

Ephesians 6 The Message Bible - "This is no afternoon contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-and-death fight to the finish against the devil and all his angels.

Be prepared. You're up against far more that you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when its all over but the shouting, you'll still be on your feet."

Rev. 22:17 Amp. "The [Holy] Spirit and the bride (the church, the true Christians) say, Come! And let him who is listening say, Come! And let everyone come who is thirsty [who is painfully conscious of his need of those things by which the soul is refreshed, supported and strengthened]: and whoever desires to do it, let him come, take, appropriate, and drink of the water of life without cost."

I reflect back on the concerns and worries that I encountered even ten years ago. They seem like grade school felt when I was in college. The world is not the same. In fact, in the last few months, people who are really pressing in with the Lord have been saying that something happened recently in the spiritual realm. There is a darker presence all around us.

If that is a reality, it would seem that the tools we were using before that happened would be inadequate for these present days. Please understand, I am not saying that God's tools are inadequate at all. I am saying that ten minutes of prayer each day, unfocused praise and worship, disregarded hidden sin, cold unfruitful lives and all else that allowed us to remain complacent will not suffice in this rapidly changing world.

The Lord is now requiring us to step up to the task and really become who we have been saying that we were all along. No more semi-spiritual church games, if we want to fulfill our purpose in life.

I reflect back to the 9/11 plane that was taken down to the ground by the passengers. From what I understand, some of the pivotal players on that plane were Christians. In a heartbeat moment, their lives were required of them. Whatever they had to call upon to overtake the hijackers was either what they had on tap from their relationship with the Lord previous to that instant or was given to them during the trial.

I'm convinced that this time is the beginning of one of the finest hours for members of the church who see and hear and respond to what the Lord is saying. I believe that those of us who press in and respond to what the Lord is saying will really mean something to the strategic plans unfolding at this very moment.

Wanting to hear clearly and respond properly – Jim Corbett