

(7-19-15)

HASTEN TO HOLINESS!

TEXT: Song of Solomon 8:13 Thou that dwellest in the gardens, the companions hearken to thy voice: cause me to hear it.

14 **Make haste**, my beloved, and be thou like to a roe or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices.

Isaiah 32:9 Rise up, ye women that are at ease; **hear my voice**, ye careless daughters; **give ear unto my speech.**

Revelation 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am **thy fellowservant**, and **of thy brethren the prophets**, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

12 And, behold, I come **quickly**; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches...

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come.

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 **Thy kingdom come.** Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Amos 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it **for you?** the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light.

Zephaniah 2:3...seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD'S anger.

Zephaniah 1:14 The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD:

Isaiah 11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

10...his rest shall be glorious.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle...

3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations...

4 And **his feet shall stand** in that day **upon the mount of Olives**, which is before Jerusalem on the east...

9 And **the LORD shall be king over all the earth**: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but **unto all them also that love his appearing**.

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 **Looking for** that blessed hope, and **the glorious appearing** of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, **zealous** of good works.

Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and **unto them that look for him** shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride **say, Come**. And let him that heareth **say, Come**.

20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

2 Peter 3:11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 **Looking for** and **hasting unto the coming of the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, **look for** new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that **ye look for such things**, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

"It is the 'day of God,' a holy day; then we need be very watchful over our own hearts, and strive to be holy even as Jesus is holy. It will be a day of rest; then we ought to work much for God now. It will be a day of peace; then this is the time to fight, and we must not grow faint or discouraged. And it will be a day of joy; so, if God sends us sorrow here, we must not murmur. If we remember all this, how earnest, watchful, patient, and holy we shall strive to become, 'hasting unto the coming of the day of God!'" (Robert Tuck, 1875)

Genesis 19:15 And when the morning arose, then the angels **hastened Lot**, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

16 And **while he lingered**, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

22 **Haste** thee, escape thither...

24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

Luke 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy **to escape** all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Psalms 16:4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied that **hasten** after another god...

"Duty discovered should instantly be discharged. There is peril attending every step which is taken in the indulgence of any known sin, or in the neglect of any acknowledged obligation. A tender conscience will not trifle with its convictions, lest the heart should be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. It is unsafe, it is unreasonable, it is highly criminal to hesitate to carry that reformation into effect which conscience dictates."

(John Morison)

"In religion it may be a deadly habit to take time to reflect. Make haste." (Henry Melvill)

Haggai 1:2 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built.

6 Ye have sown much, and bring in little...

8 Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

Matthew 4:19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And **they straightway** left their nets, and followed him.

Luke 9:61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; **but let me first** go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

"...this delay and putting off of God is but a shift...God always comes unseasonably to a carnal heart." (Thomas Manton)

"The man that is too scrupulous [cautious] is never likely to succeed in any thing...Those...seldom do any good, and are themselves generally good for nothing."
(Adam Clarke)

"...men will never do good here...if they be discouraged and hindered from it by every doubt or difficulty..." (Poole)

Proverbs 20:4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

Proverbs 26:16 The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

"Is wiser in his own conceit...by his idleness he avoids those troubles and dangers to which other men by their activity expose themselves, forgetting...what reproach and loss, and how much greater mischiefs, both here and hereafter, are brought upon him by his slothfulness."

(Poole)

"Thus, spending too much thoughts on state affairs, The business is neglected, which is theirs."

"Have you somewhat to do to-morrow, do it today."

"Lost time is never found again."

"Up, sluggard, and waste not life; in the grave will be sleep enough."

"Be always ashamed to catch thyself idle."

"You cannot pluck roses without fear of thorns."

"All things are easy to Industry, all things difficult to Sloth."

"Diligence overcomes Difficulties, Sloth makes them."

"Plough deep while Sluggards sleep; and you shall have Corn to sell and to keep."

"Lose no time. Be always employed in something useful. Cut off all unnecessary actions."

(B. Franklin, *Poor Richard*)

"There are no fools so troublesome as those that have wit." (Benjamin Franklin)

Proverbs 26:12 Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is **more hope of a fool** than of him.

13 The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

"Of such sluggards, who are proud of that which is their shame, their is little hope..."

(Matthew Henry)

"Nothing but rags and poverty can come of idleness. Elbow grease is the only stuff to make gold with. No sweat, no sweet...In getting rich, the more **haste** the worse speed. **Haste** trips up its own heels. **Hasty** climbers have sudden falls...[But] where will the ass go that he will not have to work?...Everywhere on earth men must eat bread in the sweat of their faces...There is a proper time for changing, and **then mind you bestir yourself**, for a sitting hen gets no barley...You cannot get honey if you are frightened of bees, nor sow corn if you are afraid of getting mud on your boots. **Lackadaisical gentlemen had better emigrate to Fool's-land**...Take time by the forelock. Be up early and catch the worm...He who drives last in the row gets all the dust in his eyes...It is of no more use to give advice to the idle than to pour water into a sieve...laziness is in some people's bones...A man who wastes his time and his strength in sloth offers himself to be a target for the devil...idle men tempt the devil to tempt them...My advice to my boys has been, 'Get out of the sluggard's way, or you may catch his disease and never get rid of it'...However, it is not much ease that lazy people get by all their scheming, for they always take the most pains in the end...I'm Sorry to say one of the greatest sluggards I know of is a professing man of the 'Mr. Talkative' kind...I do wish that all Christians would be industrious, for religion never was designed to make us idle. Jesus was a great worker...I am afraid I have been beating a dead horse, but I have done my best..."

(Spurgeon, *John Ploughman's Talks*)

Psalms 22:11 Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help.

19 But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, **haste thee** to help me.

Psalms 38:21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me.

22 **Make haste** to help me, O Lord my salvation.

Psalms 40:13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, **make haste** to help me.
14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it...

Psalms 70:1 **Make haste**, O God, to deliver me; **make haste** to help me, O LORD.
5 But I am poor and needy: **make haste** unto me, O God: thou art my help and my deliverer; O LORD, **make no tarrying**.

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