

STAYING AWAKE IN THIS THIRD WATCH 3

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Lord willing we will finish our subject this morning. Thursday we finished explaining what the three watches are. I want to go a little further this morning. I realize that we mentioned this a couple Sundays ago: we are living in a very serious time but it's also a very beautiful time. We are living just before the coming of the Lord for his church via the rapture and the resurrection.

Now with that said, it is not the next thing on the Lord's agenda. We have been looking at time. We know this morning that we are living in a time period that we call the third watch. I say we call it that, but really it was the Lord who used this term *the Third Watch*. There is also a space of time that we call the *Seventh Seal Time Factor* and that is also before the coming of the Lord.

TIMES AND SEASONS
CENTURIES AND DECADES

↓ End

Mercy Seat

Rev 8:1 Silence about Half Hour
A Throne Was Set
Bride
Rev 5:8
4 Beast and 24 Elder with censer full of Saints Prayer

Rev 17:12 Kings one hour with the beast.
Wedding Supper
White Robe
Crown
Soul Under Altar
Rev 14:14

Rev 4:11 **Bride** **Rev 5:12-13** **Rev 7:12** **Rev 19:1**

Thou art Worthy, O Lord, to Recieve glory & honour & power

2Tim 4:1 A
7th SEAL TIME FACTOR
Rev 4:1 Rev 8:1 Appear Rev 8:3

John 12:26 where I am, there shall also my servant be
Watching For His Coming

1st Watch
2nd Watch
3rd Watch

1948 1963 1967 2005 2018

7 Decade

1 Decade

7 Years Burning The Weapons

2Tim 4:1 B
White Robe Dead
The Quick
Woman Israel
144,000

5th Seal
3 1/2
6 Million
3 1/2

Winds of War Armageddon
42 Month

Day Of The Lord

Prayers of all the Saints

Eze 39:9

On this chart the first watch, the second watch, and the third watch are identified by the three green rectangles. Below this of course is a timeline. It goes all the way into the millennium.

The coming of the Lord for his church is at the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. Now this particular chart is not to scale. We have been in the third watch since 2005 but please don't think there is all this time beyond that. This has been magnified to show the detail. As we can see the Seventh Seal Time Factor is going to be about three and a half years.

In Revelations 8:1 it says that when the seventh seal was opened *there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour*. We have to understand what an hour is. In another place it speaks of the kingdoms that will have power *one hour with the beast*, speaking of the entire week of Daniel. [Revelation 17:12] If one hour is referring to a seven year time period, then half an hour would be half that length. It would be *three and a half years*. I say all of that because we are looking for the soon coming of the Lord. There are still many things that the Lord is going to do among the bride and in the world.

We look at Israel: there is a spiritual war happening in Israel this morning. The Lord has allowed people who have a true concern for Israel in its biblical sense to come into governing power. They are working to ensure that there will be a just system *for the Jews* and that the forces of evil never take that away again.

We also see that there is another side: remember not every Jew is a spiritual Jew. There are millions of Jews whose only concern is enjoying this life and they are just as materialistic and as worldly as any Gentile. The perversion that is among the Gentiles exists in Israel as well. Those people are extremely unhappy this morning and there are hundreds of thousands who are protesting. But let's not forget those who are rejoicing. They don't need to go out on the streets because what they desire is on the agenda. It's almost getting to a point there may be a conflict among the Jews themselves.

We see similar things in our country. They say there is a possibility that Trump is going to be arrested on Tuesday. There are a lot of people who would be very angry, but let us remember that God is in control of it all. We don't need to be out there on the street marching and protesting. What we need to be doing is praying. Praise the Lord.

I have to say, we are living in an evil time. Our natural desire is to hope that things will get better, but we know in Daniel 12:10 it says that *the wicked shall do wickedly*. The overall global picture is going to get worse and worse all the way down until that millennial kingdom is set up.

In our own country we have a judgment sentence hanging over us. It's not that God is going to destroy the country, but He will somehow chastise this country for how it has responded to Him. We were founded as a Christian nation but look where it has fallen. I thank God that when I was younger, I was able to see a certain glimpse of the Christian heart of this nation. This morning it doesn't have much of a Christian heart.

Let's go now to the book of Luke.

Luke 12:38

And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and finds them so, blessed are those servants.

When he says *finds them so*, what is he speaking of? He's speaking that they are *watching*.

Here I have the definition of the word *watch*. There are actually two parts to the word: there is the *time frame* and also *what one does* during that time frame.

Watch:

1. Forbearance of sleep.
2. Attendance without sleep.
3. Attention; close observation.
4. Guard; vigilance for keeping or protecting against danger.
5. A period of the night in which one person or one set of persons stand as sentinels.

I will begin by reading the last one. It says *a period of the night in which one person or one set of persons stand as sentinels*. In other words: they are guards.

We read in Matthew 25:6 that there was a *midnight cry*. We are still in the time of the night and there have been three very distinct periods. First: Brother Branham's ministry. Before the actual cry there had been a restoration of the lost truths. Then as we moved into the early 1960s the fresh word began to be opened. What was that? It wasn't Brother Branham, it was *the Lord*. He used Brother Branham but it was the Lord.

As long as Brother Branham kept with the miraculous displays of the power of God, the Pentecostals and the rest of the organizations loved him. But once he got into the Word and began bringing things new out of the Word, they turned 180 degrees and they hated him. They wouldn't say openly that they hated him but they would say: he's gone off the deep end, he's preaching false doctrine. They also said that some of the things he was preaching were coming out of the pit of hell. We can see by the way they reacted to the Word, it was really not a reaction against the man himself but against the Lord who was using him.

We see *blessed are those servants*. [Luke 12:38] We can say those servants are ministers. Yes they are ministers, but that doesn't mean the laity can just continue asleep and say thank God we have a ministry that's watching. Remember there were five wise and five foolish, and they were *all* awakened by that cry. [Matthew 25:7] We have to stay awake.

As we move from one watch to another that's when the enemy sees his opportunity.

Laodicea						
Pentecost	WWII	The Night				
		1st Watch	1965	2nd Watch	2004	3rd Watch
		Bro. Branham		Bro. Jackson		5 Fold Ministry

From the time of the Pentecostals into the time of Brother Branham the enemy played a trick. Brother Branham said certain things that didn't fit exactly with the Pentecostal's way of looking at them. We have already spoken of that and they rejected his ministry.

From the time of Brother Branham into the time of Brother Jackson, when God took Brother Branham from the scene there was a test for the message movement. What were they going to believe?

We thank God that He continued to work in the church. Amen. We see how He used Brother Jackson even before 1970. By 1967 he already had a large portion of what the Lord was going to give us in the second watch. That was just two years after Brother Branham's death.

Why didn't the Branham movement continue along? Remember the enemy saw the opportunity and his desire was to *take away even what they seemed to have*. [Luke 8:18] I say what they *seemed* to have because yes they were given truths but the question is: how did they receive them? Was it through the intellect or was it by revelation? That is the key. Praise the Lord.

We have to receive *by revelation* because if we receive by the intellect, the enemy will be able to play a trick on us and pull us away from the continuing of the Word. If we are focused on the man, when God takes the man off the scene, we will not have anything to stand on anymore and we will not have direction. We can be confused and we can be deceived. Jesus said in John 10:27 *my sheep know my voice*. Amen.

Now if any of us were to hear a recording of the Lord Jesus speaking I don't believe any of us would be able to say oh that's the Lord Jesus Christ. If we heard his human voice we would say that's just any other man's voice. What is *His voice*? It is the way He speaks to us is *through His Word*. Praise the Lord.

He has a ministry He uses. Praise the Lord. By the Holy Ghost He has given us, when we read the Word, God shines light on it and He quickens that Word to our heart. Praise the Lord. That doesn't require a specific man. As God takes His servant home and brings another one on the scene, we can still hear the Lord's voice because we see Him working the same way: opening His Word to our heart as He reveals it to His servants.

We had the second watch and now we have the third watch. That's where we are today. We were under the second watch and then we came into *the third watch*. We have read it: if the servants are *watching*, if they are awake, praise the Lord *they will open to him* and he will come in. [Luke 12:36] *He will gird himself, he will cause them to sit down, and he will serve them.* [Luke 12:37] Praise the Lord.

We have to be awake. They say: praise the Lord we sat under Brother Jackson's ministry and now we have this great body of truth. We can go back and we can look at the testing and fall of Satan, the two laws of Eden, the Eternal age, and the age of regeneration. But if they just go back, remember and review, what is that doing? That is closing any furthering of the Word. That begins to bring darkness to them and they get spiritually sleepy.

Then even the things of truth and revelation that they seemed to have received become less important. It's more important to them just to know that the Lord can help them in this present life. Their walk with the Lord becomes more of a social event with their brothers and sisters than a true walk with the Lord, preparing for his coming.

Let's go ahead and keep reading.

Luke 12:39

And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.

Amen. He's using a natural setting. It's like about a year ago, one day I woke up I think I was going to go to work. I opened the door and the car was gone! It wasn't in the driveway; it wasn't where I thought we had left it. Somebody took the car! When? It happened while I was asleep. Now if I had known that they were going to come at 4:30 in the morning I would not have been sleeping. But I was sleeping. That's fine, that's a material thing.

Here Jesus says *the goodman of the house* [Luke 12:39] That shows that he's in a position of leadership. The first thing that comes to my mind would be a pastor but really whatever ministry an individual has been given, they are responsible for that ministry.

It says *if they had known what hour the thief would come*. [Luke 12:39] As long as Brother Jackson was alive, we could say this is what Brother Jackson is teaching, right? But once he was taken, then the enemy came. First under a guise: we are just going to continue with what Brother Jackson brought. The same had been said in the Message movement: we are going to continue with what Brother Branham brought.

Right away as the Lord began to come to the servants who were watching, we saw there was something more. Here came the enemy: well Brother Jackson never preached that, or even Brother Branham never preached it. They said: we have what we need as far as the Word.

The Branham movement said the same thing: the Word of the Lord comes only to the prophet. They quote Amos. [Amos 3:7] They said: everything that we need was brought to Brother Branham.

Once they believe something like that, what is there to cause them to look into the Word? It takes away that push. The main thing then becomes that they don't offend their brother or their sister. They have to be sure that they love their brother and their sister. Yes that has always been a part of it. Let's remember if we have the Holy Ghost, what is the fruit of the Spirit? The first one mentioned: *love, joy, peace*. [Galatians 5:22] Amen.

We don't need the main instruction of every service to be knowing how to love. But what we do need is to have *all the Word*. Yes there are times when love will be preached, but even that will be true divine love not just a natural human love of treating each other with respect: I do nice things for you and you do nice things for me. That's all wonderful but they can do that out in the world as well. That's not divine love. Divine love goes beyond that.

Luke 12:39

if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through.

When they get to a point that they no longer walk in the light of the Word that God is revealing for our day, then I have to say their ministry has become damaged. Yes they can continue to preach. Depending if there are people under their ministry that have the same outlook and the same spirit, from the natural side it may look like their ministry continues along just fine. But they are leading people in the wrong direction and there is coming *a day of reckoning*.

No one will be giving an account to me. I won't be the judge. In fact I will have to give an account for myself. Everyone that has been called will have to give an account. I don't want to go into this Seventh Seal Time Factor knowing that I was asleep during this Third Watch.

Lk 12:42 Mt 24:45 A Wise Servant gives Meat in due Season - Not out of season

Joh 12:26 where I am, there shall also my servant be

Yes Jesus is looking at the servants but remember: this is also going to apply to each one of us as individuals. We can sit in an assembly where the Word is preached but at the end of the day, we are still individually responsible for what we receive and what we believe.

This is why I would say especially to the young people who maybe don't have such a memory of Brother Jackson's time: seek the Lord, read your Bible, pray, listen, amen. Bring your walk before the Lord.

This is a serious time. We have to be ready because on that day when we will stand there, we won't be able to say: oh let me get my pastor, let me get my dad or my mom. No, we will stand there on our own and we will have to give an account. [2 Corinthians 5:10]

Let's go back to that verse in Luke.

Luke 12:39

he would have watched,

Well if he didn't watch, what was he doing? He was asleep. He did not have an expectation that something was going to happen. He did not have an expectation that the Lord would come to serve another portion of meat. He also did not have an expectation that the enemy would come to take out of his heart that which had been sown.

As the spirit of the enemy has worked, I have here just a few examples of what has been stolen: If you look at the very assembly from which Brother Jackson ministered, it was very well understood that *the Millennium is the third day*. [Hosea 6:2] That is no longer in their heart this morning. First that was taken out of the heart of the ministry. It was stolen from the understanding of the ministry and then also passed on to the assembly.

When something can be stolen like that, it shows that it was never a revelation to begin with because a revelation is *divine*, right? What did Jesus tell Peter? He said *flesh and blood hath not revealed it to you Peter*. [Matthew 16:17] Even though Andrew had previously told Peter *we have found the Christ*. [John 1:41] At the end of the day, it wasn't because Andrew had said *we have found the Christ* but God *revealed* it to Peter. Praise the Lord.

Can God use a man? Yes He does use men and that's how he does it. He uses men to speak the Word. But at the end of the day it has to be the Holy Ghost that then takes that Word and takes the Scripture and says *yes this is the spiritual understanding*. Praise the Lord.

The New Jerusalem being in the Eternal age is also something the enemy stole. The manifestation of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21 & 22, the fulfillment of that will be in the Eternal age. That was in the heart of the ministry but again it was removed.

What about those who left that assembly or left fellowship with that assembly? Another thing that was very clear: the *two days* would end at the end of the Grace age. [Hosea 6:2] We are still in the Grace age. Amen. But now many believe that the two days ended in 2004, or 2005 however you want to look at it. Then I have to ask what happened? Well Brother Jackson died. But the two days were *not* about Brother Jackson. Amen.

As far as a two thousand year time span of the Lord doing something, there was nothing He did for two thousand years that He stopped doing in 2004. Can we understand that? Again it was well understood that the end of the two days would bring in the 70th week. [Daniel 9:27] Now that has been removed.

Israel's revival: that will happen during the *first three and a half years* of the 70th week of Daniel. [Revelation 11:3] That's when Israel's revival will happen. Now some have said that it will start before then. Do you know how much sense that makes? That's like someone saying they're going to have a birthday party on Saturday. They've planned it for three months but then it starts Friday afternoon. They might as well have said the birthday party was going to start on Friday afternoon, right?

The whole point of the Seventy Weeks [Daniel 9:24] is the *time period in which God is dealing with Israel*. If He had started to deal with them somewhere around 2004 that would have been the beginning of the 70th week. What does that do? It confuses the picture as far as time. That's what it does.

Then they get to the point they don't really know what's going on as far as time. So they begin to look at the natural side of time and start to concern themselves with it. They want a good retirement. They want to make sure their kids can go to college. They want to have a good amount of money in the bank. They hope they won't get sick this year but if they do get sick, they know that God can heal them and that they have brothers and sisters who will pray for them. Well that part is true.

But today a lot of people think believing the Word of God is a preacher who stands up and says God is a Healer and they all say amen. The preacher says the Lord can save the sinner and they all say amen. Yes that's a *basic* portion of the Word but there are *many* whom the Lord will call *unbelievers*.

Those who say God is a Healer. Those who say we should be baptized in Jesus' name. [Matthew 7:22] They believe a lot of things that *are* true, but if they close their ear to what God is doing *in their day*, they are going to be in a lost state. [Matthew 7:23]

Now speaking about time, that's another big point. While Brother Jackson was alive, it was well known that we were looking for and preparing for the coming of the Lord. That must be first and foremost today. I want to be ready. *The bride hath made herself ready*. [Revelation 19:7] Praise the Lord.

I want to be ready on that day. I have mentioned before how I had a dream about the rapture. I thought I had been determined before I had that dream. Now I want to be there no matter what. If I realize that I have made a mistake in something, I prefer to swallow some pride and say I've made a mistake and get back on track because I want to be ready on that day.

Overall now, those who were followers of Brother Jackson are not looking at time. Even though the Lord himself said *you can look out and see the sky is red so it's going to be like this or like that the next day*. [Matthew 16:2] He said *but you cannot discern the time*. [Matthew 16:3]

To the Bride of Christ, that hasn't been taken from her heart. She knows that her Lord is coming soon and she needs to be ready. And really we need to be ready now. We are moving through the time of the Third Watch where it says on the chart *Fresh Living Word*.

We have to be *walking in that light* because once that angel comes down to judge, once that seventh seal is broken, it will be too late. [Revelation 10] Everyone will be judged based on how they received or did not receive: how they *increased* during this *Third Watch*.

While there are some who would say they have stayed where they are, really they have gone back. They went backwards and they have even lost things that were given in the *Second Watch*.

Brother Jackson preached on the *importance of revelation* in the 60s, in the 70s, in the 80s, in the 90s, and in the early 2000s. And now there are ministers who will look you straight in the eye and tell you that revelation is not that important. I have to say how can you have such valour? It reminds me of the same spirit that was on the serpent, he said *thou shall not surely die*. [Genesis 3:4] It's just an open statement that we are too focused on revelation, that it's not that important.

I have to say *revelation is absolutely important*. If we are called to be the Bride of Christ, he is going to share the things that are in his heart with his bride. Amen. Could it be any other way? We know it can't. The bride is going to be the *most spiritually illuminated people*. Praise the Lord. She *is the Bride of Christ*: there is no other that would be closer than the bride

Now let's continue to read.

Luke 12:40

Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Why is it an hour when they think not? It's because they have just lost the mouthpiece that the Lord was using. When Brother Branham passed, it was natural that they didn't expect the Lord to come and bring more: He had just taken Brother Branham home.

Brother Jackson passed. A couple years later, even three and four years later we were still looking back, thinking how wonderful it had been when Brother Jackson was here. Yes it had been wonderful. But the Lord came during that time.

We have read Luke 12:40 before. We used to think: oh this is the rapture. He's saying you don't know when he's going to come for the rapture. This is *not* speaking of the rapture because of how we now understand the previous verses.

Luke 12:37

Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

This is not his coming for the bride in the rapture. Further we see what Peter asked.

Luke 12:41

Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?

Peter could sense the application did not seem to be for his time so he had a question about it.

Luke 12:42

And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his Lord shall make ruler over his household,

He's saying that the one who is faithful and wise, the Lord is going to put him in place.

Luke 12:42

to give them their portion of meat in due season?

We have to understand that there was a portion of meat during the First Watch. There was a wise servant and wise servants during that first watch, and we know the Lord used one in particular: that was Brother Branham.

In the Second Watch he used Brother Jackson. What I want us to see is that there was a portion of meat for *that* season. He doesn't say here that he will just give them meat, he says he will give them *their portion*. There is a *portion* that has been reserved for *this Third Watch*. Praise the Lord.

In the natural we know the importance of fresh food, right? Amen. Even when it's only one day old, sometimes we don't want to eat it. We say it's losing its flavour. If you were to take a piece of meat and leave it out for a month, you better not eat it. Wouldn't it still have the same protein and the same iron? Yes it would still have all of that, but you know there would be something else in there.

Just like the manna: they were not allowed to keep it, but that's what they did at the beginning. Moses said *don't keep it* [Genesis 16:19] but they didn't listen: I better get a little extra because I don't know how much is going to be there tomorrow. They kept it and what happened the next day? *It stank and there were worms*, right? [Genesis 16:20]

Then Moses said *now on the sixth day get twice as much because I don't want you doing work on the seventh day.* [Genesis 16:23] They already knew from what had happened earlier that week when they had kept the manna: it stunk and there had been worms in it the next day. But since he told them *you get a double portion on the sixth day*, then on the seventh day they could actually eat of it. There was nothing wrong with it. [Genesis 16:24]

We know that in the natural we don't eat food that's a year old, right? We don't do that and we see that also in the spiritual. I mentioned on Thursday how I would go to the mailbox and it was a joy when I opened it up, praise the Lord, there was Contender number 98! Oh how wonderful!

We have a stack of Contenders here. I don't see us looking through them saying oh praise the Lord. Now if we have a question, if we are studying something that's related, I have to say yes it's still important, it's still a part of who we are.

For the time we are living in, it is *not* the Lord's will that we just go back and remind ourselves of what was brought. That's what the Branham movement has been doing for decades. They are preaching the same thing over and over again. They try to say it a little differently and it gets to the point that the motivator is really not the spiritual side of things. Now their motive is: do we have a nicer looking church? Do we have better musicians? We have a bigger program. We have more members. But as far as the truth of the Word: they are in darkness. It's their attitude toward the Word. They have closed it off.

There is a ministry as it says *to whom the Lord will give them their portion of meat in due season.* [Luke 12:42] We have to be awake, spiritually awake. We have to have an expectation. We have to be reading the Word. You may say: Brother I don't know what part of the Word to read. Well ask the Lord for help, but make sure you are reading. Amen. Make sure you are praying.

Not only are we living in an evil natural world, we also need the Lord to be leading us spiritually. We need to know that he has something for us today. We must want to receive that. We must want to be ready.

Once we get to the time of the breaking of the seventh seal, there will be no turning back. I want us to see the seriousness of the time because it *is* serious. It's not serious as in something to run from. We have already been called in so we are going to be there at that time whether we run from it or not. But there will be a beautiful part for those who are preparing themselves, for those who have been walking in the light of the Word, for those who have received what God has been giving in this Third Watch. There will be a recompense. Praise the Lord. Paul spoke of it as a reward. [1 Corinthians 3:8]

I have to say the Seventh Seal Time Factor is going to be a beautiful time for the Bride of Christ. While we are in this Third Watch there is still time if someone has been pulled to one side. We can still come back. God gives a certain space of time for that so we need to be ready. We have looked at the rapture before, but really we need to be ready before that, for this judgement.

I'm going to go ahead and close. Let's go ahead and pray.