

Acts 12 The Message Bible – “Then the time came for Herod to bring him out for the kill. That night, even though shackled to two soldiers, one on either side, Peter slept like a baby.”

Hebrews 12:12 Living Bible – “So take a new grip with your tired hands, stand firm on your shaky legs, and mark out a straight, smooth path for your feet so that those who follow you, though weak and lame, will not fall and hurt themselves, but become strong.

Ephesians 1:17 NIV “ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better.”

I am reminded of the time when Mt. Saint Helens (the volcano in Oregon) blew up. For some time before it erupted, warnings went forth to everyone near. They were told to evacuate their homes by increasingly intense warnings, as the expected time grew closer.

I remember hearing of some foolish people who did not heed the warnings, trusting in their own fortifications, or simply believing that they would be able to weather the blast. They had no concept of the devastating power that was soon to be unleashed in their direction. Because of their ignorance, they perished.

For many years, our gracious Lord has been calling for His people to prepare for times and seasons that will be extremely difficult. He has been calling us to fortify ourselves with His Word and cultivate a relationship with Him that is focused and trustworthy. The posture that we have been in training for is not one of survival, it has been one of service and implementation of His will.

Very much like those who perished when the volcano erupted, most of the church has not heeded the warnings that the Lord has presented. Having never experienced the impact of what is about to happen before, they have based their decisions on their own interpretation of what was about to occur. The magnitude of the impending devastation eludes them.

I don't believe that most of us realize how much of our “American dream” has already eroded. Our safety can no longer be promised because of our supposed might as a nation. We are in a different kind of time, with a different set of rules, that elude those who do not know Jesus intimately. Proper preparations for these times are not those designed to protect personal safety. Physical fortifications will fall. The only safety will be in Jesus. There, nothing can touch us.

Needing to learn how to “tuck in” now – Jim Corbett