

Ephesians 1:8b-10 With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment - to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Ephesians 3:4-5 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Philippians 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

Philippians 3:8-9 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ- the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

Romans 8:21-23 The creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

Matthew 24:44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you don't expect him.

1 Thessalonians 5:4-10 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light. . . . So then . . . let us keep awake. . . . For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

1 Peter 4:19 So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 Peter 2:24 'He himself bore our sins' in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by his wounds you have been healed.'

Matthew 16:18b I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

1 Chronicles 12:32 from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do.

**How will you respond today?**

- Is God challenging you to be more reliant on him, to recalibrate yourself, to put God back in the centre?
- Are you ready for Jesus' return? Have you come to him and received his forgiveness, grace, mercy and new life that he wants you to know, so that you can say with confidence, whether awake or asleep I will be with him?
- How are you being salt and light to the family and community God has placed you in? Are there any other ways God is showing you to be salt and light during this time?
- Do you feel an unsettling that God is causing to our comfortable lives? Will you ask God what he wants to show you through this time and what changes maybe he is calling you to make?