"The work of the people of God is to prepare for the events of the future, which will soon come upon them with blinding force."

2 Selected Messages – 142
At Mission World, we are viewing expectantly the steady trend of world events and the rapid fulfillment of end-time prophecy. We believe that prophecy is sure and that sooner than many suppose, the end will come and Christ will return.

“Unless we understand the importance of the moments that are swiftly passing into eternity, and make ready to stand in the great day of God, we shall be unfaithful stewards. The watchman is to know the time of night. Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth for this time should realize. They should act in reference to the day of God. The judgments of God are about to fall upon the world, and we need to be preparing for that great day.”

6 Testimonies, page 407

It is not our intent in this little booklet to frighten anyone, but to enlighten and encourage those who are “wise to the times.” Of course, we understand the primacy of spiritual preparation, but we believe too many are neglecting another preparation, namely, physical and financial. Perhaps Jesus’ words express these feelings best: “These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.” Matthew 23:23

It is not our purpose in this brief paper to address the area of spiritual preparation (an abundance of instruction is already available). We rather purpose here to offer some simple steps that you and your family may wish to take in preparation for the difficult times ahead.

It is the sincere wish of this Ministry that God will, in His infinite wisdom, direct you and your loved ones. Our prayer is that your preparation will be complete in Jesus Christ during our remaining days here below and for the lengthened days of eternity above.

The Management and Staff of Mission World

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GET READY! GET READY! GET READY!

In Jesus’ own words, most of those living at the end will be taken by surprise and lose eternal life: “But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be... But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.” Matthew 24:37-44

“God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that His people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter His faithful ones in the day of trouble.” 5 Testimonies - 452

“I saw that the remnant were not prepared for what is coming upon the earth. Stupidity, like lethargy, seemed to hang upon the minds of most of those who profess to believe that we are having the last message. My accompanying angel cried out with awful solemnity, Get ready! get ready! get ready! for the fierce anger of the Lord is soon to come. His wrath is to be poured out, unmixed with mercy, and ye are not ready.”

Early Writings - 119

“I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis.” Country Living - 21
GET READY FOR THE EARLY TIME OF TROUBLE

“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”
Matthew 24: 7, 8

Earth’s decisive struggle between good and evil, often referred to as the time of trouble, will be marked with intensity and sorrow.

“In the great final conflict, Satan will employ the same policy, manifest the same spirit, and work for the same end as in all preceding ages. That which has been, will be, except that the coming struggle will be marked with a terrible intensity such as the world has never witnessed.”
Great Controversy - xi

“It is often the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal.”
Great Controversy - 622

Inspired instruction is furnished so suffering and sorrow for God’s people might be minimized. While those obedient to God’s commandments can expect persecution and mistreatment at the hands of the ungodly, they (God’s people) are not to senselessly invite suffering and hardship. They are to understand that God’s judgments as well as Satan’s wrath are coming upon the earth.

“Transgression has almost reached its limit. Confusion fills the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise.”
8 Testimonies - 28
While judgments and troubles are to be expected from the commencement of the time of trouble, we understand that a measure of protection will be afforded God’s obedient children, while the “Loud Cry” of the Three Angels is sounding. Thus a period of measured grace precedes the close of probation.

“The commencement of that time of trouble, does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the sanctuary. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel.”

_Early Writings - 85_

As the work of character development and witnessing go forward during the early time of trouble, certain matters relating to personal preparation will then be impossible to pursue. Spiritual readiness and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit must be accomplished before the awful surprise that startles both the Wise and Foolish Virgins. Jesus clearly states of the Foolish Virgins, “While they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut”.

_Matthew 25:10_

_Just so, foolish, sleeping church members will find their efforts to prepare physically and financially, futile._

“In the time of trouble it (their property) would come up before them like a mountain to crush them, and they would try to dispose of it, but would not be able. I heard some mourn like this . . . now our property is useless.”

_Early Writings - 57_

The simple diagram provided opposite this page will help you visualize various degrees of intensity encompassed by the expression “time of trouble”.
### Troublesome Times Ahead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Early” or “Little” Time of Trouble</th>
<th>“Great” Time of Trouble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Angels’ Messages Sounding</td>
<td>7 Last Plagues Pouring Out</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**For this time you are instructed to make some preparation and provision!**

“For this reason I see the necessity of the people of God moving out of the cities into retired country (places), where they may cultivate the land and raise their own produce … *I see the necessity of making haste to get all things ready for the crisis.*”

–*Country Living*, page 21

**For this time you are to make no provision!**

“The Lord has shown me repeatedly that it is contrary to the Bible to make any provision for our temporal wants in the time of trouble … *Then will be the time for us to trust wholly in God, and He will sustain us.*”

–*Early Writings*, page 56
COUNSEL: LEAVE THE LARGE CITIES

This nation (America) is to suffer increasingly severe judgments, especially upon its large cities:

"The time is near when the large cities will be visited by the judgments of God. In a little while, these cities will be terribly shaken."

7 Testimonies - 83

"Erelong there will be such strife and confusion in the cities, that those who wish to leave them will not be able. We must be preparing for these issues. This is the light that is given me."

General Conference Bulletin, April 6, 1903

"If in the providence of God we can secure places away from the cities, the Lord would have us do this. There are troubled times before us."

2 Selected Messages - 359

"This experience of the Israelites was written for the instruction of those who should live in the last days. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry... Get out of the large cities as fast as possible."

6 Testimonies - 195

"For this reason I see the necessity of the people of God moving out of the cities into retired country (places) where they may cultivate the land and raise their own produce."

Country Living - 21

"A great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise."

8 Testimonies - 28

"Remember Lot's wife".

Luke 17:32
"There is need, great need, of this work being done, and now. Those who have felt at last to make a move, let it not be in a rush, in an excitement, or in a rash manner, or in a way that hereafter they will deeply regret that they did move out... Should some move hastily... and be brought into discouragement, they will reflect, not upon themselves for moving unadvisedly, but upon others who, they will charge, brought a pressure to bear upon them. All their discomfiture and defeat are charged back upon those who should not be reflected upon... Let everyone take time to consider carefully; and not be like the man in the parable who began to build, and was not able to finish. Not a move should be made but that movement and all that it portends are carefully considered — everything weighed...

"Now I plead with every soul to look not too strongly and confidently to human counselors, but look most earnestly to God, the One wise in counsel. Submit all your ways and your will to God’s ways and to God’s will. Spread every plan before God with fasting, (and) with the humbling of the soul before the Lord Jesus, and commit thy ways unto the Lord. The sure promise is, He will direct thy paths. He is infinite in resources."

Country Living - 25-28

"During the night season I was pleading with some families to avail themselves of God’s appointed means, and get away from the cities... Some were loitering, making no determined efforts. The angels of mercy hurried Lot and his wife and daughters by taking hold of their hands. Had Lot hastened as the Lord desired him to, his wife would not have become a pillar of salt. Lot had too much of a lingering spirit... Those who obey this warning will find a refuge. Let every man be wide awake for himself, and try to save his family... God will reveal from point to point what to do next.”

2 Selected Messages - 354
**Finding the Property**

“Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together”...*Country Living* -10

“We are not to locate ourselves where we will be forced into close relations with those who do not honor God... A crisis is soon to come in regard to the observance of Sunday... And we are to be careful not to place ourselves where it will be hard for ourselves and our children to keep the Sabbath.

If in the providence of God we can secure places away from the cities, the Lord would have us do this. *There are troublous times before us.*” *Country Living* - 20

“The time is fast coming when the controlling power of the labor unions will be very oppressive... Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies.”

*Country Living* -9, 10

“Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, *where they can raise their own provisions*...”

*Country Living* - 9

“Purchase a little piece of land, where you can have a garden.”

*Country Living* - 17

“Parents should get as suitable a place as their means will allow. Though the dwelling may be small, yet there should be land in connection with it, that may be cultivated... God will help His people to find such homes outside the cities.”

*Country Living* - 24
CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Checklist, circle plus (+) or minus (-) below.

☐ CLIMATE
  + - Too cold?
  + - Too hot?
  + - Tolerable when you can't afford utilities?

☐ WATER ON PROPERTY
  + - Surface stream or spring?
  + - Ample sweet well water, not too deep?

☐ GARDEN SITE
  + - Cleared for full sunshine?
  + - Good soil? Too much rock or clay?
  + - Site too low, too wet?
  + - Site too high, too dry?
  + - Fruit trees or berries already growing?

☐ HOUSE
  + - Livable, minimal repairs?
  + - A degree of privacy?

☐ WOOD FOR COOKING AND HEATING
  + - 3 year supply available? Or,
  + - Ample wood nearby and free?
    (Remember, you will soon “tote” wood!)

☐ PROXIMITY TO NEIGHBORS
  + - A few Adventist friends?
  + - A few non-hostile neighbors in area?
    (Some rural areas are very suspicious of newcomers, outsiders, etc.)

☐ EASEMENTS
  + - Large power lines or pipe lines?
  + - Public roads or driveways cross property?

☐ PURCHASE PRICE
  + - Can you purchase outright?
GET READY TO GARDEN

Checklist, things to do and purchase.

☐ Visit your County Agent and collect free garden information and inquire about soil test.

☐ Soil test – add lime if necessary, (simple, inexpensive but very important!)

☐ Plow or till to kill weeds. Sow cover crop (rye, clover, vetch, etc.) to improve soil.

☐ Purchase 2 or more easy to read, illustrated “How to Garden” books. (inquire at Countdown)

☐ Purchase and keep safe, quality hand tools.
  ☐ rake(s)
  ☐ hoe(s)
  ☐ pick or mattock

Optional
  ☐ wheel hoe
  ☐ pipe for irrigation

☐ Minimum 10-12 bags of commercial fertilizer
  ☐ 8-8-8 with trace minerals or
  ☐ 13-13-13 with trace minerals (preferred)
    * Should be wrapped in plastic and kept dry!

☐ Miraclegrow (K-Mart brand costs less)
  * 2 plus containers

☐ Loads of manure if locally available
  * spread over garden and turn under or
    keep close to garden and use as needed.

☐ Purchase Sevin Dust, 5% (safest insecticide)
  (4) 25 lb. bags or (2) 50 lb. bags

☐ Purchase Seeds that grow well in your area
  * Some seeds remain viable (longer shelf life) longer than others!
  * Vacuum-packed seeds remain viable longer.
  * Purchase some non-hybridized varieties.
  * Purchase a 2 year supply and renew the supply if necessary to keep fresh.
  * Keep seeds from humidity and pests.
CHECKLIST, things to purchase and do.

- Purchase good heavy, plate-steel wood stove WITH COOKING SURFACE.
  * Fire-brick lined if possible
  * Large enough to heat your home
  * Don’t be fooled by gadgetry or prettiness, you need a stove that will work long and hard enough to heat water and your house.

- Purchase and store 1 or 2 complete sets of interior chimney pipe (elbows, joints, etc).
  * This is important!

- Purchase 1 or 2 good quality axes.

- Purchase 1 or 2 good wood-splitting mauls.
  * Extra handles!!!
  * Crosscut saw or chain saws are optional.
  (extra chains, files, plugs, outboard oil and a drum of gas will be priceless.)

- You need shed or tarp to keep firewood dry.

- Purchase candles and/or oil lamps.

- 6-pak or more of disposable cigarette lighters

- Set of cast-iron cooking utensils is great for wood stove use.

- Purchase canning jars and extra lids
  * Remember, limited freezing without electric.
  * Extra lids and rings for jars in this ratio
    Per 100 jars/you need 100 rings/300 lids

- Purchase quality pressure canner with extra sealing rings.

- Purchase a hand powered mill for grinding flour or meal.

- 24 plus cartons of salt for canning, etc.
CLOTHING CHECK-LIST

“A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.” Proverbs 22:3

☑ Checklist, practicality is a virtue here!
☐ Purchase extra, seasonal underwear
   * insulated if necessary

☐ Extra work jeans or practical coveralls
☐ Plenty of socks
☐ Durable, practical shoes (very important!!)
☐ Gloves for work and warmth
☐ Stocking caps, winter hats and boots
☐ Extra clothing and linens to share with others
   * Coats, sweaters
   * Sheets, pillows
   * Towels
   * Blankets
   * Sleeping bags

Remember, if you make this preparation, you may be the only person in your family who may be ready to help those who made no preparation.

Be ready to ration and otherwise control your provisions. Be prepared to withstand selfishness, even on the part of family members!

“A man’s foes shall be they of his own household. Ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends.” Matthew 10:36 and Luke 21:16
TOILETRIES CHECK-LIST, A WORD TO THE WISE . . .

Without question, God’s people will be required to live under very primitive conditions before Christ returns. During the early time of trouble however, God’s people must be witnessing. It is difficult to imagine anyone witnessing to others without soap to bathe or shampoo for grooming; without clean clothes or without deodorant!

Some toiletries may be considered luxuries, while some are necessities! Reasonable persons will recognize the importance of some preparation for the early time of trouble. A few dollars spent prudently now may, early in the crisis, allow some to live as “kings and queens”.

☑ Checklist, things you may wish to purchase.

☐ Soaps
☐ Concentrated detergent for washing clothes
☐ Bath bars
☐ All purpose bars of Octagon soap
☐ Concentrated shampoo and conditioners
☐ Dishwashing liquid
☐ Bleach (generic brand costs less)

☐ First Aid
☐ Quality first aid kit
☐ Merthiolate or iodine
☐ Alcohol
☐ Peroxide
☐ Aspirin (or aspirin substitute)

☐ Personal Hygiene
☐ Toilet Tissue
☐ Toothpaste & brushes
☐ Deodorant
☐ Disposable razors
☐ Shaving cream
☐ Sanitary napkins

☐ Health Maintenance
☐ Vitamin and mineral supplements
☐ Dried foods

“Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge?”

Proverbs 22:20
YOUR MONEY AND THE FUTURE

As Creator, God is Owner. “The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts.” Haggai 2:8 And, “Thou shalt remember the Lord thy God” for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth.” Deuteronomy 8:18

As to the wealth entrusted to you and for which you shall give account in the judgment, God has not left you ignorant:

SUDDEN CHANGES ARE COMING

“Money will soon depreciate in value very suddenly when the reality of eternal scenes opens to the senses of man.”

Evangelism - 63

DON’T HOARD WEALTH

Hoarded wealth will soon be worthless. When the decree shall go forth that none shall buy or sell except they have the mark of the beast, very much means will be of no avail.”

Review & Herald 3-21-1878, p. 91

THIS MAY BE THE TIME TO SELL

“The time is coming when we cannot sell at any price... In the time of trouble it (their property) would come up before them like a mountain to crush them, and they would try to dispose of it, but would not be able. I heard some mourn like this... now our property is useless.”

5 Testimonies - 152 & Early Writings - 57

SOON EVERY MEANS OF SUPPORT WILL VANISH

“In the last great conflict in the controversy with Satan those who are loyal to God will see every earthly support cut off. Because they refuse to break His law in obedience to earthly powers, they will be forbidden to buy or sell.”

Desire of Ages - 121, 122
YOUR MONEY AND THE FUTURE, CONT'D.

MAKE A COMMITMENT TO SACRIFICE

"I was shown that it is the will of God that the saints should cut loose from every encumbrance before the time of trouble comes, and make a covenant with God through sacrifice ... The mighty shaking has commenced and will go on, and all will be shaken out who are not willing to take a bold and unyielding stand for the truth and to sacrifice for God and His cause. The angel said, 'Think ye that any will be compelled to sacrifice? No, no. It must be a free-will offering.'" Early Writings - 57, 50

AVOID DEBT

"Deny yourself a thousand things rather than run in debt ... Avoid it as you would the smallpox ... Pay your debts and then owe no man anything if you live on porridge and bread ... Deny your taste, deny the indulgence of appetite, save your pence and pay your debts. Work them off as fast as possible. When you can stand forth a free man again, owing no man anything, you will have achieved a great victory."

Counsels on Stewardship - 257

PRAY FOR WISDOM

"If they have their property on the altar and earnestly inquire of God for duty, He will teach them when to dispose of these things. Then they will be free in the time of trouble and have no clogs to weigh them down." Early Writings - 57

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 3:6

Remember, what goes up, comes down! The Stock Market, gold, silver and other speculative investments may rise very quickly but God's unfailing Word declares that they will fall even more quickly. Certain investments may not be in God's best interest now!!!
GET READY TO WITNESS

As troubles increase and earth’s final crisis deepens, millions will be searching for answers. Today God’s people have unique opportunities for witnessing. To us has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. Filled with the promised “latter rain” of the Holy Spirit, thousands will soon proclaim the truth for this time—the first, second, and third angels’ messages of Revelation chapter 14!

God’s people have been asleep, as it were, regarding the work that may be accomplished by the circulation of well-prepared literature. Present-truth publications and electronic media should go everywhere. Christians need to understand their God-given duty. With Christ-centered books and the use of modern communications, the gospel of present truth can quickly reach every home, and especially millions living in the large cities.

At Mission World, we believe this time has come and we are striving to obey this call. We have attractive, affordable publications to offer God’s people and the world. We are developing new publications and witnessing tools to meet the needs of a judgment-bound world. This Ministry solicits your prayers, and deserves your financial support. We believe time is very short and there is still much work yet to be done.

“See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”
Ephesians 5:15, 16

The Management and Staff of Mission World

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