
“NOW IS THE DAY”

Saturday, September 6, 2025 • Pastor David W. Kramer

INTRODUCTION:

- » **We are having a Minister's Council on Monday and Tuesday of next week.**
 - * **For the last 2 weeks I have been writing a paper on the Return of the Lord.**
 - * **I've been researching...studying...writing...re-writing.**
- » **Let me throw this in the mix: If you get tired of just reading your Bible everyday....**
 - * **Let me encourage you to pick a subject...**
 - * **And start doing a study on it.**
- » **How do I start? Use your smart phone...or computer...then simply type in the phrase....**
 - * **Scriptures about God's Love.**
 - * **Scriptures about God's Grace.**
 - * **Scriptures about forgiveness.**
- » **Then start reading those scriptures...wherever they may be in the Bible: OLD TESTAMENT and NEW TESTAMENT.**
 - * **And...start making some notes.**
 - * **Do some investigating....see what the words mean.**
 - * **It will give some PRACTICAL PURPOSE to your Scripture reading.**

» So...I've been studying and researching...and writing my proposal about the return of the Lord.

* Now...we have differing opinions about when the Lord returns.

* One thing I know for certain: The main thing to know about the return of the Lord is this:

* **Make sure you are saved!**

* Nothing else matters if you have not accepted Jesus as your Savior.

» As I was getting ready for bed on Thursday evening...

* I was listening to some old hymns on my phone...

* I picked up my Bible to read a little before bed....

* And I felt the Holy Spirit preparing me for receive a sermon.

» I have learned to keep pen and paper near...so that I don't forget.

* I opened my Bible to ISAIAH 55:6-11.

* I had these verses highlighted.

» ISAIAH 55:6-11,

**6 "Seek the Lord while He may be found,
Call upon Him while He is near.**

» This scripture really stood out to me.

* We often assume that we will always be able to find God.

- * Some of us have used that thinking to justify doing what we want to do....
 - * As opposed to what God wants us to do.
 - » But...how many can acknowledge that we are not guaranteed tomorrow?
 - * We watch the news...because we are old...
 - * We've seeing this story about a STREET CAR...
 - * In Lisbon...that crashed and upwards of 15 people were killed.
 - » When those people got on that streetcar..
 - * They didn't know that moments later...
 - * They would be dead.
 - » TELL YOUR NEIGHBOR: "Now is the time—to seek the Lord."
 - * Let's read that verse again.
- 6 *"Seek the Lord while He may be found,
Call upon Him while He is near.*
- 7 *Let the wicked forsake his way,
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
Let him return to the Lord,
And He will have mercy on him;
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.*
- » There's coming a day...when God won't be NEAR for some people.

- * In Genesis 6:3, *“And the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever...”*
- * It's not just enough to KNOW ABOUT GOD....
- * You have to DO SOMETHING about what you know.
- * You have to ACCEPT JESUS as your SAVIOR.

8 *“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord.*

» This verse should be life-changing to us as believers.

- * As I said earlier...I have been working for 2 weeks to understand God's Word better.
- * How many know it takes effort?
- * It's not as easy as just reading it....you have to BELIEVE IT and put it into PRACTICE.

» God's Word contains MYSTERIES....right?

- * Some of them haven't been revealed just yet.
- * Paul mentioned this concept in Ephesians 3 then he talked about the concept of Jews and Gentiles...
- * Being JOINTHEIRS with Jesus Christ.

» Paul says emphatically in Ephesians 3 that God opened up his understanding and MADE KNOWN TO HIM THE MYSTERY.

- * What was the mystery? That Gentiles could be saved....A RADICAL CONCEPT at the time.

- * Paul mentioned in verse 5 that this MYSTERY or Divine Revelation...
- * Was not made known in other ages.
- » My point is this: I MAY NOT UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING....ABOUT EVERYTHING....
- * Why? Because God's WAYS ARE HIGHER THAN MY WAYS.
- * His thoughts...are not equal to MY THOUGHTS!
- * I don't have to completely understand...in order to believe.
- * I just have to KNOW THAT GOD SAID IT.
- » In Hebrews 11—which we call the FAITH CHAPTER....
- * The Bible says that Abraham obeyed God...and he went, *not knowing where he was going.*
- » I don't know about you...but I like to KNOW....before I start out.
- * Alecia gets perturbed at me because I don't HAVE BLIND faith...
- * In our CAR'S NAVIGATION SYSTEM.
- * I don't trust it.
- » I like to know where I am going....
- 9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts.

10 *“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,*

11 *So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”*

» I love that last verse....there's a Black Gospel song that says: “If God said it...I believe it!”

* God's not talking just to hear Himself talk.

* If God said it....IN HIS WORD...then there is a purpose for what He said.

* And the scripture says: IT SHALL ACCOMPLICE WHAT I PLEASE.

» Notice the last phrase of Verse 11: *“And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”*

* Consider this interpretation: Young's Literal Translation
“So is My word that goeth out of My mouth, It turneth not back unto Me empty, But hath done that which I desired, And prosperously effected that for which I sent it,”

* This scripture tells me that GOD'S WORD HAS POWER!

* I like the visual image of God SENDING HIS WORD...

- » **How many know that When God speaks...THINGS HAPPEN.**
 - * **He spoke the World into existence.**
 - * **John chapter 1 tells us that Jesus spoke everything we see into existence.**
 - * **God's Word has power!**

- » **I'm saying all of this to make this point: "Now is the Day" to serve Jesus...**
 - * **With all of your strength!**
 - * **Why? Because TIME IS RUNNING SHORT.**
 - * **We are not promised tomorrow.**
 - * **If we truly believe what God said...and we just read He said it for a reason...**
 - * **Then it's time that YOU AND I GET BUSY about what God Tells us to do.**

- » **Did you know that there will come a time when WHAT YOU ARE...is WHAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO BE?**
 - * **There's a scripture in **REVELATION 22:11** which we should all make ourselves aware of.**
 - * **That scripture says: *"He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."***

- » **Right now you and I are living in the GRACE DISPENSATION...**

- * Which means...if we call out to God as a sinner...we have ACCESS TO GRACE...
- * And the forgiveness of our sins.
- * All we have to do is confess...repent...and we can become a believer.
- » That scripture in Revelation 22:11 tells us that we won't always have that option.
- * When does the GRACE DISPENSATION END?
- * In the middle of the last 7 years...when the WRATH DISPENSATION BEGINS.
- * That's time when God pours out His wrath upon the earth for a period of 3 ½ years.
- * We are not at that point just yet.
- * But remember...WE ARE NOT GUARANTEED another day.
- » If you were to die in your sleep tonight...
- * Would you be spending eternity with Jesus?
- * Would there be things that you regret not doing?
- * You still have an opportunity to do those things....
- * Because you still have breath in your body.
- » I want to conclude today by reading from the Last Chapter in the Bible.
- * That's REVELATION 22 and we want to read verses 12-17.

- * Before we read this passage....I want you to OPEN YOUR EARS.
- * I want you to ABSORB EVERY WORD.
- * HUMOR: I know your hungry...You're thinking if HE SHUTS UP NOW....we can get to the restaurant before the ADVENTISTS.
- * I remember thinking that on Saturday Mornings as well.
- » But remember....We've already acknowledged that EVERY WORD GOD SAID...
- * Was said for a purpose...
- * His Words have meaning....a job to do.
- » As we read this passage today....
- * I want you to VISUALIZE that God is speaking directly to you.
- * This sermon today isn't for the person...who isn't here.
- * This sermon is for you and I.
- * I want you to VISUALIZE Jesus speaking these words to you.
- » REVELATION 22:12-17, (this is Jesus speaking):
 - 12 *"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.*
 - 13 *I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."*

14 *Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.*

15 *But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.*

16 *"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."*

17 *And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."*

» **When I wrote this sermon yesterday...I found myself in tears.**

* I realized the **GREAT OPPORTUNITY** that I have been given.

* I realized the **JOY AND LOVE** that I have experienced because God is in my life.

* **I love the last word in verse 17: FREELY.**

* I've done nothing...to deserve God's benefits...yet He let's me access Him...freely.

» **As I was finishing the sermon...I asked God for one more scripture.**

* I flipped my Bible...and landed on a scripture that has given me much peace in my life. (I posted a copy in your bulletin)

* **ISAIAH 25:9,**

" And it will be said in that day:

"Behold, this is our God;

We have waited for Him, and He will save us.

This is the Lord;

We have waited for Him;

We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

