.**

That's why I love volcanic eruptions because when you watch it, you will see absolutely nothing can stop the flow of the lava. You see it flowing, the cars being consumed, houses being consumed. Nothing can stop its flow until it reaches the ocean. It takes away everything on its way. All human technology is on its knees before it, nothing can stop it and it is really beautiful to see the volcano from one end in the Hawaii flowing down into the sea and all the houses, the cars and everything consumed. All you can do is run for your lives but imagine a situation when lava in terms of and lava is flowing across the surface of the earth, where will you run? Where will you hide? That's exactly what Scripture says, "When the Day of the Lord comes, where will you run, where will you hide?"

So, divinely warned of situations, works that are will be burned up.

2 Peter 3:11

¹¹ **Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved** (Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. He says: 'Do you believe this is going to happen one day?') **what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,**

If you really believe, it will show in the works you are doing in your life. Because Noah believed, it showed in the work he did. He says, "If we believe, what will we be?" We will be in holy conduct and godliness. It will change the way we conduct ourselves. And we will pursue peace with man and godliness and holiness. Why? Because we believe. And if we didn't believe, if we believe, this will show up. We didn't believe, this won't show up. We just changed our religion, there is no faith. And religion didn't save anybody.

2 Peter 3:12

¹² **looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?**

What are we? We are hastening the coming of the day of the Lord. We are looking for; how do you know? It will show in our lives. It's exactly, whether you are a little child or an older person; anybody sitting over here, you cannot escape this day. Therefore, if you believe, your faith will show. If you haven't believed, your sight will show.

So, God says what are we, before God's Word? Are we skeptics? Are we scoffers? Or, are we builders? Noah had to build something that could withstand the judgment of water. We have to build something, that is the judgment of fire. Even to believers, God says, "You may escape this but you are not going to escape another fire."

1 Corinthians 3:12-13

¹² **Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.**

"It's a fire that going to reveal your work," He says. How do you build? Nobody knows. You may have the best resume, the best certificates, the best, best everything but only God knows how we are building. And if it is not build in faith, through love, God says, "On that day, fire will reveal."

1 Corinthians 3:15

¹⁵ **If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.**

He himself will be saved, if he truly repented and believed because the foundation was right. You come through the foundation stone alone, because that was Christ. God's salvation is on the work of Christ, not on our work. So, the struggle we face in our time, is the same struggle Noah faced in his time. In 2 Peter 3, again, he says,

2 Peter 3:3-4

³ **knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."**

God says, "I am not giving you any proof in your sight. I didn't give any proof and sight to the people in Noah's time. I just told them – 'This is what will happen, put your lives in order.' Nobody believed, but one day, it came." Because we don't see anything changing, scoffers will arise. And Scripture says, "This is the battle between sight and faith." Do you believe what God has said? Do you believe it is true? We can only build in faith, faith in God, faith in God's word, faith in God's warnings, faith is the only way out; God has given.

In Noah's case, there's only one way out given. In our case also, only one way, continuous way given. When everything looked the same, in Noah's time, life was the same, each day same as yesterday. Tomorrow, they thought will be like today. God told Noah, one thing in *Genesis 6:14*,

Genesis 6:14

¹⁴ Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch.

Make yourself an ark, what did it say? Make an ark. And *Genesis 6:18*, he said,

Genesis 6:18

¹⁸ But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

Simple, very simple instructions. Noah was committed to God, Noah was committed to his family. Get, understand commitments. In *Hebrews 11:7*, this is what the Scripture says,

Hebrews 11:7

⁷ By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

He prepared. We always think, he prepared an ark to save the whole world. No, he prepared the ark to save his household.

Ephesians 2:19

¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

We are not building a Church for the whole world; we are building a Church for the household of God. Salvation is for the household members, destruction from judgment is for the household members. Be a part of the household. God told Noah, "Build an ark for the saving of your household." God tells the Church, "Build a house, an ark; that's the Church which is the saving of the household of God." We can all join in that household.

Question is: how do we build? How did Noah build? How do we build? How did Noah build, *Hebrews 11:7*,

Hebrews 11:7

⁷ ...being divinely warned of things not yet seen, (He) moved with godly fear...

That is one of the major issues. We build, but we don't build God's way. "He moved with godly fear." It's not building a Church, it's building a Church with godly fear, a fear that is godly. Because, we always think, see, even when we hear Scripture and we hear about faith, we immediately say, "No, but faith and fear are opposites," which is true. There is a fear in the world and faith and fear are opposites. And there is a fear in the Word of God called 'godly fear.' They are companions; they go hand in hand, together. True faith, without godly fear is a terribly dangerous thing. Noah built with godly fear. They are companions.

Question is: when you and I are warned of things not yet seen, can we be moved? He moved, not only moved, he moved with godly fear. Can we be moved to do something? Scripture says, "He prepared." I liked that word, better than build. He prepared. There's a preparation to everything. He moved with godly fear and prepared. See, its God's job, He takes it as His duty to warn us. It's God's job, He considers to give us the directions, the measurements, how to build. But it's our job to build. It's God's job to give measurements, it's our job to stick to the measurements. God doesn't build; we build. He gives the directions, He gives the guidance, He gives the power, He gives the anointing but Noah built. He didn't say, "God built an ark and told Noah and his wife, 'it's ready. get in'." No! He says, "We build," and every one of us is building an ark. We don't know unless we check it with the Word of God, are the measurements according to Your Word? Am I building according to Your Word? Nehemiah said, "Arise and build." Everyone is building. Question is: what we are building, will it save our

Arise And Build!

household? Will it save the household of God? If you look in the world, tens and millions of Churches denominations, will it save the household of God?

Lot also built but he lost almost all his household. Noah built he got entire household onto the other side. You see, faith won't do the work for us; we have to do the work of faith. Scripture says, "He moved with godly fear; he prepared he build." Because that is the physical building. Let us look at what it means to us. We are not building the building. For us, the building is spiritual.

Psalm 1:2

^But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

How is the righteous man who is justified building? First, he is justified; then, he starts building. How does he build? His mind is being renewed. You and I have an old body; not in terms of age but an old body and a new heart but a mind that has to be renewed. It's got a new heart and old mind. The mind has to be renewed. To renew the whole mind, it is taking the one software out and installing a new one. What is the new one? He meditates upon the law of the Lord and in his law, he meditates day and night. That has to be two things – when you come to God, you cannot, even when you are young, after being so long into the Church, or hearing, you cannot sit without delighting in His Word. He says,

^But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

So, the first thing – his mind – the database is changing, his mind is being renewed, and what happens?

Psalm 1:1

^Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

He says that because his mind is renewed, it affects his sitting, his standing and his walking. The 3 things which we do right – we sit, we stand, we walk, and when we are doing something, rest of the time, we sleep.

...Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

If we check our lives, we will realize where we fall, what does it mean? He is very careful about how he built his life, extremely careful about the company he chooses to sit with; the company he chooses to stand with; the company he chooses to walk with, because he realizes – nothing is neutral; everything affects my mind; therefore, it will affect what I build. He is very careful about what he is building. Therefore, in verse 3, he is compared with the tree

^...Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season...

Time can pass on, season is passing on, but his building is still functioning. It's getting better, and better. Here, the illustration is as a tree. It keeps on.

...Whose leaves shall not wither...

"The outside body is perishing," Paul says, "but inwardly, we are being renewed from glory to glory." ***Whose leaves shall not wither.***

...And whatever he does shall prosper.

So, he does something. There is a work involved.

...And whatever he does shall prosper.

See, the doing part is kept at the end. He doesn't sit, he doesn't walk, he doesn't stand in certain categories. He meditates upon it day and night. He is not a casual visitor to the Word of God; he is planted in the Word of God. That is the waters.

Because he is planted there, he keeps on producing fruit and God prospers whatever he does because it is all falling in place according to God's plan and purpose for him. God is not going to bless what we won't do. Even to Timothy, Paul says, "Study hard to show yourself." If you want God to bless you, study. I told you – studying is a discipline. It's not marks that matter. Show to God you are a hardworking student so that He can bless the work of your hands. He says, "I'm not going to bless somebody who does not do what I tell you to do." This is not just naming and claiming. There is a pattern in which God works. If Noah has to come through this judgment, Noah has to do a certain work and do it well and do it exactly the way God says. Then, the work is blessed and he will come through the waters. It was godly fear that determined where he stood, where he sat, where he walked. The question is: are we building something God can bless? Are we building something that can come through the fire? Real faith, genuine real faith is willing to look like a fool as long as God wants because we all want to fit in. The problem is – faith does not fit; faith does not sit in certain places; faith does not stand in certain places; faith does not walk in certain places; faith simply does not fit in. That means Noah was willing to be a fool for as long as God wanted. Why? Because he was divinely warned of things not yet seen and he believed. He had never seen it. You and I had never seen the Day of Judgment but if we believe, God says, "You are willing to be a fool." The New Testament is full of warnings, divine warnings on what to avoid and how to build. What to avoid – "Be careful." Warning after warning through the epistles, the Holy Spirit, through different writers or Apostle Paul will give us. Let us look at a couple of warnings,

1 Corinthians 3:10

¹⁰According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.

He says, "Be very careful how you build your life," because, to God's one specific way of building, there are multiple ideas, sometimes, very powerful ideas floating around where they will use Scripture to sway your mind. Let's look at some of the divine warnings in the Bible.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

⁹Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?

It's the righteous who will inherit the Kingdom of God, right? So, there is a justification and there is a building in righteousness.

...Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators...

Premarital sex, fighting it every day. Why? Because You said, "Continue in that lifestyle; you are not going to make it. You are building on wrong foundations."

...nor idolaters...

"I have no idols in my life. Not my family, not my career, not my job, not my sports, not my movies, nothing; not even me myself." It will show on a Sunday morning when you reach Church what your idol is. It will show you each day what your priority is – whether you have idols or not. "I am not an idolater because God says 'no idolaters'."

...nor adulterers, nor homosexuals...

"Lord, I am gay and my Pastor is gay. My bishop is gay." God says, "No, you will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Don't get swayed by this ideas which have permitted the Church," because He said, "There is a divine warning in My Bible." You are willing to stand alone.

...nor sodomites, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, "But, please, Lord. I like partying." nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

Look at this. God says, "These are divine warnings in My Word." Know how we need to build our lives. And suddenly, when we start taking all of these in, we will realize, "Lord, I don't fit in." He says, "You were never meant to fit in. You are a square peg in a round hole. You are not supposed to fit in with this world. You are not of this world. I saved you out of this world. You don't fit in. Are you willing to be a fool for Me like Noah was?" In *Galatians 5:19-21*,

Galatians 5:19-21

¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, (lewdness means no shame in the way you dress,) ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice...

You should be fighting it. If you fall, get up and run back to God. But if you are continuing in this practice and say, “but God understands,” of course, He understood. That’s why He sent His Son to die for us and sent the Spirit to get us out of this mess.

...such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

This is how you build. You do not practice these things; you fight these things every day of your life. When you stumble and get up and get back to God and say, “Lord, I’m fighting this with my life.”

Ephesians 5:5

⁵For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

So, in every Church, he wrote the same thing. This is how you build. Why do we fight these things daily in our lives? Because, by faith, being divinely warned of unseen things, we are moved with a godly fear to build what God has asked us to build according to His measurements.

That’s what *Hebrews 11* says, “He moved with holy fear.” Faith and holy fear together should create a movement in our lives. This led to a preparation of an Ark. There is a preparation involved. The preparation is for the saving of people; it’s not for anything else. Our preparation should fit in with God’s purpose. His very preparation caused a separation. He prepared the Ark for the saving of his household. He is just preparing something. By his very preparation and how he prepared, he had no idea, by which he condemned the world. Meaning – the very way we prepare our lives is a condemnation of the world. There was an absolute difference. As each day went by, when he started cutting the first lumber, the tree, as he started building higher and higher, there is a separation that is coming between the world and Noah. By each day, you can make out the separation because there is no sign of anything that is happening but, by faith, this one man is continuing to build and God says, “By faith, as he continued to build,” ten years are over, eleven years are over, twenty years – we are continuing to build and the transformation is taking place in our inside more and more, we are condemning the world around us. Because he did not fit in with his generation. The problem is – we all want to fit in with our generation. Noah, poor man, did not fit in with his generation. He looked like a fool. That’s why in *1 Corinthians 1:27*, Scripture says,

1 Corinthians 1:27

²⁷But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;

All the people around in Noah’s time thought they were wise and this is the fool but ultimately, the foolish man put to shame all the wise. This is our major issue – the foolish and the wise were separated only when the rain came down. The wise and the foolish virgins were separated only when the Bridegroom arrived. Till then, the foolish and the wise, there was no separation. Judgment Day will show who were foolish and who were wise. And who were the ones who were wise? The ones who were prepared. It’s the preparation that separated. The question is: because you spend so much time spiritually preparing, the world will say, “What a fool! You don’t come with all our stuff we do. You don’t do the cool things we do. You don’t dress like the way we do. You don’t talk, you don’t listen to the music,” all the music you listen outside Scriptural music is affecting your mind, which you don’t realize – it is affecting your mind because nothing is neutral. The movies you watch, the books you read, the ads you watch, the songs you listen are affecting your thinking and affecting your works; but to separate from them is like a fool, “What will my friends think of me?” God says, “Your choice.” You have been divinely warned of things not yet seen and with godly fear.

The problem is – that is the issue of faith. We looked at the different components of faith on Sunday. Remember? Faith comes

from hearing. So, it goes into the mind. This is the processing center. There, to process it, you need the Word of God. Faith comes from hearing, hearing the Word of God. The Word of God fights the world and it believes. When it believes, it takes an act of will, moved by holy fear and it has a work. So, it starts building. So, this is the process. The problem is – the work is missing. 21st century Churches, the work part is missing. We want success but we don't want sacrifice. The world teaches you of a success without sacrifice. We want a product. See, we are so unlike the old days; like I said, it is impossible for you children to understand 21st century. When I was a child, growing up as a little child in a small little nation outside up in the mountains, I, as a child, made my toys. I used to saw to make my guns. My bow and arrow. I made my toys. Now, what happens? We get a product. How much is it? "Ten thousand." We buy it. We have no clue the process that came through for this product to come in. How many thousands of people have been sitting and working on different components, put together and you get a toy! We take it very cool. We want a product without a process. The Kingdom of God doesn't work like that. A Noah is a product of a divine process. Moses is a product of a divine process. David is a product of a divine process and when there is fault in that process, He fixes it and keeps on moving. There is no product without a process. If any one Christian thinks, "I will be the product that pleases God at the end," without going through the process, you are going to be incredibly ashamed on that Day and disappointed because that's what they teach you. I'm not talking about the world. This is for believers. Wednesdays are strictly for believers. We are not talking about the world; we are talking about the Church where they say, "Name it, claim it." They told you about the big house. They didn't tell you about the monthly payments. They told you about the big car you could have. They didn't tell you about the EMI, for which you need to work. If you want to meet the payment for your house and your car, it's not going to come when you name and claim. You need to work. They never told you about that because they are teaching you something about the product in which there is no process and God has never done with anybody like that and He is willing to wait to get a Moses to send out to the people of Israel who are in bondage in Egypt, crying and groaning; God says, "You keep crying. I've heard your cries. I'm not doing anything because the voice that will set you free, the product is being made here. He is in process." What is he doing? Looking after his father-in-law's sheep. "Lord, what are You doing?" "I am in the process of preparing this product which will go, stand before the Pharaoh and say, 'let my people go, the God of Israel says so'." 40 years, the product is being made and God is waiting. That's how He does things. Don't miss the process. Many of you, don't miss the process.

And especially, young girls sitting over here, yes. Young ones, sitting over here – I told you that these are the things that are important. You wake up in the morning; you have a system in your life, absolute rigid system because that's part of the process. What you are studying, the subjects are not what is important. The way you study, the way you set apart you day, the way you order your time – that's the process. Education is not learning subjects; education is basically the discipline. For 3 and a half years, He taught them and they understood nothing. The day He rose from the dead and He came, Scripture says, "He opened their eyes so they could understand the Scripture and He showed them from Moses down to everybody, this is what it means." They understood. What He disciplined them in 3 and a half years, He taught them in one day. What was He doing? He was teaching them to be a discipline, "Learn from Me on how I wake up in the morning before it is dark. Learn from Me how I go to a remote place and cry out unto God. Learn from Me on how I put My Father's will above My hunger, above My rest, above the needs of My body. Learn from Me," and they learnt from Him, His discipline. Then, He opened their eyes. That's what education is – the discipline. And you know what we struggle with? We struggle with that. Everywhere we go, everywhere we hear, they say, "GTC, how can they sit for one and a half hours and listen to the Word?" Even the biggest Churches in Hyderabad, the Pastors say, "How does your Church sit? Our Church, 35 minutes and they start complaining it is too much." I said, "From the beginning, we taught you one discipline – learn to listen because faith comes from hearing." The first discipline you need to do. That's why I tell you – look here; not because you need to listen to my voice. Just get the discipline of listening because one day, you will realize – in life, the only thing that matters is, Lord, give me the ability and the discipline to listen and to hear. That's all that matters. Because if you don't have that discipline, it doesn't matter what other disciplines you have. You don't have the discipline of hearing; you may have every other discipline in the world and it is not going to help you because ultimately, Scripture says, "Those who have ears, let them hear what the Spirit of God says." You need to have the discipline of how we hear the voice of God. You may have to sit, sometimes, two hours to hear one word that God is specifically speaking to you. That's the discipline. That's what we are talking about – 18 years, year after year, week after week, month after month, the lady with the withered hand, I have to give her a hats-off for her dedication. Who will come to Church with a withered hand when nothing happens? The rabbis will stand there and scold them and read the Scripture. It's so boring. She will come 18 years, without fail, with a withered hand and one day, Jesus appeared and said, "Be set free." What if she had given up on the 16th year? What if she had given up on the 14th year? 12 years with an issue of blood, an old woman. Somebody who has lost all her money, all her health – everything, you are hopeless. No, you are not hopeless. She still had the ability to hear. Scripture says, "When she heard about Jesus," thank You, Lord, though she had no

strength in her body, she had not lost her ability to hear. She heard and she said, "If only I could touch the helm of His robe." And she came. With whatever strength that was left, she pushed her way through, got on her knees, touched the helm, virtue left. Jesus didn't know. He had no clue. The Father saw. He said, "Let virtue flow." Did you see? So, all it takes is that. But that doesn't come overnight. It's a practice.

Elijah will stand outside the cave on Mount Horeb and he sees thunder. How did he know that the voice of God is not there? Because he has practiced the discipline of hearing the voice of God. He says, "He is not in that." Earthquake, "He is not there." Fire, "He is not there." Wind, "He is not there." He heard the whisper, "That's the voice of God. I know that." It's a discipline. Ultimately, in this life and in the next life, the only thing that matters is – did we hear His voice? That's all that matters. Did we hear His voice? Ask blind Bartimaeus, "Did you hear?" Bartimaeus says, "I heard. Everybody told me to shut up but I heard." When he heard Jesus was passing by, he said, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy." Everybody said, "Shut up!" He shouted even more loudly. Jesus stopped. "Bring him to Me." That's it. Bartimaeus' life will change. So, remember – we, too, have been divinely warned. Did we hear the warnings? Have we heard the warnings? Are we making appropriate changes into our lives according to the warnings? Have we heard? Do you know who are the good businessmen in this world? Really successful businessmen. Really good successful businessmen make investments looking at the future. They will borrow (not like the fellows who run away) and they will invest. They will borrow and they will continue investing and they will say, "How do you expect to repay it back?" They would say, "I'm looking into the future because I see this chart line. This investment, looking into the future, one day, it is going to multiply and then, all this will be gone; my life will be running on a profit. I look into the future. My today's investments are based on the future." They are good businessmen. Are you a good businessman, businesswoman? Are you investing in the future? The future has been told – everything will be wiped out and there is an eternal Kingdom that is coming. Noah was very clearly told – "Build this. Get your household in. Everything will be destroyed by water. Then, you will come out and it will be a new creation. You take it and inherit it." That's the thing. He was divinely warned. Genesis 6:13 says, "He was divinely warned." Genesis 6:18-21 says,

Genesis 6:18

¹⁸ But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—

He believed. 120 years, before anything happened, he believed and he built. Nothing changed in the next 100 years. Everything looked the same but Noah had the Word of God. You and I have the Word of God. He stood alone against all the ridicule. He built in holy fear and he, very carefully, stuck to God's dimensions. Let me tell you something – when Noah built his ark, in his time, his building was the strangest looking building at that time. His building did not correspond with any building anywhere being built on earth. We now see the ark and we go up to the museum and all. Think about his time. It looked like the weirdest construction man had ever seen. Every other construction looks normal in their eyes. This looks like a weird construction but when judgment came, this weird construction rose higher and higher towards God with judgment because the very vessel of judgment took it closer to God while all the others got swept away. The question is: does your life look weird to the people around you? Daniel's life looked weird to the people around him. Do our lives look weird to the people around us, the way we are building our lives? Do they actually want to say, "You fool, you are wasting your time"?

You see, Noah was not building to impress his neighbours; he was building to escape judgment. If he built according to God's plan, there would be a new beginning, a new earth, washed clean and he and his household would inherit it. Isn't that exactly what God tells us too in 2 Peter 3?

2 Peter 3:10-13

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

This is not going to happen unless we go back to what He said in the beginning, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness," then you will be looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness dwells. The very fact that we are not seeking this is reflected in what we are looking for. If we seek this, then this is what we are looking for. If we

are not seeking this, this is what we are looking for. That's exactly what is told in which righteousness dwells.

As I close, the final verse – *Hebrews 11:7*,

Hebrews 11:7

7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

So, Noah and our generation, when it comes to it, the effect is the same. He became the heir of righteousness which is according to faith. Righteousness, which Paul will say is from the beginning till the end – faith by faith. It's nothing else. Without faith, it is impossible to please God. They are opposite. Faith and sight, children, are absolute opposites. Don't waste your time in things which have no meaning in the Kingdom of God. Everything you have to start turning in this 11th year. It doesn't matter how young you are, you have to start turning your life towards God, His Word. Do your studies accordingly. Do your work accordingly. Do everything that you do accordingly and God says, "I will prosper Your work." Everything that he does prospers. Why? Because He is doing it. But please don't misunderstand me. People will not recognize your prosperity. When Noah was building, he was actually prosperous. They didn't recognize his prosperity. He was pulling out money from the ATM every day, buying lumber and building this. He is selling out this plot, taking the money and buying lumber and building it. And he realized, "I don't have enough for a window." He goes and sells even more and builds more. They were saying, "What a fool!" By the time he finished building, he had nothing left on earth. They must have said, "What is this old man going to do now?" Rain came. The old man is nicely sitting inside and eating while everybody is banging on the door and God shut the door. So, don't misunderstand success and prosperity because that's why I said – Noah did not live his life before people because if you live your life before people, then all our understanding about what is prosperity, what is success, what is wisdom – everything changes. We have to live by faith because what is prosperous is what God calls prosperous. What is success is what God calls success. What is blessing is what God calls blessing because there is something about what God says – true blessing, success, prosperity is this. As I close, I will put it in terms of what we say in literature. If a novel is really good, it should last time. Almost everything in today's libraries, you won't see it after 5 years. You won't read it because it won't stand the test of time. That's why Shakespeare is still taught today though he wrote it 400 years ago. It has stood the test of time and one book which has stood the test of all times is This – the Bible. Remember, the best-seller even now is the Bible. So, what does it mean if you are truly prosperous? Your work should last here and last there. Your work should not be burnt by fire. You can take your work. You have, what you call, a seamless journey from this life unto the next life and your works follow you. It doesn't stop and because it followed you, God says, "Well done, My good and faithful servant! What do you want to do?" "I want to work." "Take ten more cities. You are successful here and your success is appreciated there." In the world, success dies with your death. You make a million, your children blow it off in 2 years. It's gone. But in the Kingdom of God, it doesn't work like that. So, please don't misunderstand what success is. That is what true success is – that if you are successful as a parent, as a father, you have passed your legacy unto a child or a spiritual child who continues what you started. Moses was an unsuccessful physical parent, incredibly successful spiritual parent. Though his sons won't follow him, Joshua and Caleb will go and possess the Promised Land, what the father couldn't do. His legacy is flowing on. That's what I'm talking about. That's what is real success. It's not here; it should pass on to the other side. So, all those you see in the fortune 500 companies in the books and all, nobody will be there on that side. Very few. Nobody. Because their success won't go on to the other side because their foundation was wrong.

So, this evening, our first Wednesday of this 6th month of 2018 and the 1st month of the 11th year, my prayer is – reorient your thinking, your mind continuously constantly; and bring it back. Encourage one another. When you are older spiritually, you know your younger sister is going off track, tell them, "Please don't speak like that. Didn't you hear in Church – quick to listen, slow to speak? Don't." Be careful about what you hear. Be careful about what you say. Be careful about what you do. Because we are building something which we want to take on to the other side.

Shall we stand? Shall we pray?

Closing Prayer:

Father, this evening, we just come to You, Lord. We just want to thank You. We just want to praise You. We just want to worship You, Lord. This is a battle for our minds, O Lord. I pray all the slots will slowly fall in place for all Your children, Lord; for all of us; that our thinking will align with the mind of Christ Jesus, that we will learn to take steps of faith, even the little

ones, little steps of faith in everything that we do, that our works may be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord. I commit this generation into Thy hands, Lord. Everyone standing here, Lord; the same generation, maybe young or old or maybe the same generation that will see the Lord coming and I pray, Father, with godly fear, we will be moved to do the work which You have called us to do, Lord; building the household of God that will come through the fire as Noah's household came through the waters, O Lord. Thank You, Father. We praise You. We worship You. We glorify You and we bless Your holy Name, Lord. Be with us the rest of the night. Thank You, Lord. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.