You know dear friends as I speak to you

here this morning, all of you are well

aware the course of the last several

weeks we have experienced unprecedented

events throughout the world which have

caused thousands of deaths related to

the COVID-19 virus it has left many

people asking the question what in the

world is going on and governments around

the world have been left moving

frantically trying to mediate the

effects of this virus and through a

variety of plans the principles have

come out that are quite simple wash your

hands often keep distance stay home if

you're sick

and clean and disinfect overwhelmingly

most people have followed this counsel

by understanding the danger and heeded

the warning and prepared for the time

however there have been some who have

decided a very different path they've

decided not to heed the warning some who

have said wow we'll just go to the

beaches and droves others who have

ignored it and some just to be seemingly

carelessly oblivious to the realities

that we are now dealing and I must

wonder today I must wonder aloud could

it be that this corona virus pandemic

may teach us something may teach us

something of a critical message about

our own spiritual journey and the times

in which we live today we will see that

the Scriptures clearly teach God has an

appointed time an appointed time for the

return of his son Jesus when Jesus will

break forth through the clouds in glory

and at that time the appointed time he

will bring an end to all sin suffering

and pain and disease and the reality is

he has appointed you

to be an instrument to share that story

that Jesus desires when he comes at the

appointed time to take us to our

appointed home but the question that we

will wrestle with this morning and the

question remains will we accept what

Jesus has done all that he is doing and

all that he will do or will we reject

the warnings will we ignore the warnings

or will we just seemingly be carelessly

oblivious to the warnings that he has

given will we go on just living life as

usual as we study God's Word today I

think it's important that we pray again

and ask God to reveal to us the

importance of what he is trying to say

let's pray Heavenly Father as we spend

the next few moments in your word we

want to understand what you are doing we

want to understand what you're trying to

teach us and I pray Lord that as I speak

I don't speak my own opinions and my own

philosophical ideologies but rather Lord

I would speak in accordance with what

you have spoken to me and lord help us

as we study to take heed to the counsel

that you give we pray this in Jesus name

Amen so what is this appointed time that

I've referred to and is the title of my

message over 35 times in the New King

James Version of the Bible the phrase

the appointed time appears it is a key

phrase in the Old Testament it is based

on the Hebrew word mou ad in the New

Testament it's based on the Greek word

Kairos literally it could be translated

a set time a determined time a fixed

time an appointed sign or a decisive

moment but most importantly the key

meaning behind this phrase the appointed

time is this an appointed time in the

purpose of God a time that

God uses to accomplish his purpose and

throughout the Bible we read about God's

appointed times his decisive moments

where he was determined to bring about

his purpose you can read about them on

your own but when you read the Bible

stories the Bible refers to the

appointed times when the angels would

return and Sarah would be with child it

refers to the appointed time in which

the children of Israel would leave Egypt

it also refers to the appointed time in

which God called upon the children of

Israel to wait upon the Lord

there was an appointed time for the

exile out of Babylon there was an

appointed time for the baptism of Jesus

Christ an appointed time for the death

of Jesus Christ and what we will look at

today there is an appointed time in

which Jesus is coming and he's coming

soon and his call today is for each of

us to be in tune and aware of that

coming that we night might not be caught

unprepared throughout the Scriptures God

has appointed times to bring about his

purpose and I don't want you to miss

this point the more imminent the more

close that appointed time is coming the

more important it is to understand that

appointed time and respond to it you see

too often mankind finds himself or

herself in a position where we put off

God's appointed times the Bible speaks

of this and it's most classically seen

in the book of Acts chapter 24 and verse

25 Felix as he was having the gospel

preached and explained to him by the

Apostle Paul said these words to Paul go

away from me now when I have a

convenient time I will call upon you. You

see I want you to notice the difference.

You see God had an appointed time Felix

wanted a convenient time God's appointed

times do not always come or work at our

time of convenience but they work at his

appointed time in the master plan of

saving the universe and more importantly

they work at times in which God is

trying to save you as an individual I

want you to think back over the course

of your own life think back over the

course of your own story. Story. What have

been those moments what has been God's

appointed times in your own life for me

it is frankly overwhelming as I consider

my own story appointed times where had I

not been open to those appointed times

and God's leading I fear for what my

life would have been in fact I am quite

certain that had I not been open to

God's appointed times in my life as a

young man I wouldn't really have much to

consider there wouldn't be much to

consider about my life because I am

convinced

had I not responded to those appointed

times I wouldn't have a life you see we

must understand Indy's a point appointed

times the Bible never uses the phrase

the appointed comfortable times

sometimes may be often the appointed

time comes at an inconvenient or an

uncomfortable time in our lives we might

ask the children of Israel about this

you see Jeremiah predicted there was

trouble coming from the north and at an

appointed time the Babylonians would

come I wonder if you would have asked

the children of Israel how comfortable

and convenient it was to be taken

captive by Babylon yet it was God's

appointed time he utilized the captivity

in Babylon to draw his people

back to him but what we must understand

my dear friends and don't miss out on

this even in the most uncomfortable of

moments of appointed times don't miss

this

God is for you you see friends it may

not seem so there may be appointed times

where you don't feel like God is for you

because that appointed time has brought

up a great deal of discomfort in your

life it's brought about a great deal of

inconvenience in your life and even you

might feel that in this appointed time

that God is against you God has come

against you God is cursing you but what

we need to know is the promise of the

Bible you see the promise of the Bible

is clear it is clear in both the Old and

New Testament the Apostle Paul writing

to the Roman Church in Romans chapter 8

and verse 31 said if God is for us who

can be against us and then the psalmist

in psalm 118 in psalm 118 and verse 6

the psalmist wrote these words the Lord

is on my side and I will not fear what

can man do to me and to make this

relevant in the 21st century in 2020 in

the midst of coronavirus the Bible says

the Lord is on my side I will not fear

what can COVID-19 do to me now don't

misunderstand don't take that to a

logical and rather an illogical

conclusion that's not to say that we

disregard the science and we aren't

careful that is to say that even if you

contracted COVID-19 even if you followed

all the practices and you contracted

COVID-19 even if you became so sick that

god forbid this would happen that you

might die or a loved one died what is it

that this virus has done to you it's

only taken your temper

life the Bible is quite clear that God

is in heaven preparing a place an

appointed place where he will send his

son at the appointed time to come and

take you to that appointed place in time

my dear friends don't misunderstand you

see God is for us even in an appointed

time when things are happening in our

life and things aren't going our way and

things aren't going like we want it to

go it's inconvenient it's brought a

disruption God has a point at times in

which he is attempting to bring about

his purpose in your life and he is

calling upon you in these appointed time

he wants you to respond he has a message

of hope to give to you and in turn that

message of hope that he gives to you

that you can share with your friends and

family and neighbors that at this time

where the whole world is trembling in

fear you are not fearful, but you are

trusting in a most holy God who is

leading you. You see this message of Hope

is so vital especially in this time of

isolation and Quarantine God is doing

everything he can God is doing

everything he can to take you to your

appointed home which is heaven and I

will tell you that is a message that is

drastically different than other

Christians are proclaiming there are

some that are proclaiming this idea that

God is doing all he can to keep people

out of heaven well we have a message

that God what God has done what he is

doing and what he will do to take and

lead as many people as possible to

heaven and to help illustrate that point

and to help bring home the point of the

appointed time I want us to turn to a

very familiar book The Book of Daniel

there in the Book of Daniel I want to

share with you something I had never

noticed in over 20 years of studying the

passages of the Book of Daniel I had

never noticed there in Daniel chapter 8

a familiar story to you I'm sure Daniel

the Hebrew captive in Babylon receives a

message from God and be

beginning in verse one and again friends

if you don't have a Bible I would

encourage you to go online and look at a

Bible, biblegateway.com, go on your phone

download the “Youversion” app of the Bible

so you have a Bible and if you would

like a Bible in print and you don't have

one you leave a message right now

whether you're watching in Facebook or

YouTube we want to make sure that we put

a Bible in your hands

Daniel chapter 8 and verse 1 in the

third year of the reign of King

Belshazzar a vision appeared to me to me

Daniel after the one that appeared to me

the first time I saw in a vision and it

so happened while I was looking that I

was at Shushan the citadel which is in

the province of Elam and I saw in a

vision that I was by the river a lie

that I lifted my eyes and saw and there

was standing before the river was a ram

which had two horns and the two horns

were high but one was higher than

another and the higher one came up last

I saw the RAM pushing westward and

northward and southward so that no

animal could withstand him nor was there

any that could deliver from his hand but

he did according to his will and became

great and as I was considering suddenly

a male goat came from the West across

the surface of the whole earth without

touching the ground and the goat had a

notable horn between his eyes then he

came to the RAM that had two horns which

I had seen standing by the river and ran

at him with furious power and I saw him

come close to the RAM and he was moved

with rage against him attacked the RAM

and broke his two horns there was no

excuse me there was no power in the RAM

to withstand him but he cast him to the

ground and trampled on him and there was

no one that could deliver the RAM from

his hand

therefore the male goat grew very great

but when he became strong the large horn

was broken and in place of it four

notable ones came up toward the four

winds of heaven and out of one of them

came a little horn which grew

exceedingly great toward the south and

toward the east and toward the glorious

land and it grew up to the hosts of

heaven at casa

some of the hosts and some of the stars

to the ground and trampled them

he even exalted himself as high as the

Prince of the host and by him the daily

sacrifices were taken away and the place

of his sanctuary was cast down because

of transgression an army was given over

to the horn to oppose the daily

sacrifices and he cast truth to the

ground he did all of this and in

prospered friend I want you to imagine

for a moment that you were Daniel I want

you to imagine I want you to imagine for

a moment that you were seeing this

amazing vision a vision of a ram and a

goat I want you to put yourself in the

place of Daniel a Hebrew captive in

Babylon

so while Daniel was seeing these things

I want you to understand the context

Daniel would not have been taken by

surprise by all of this Daniel had been

given the dream of Daniel to first given

to Nebuchadnezzar but then given to

Daniel. Daniel had been given the vision

of Daniel chapter 7 and in each of those

Daniel had been given an overview and

oversight of the nations of the earth

you'll remember and we don't have time

to study through the entirety of the

Book of Daniel I would encourage you to

go to Hope lives

Bible study calm and there you can sign

up for a class unsealing Daniels

mysteries with Pastor Mark Finlay which

gets into the details of Daniel two

seven and eight but for the purposes of

our study this morning you'll remember

in Daniel chapter 2 Daniel saw an image

an image with the highest value of metal

at the top and lowest value of metal at

the bottom but with the greatest

strength excuse me

with the lowest strength of metal at the

top and the greatest strength of metal

at the bottom the head of gold

represented Babylon the chest of an arms

of silver medo-persia the midsection of

brass or bronze as Greece the legs of

iron Rome and the feet of iron and claim

clay a divided Rome in Daniel chapter 2

is established a pattern of Bible

prophecy that is a pattern that goes

throughout the entirety of the

Scriptures especially important to

interpretation of Daniel and revelation

and it is simply this nation's judgment

second coming in Daniel chapter 7 Daniel

receives another dream this dream though

is a dream of beasts but these beasts

outlined the same principle nations

judgment second coming God is using a

very familiar principle with Daniel

Daniel was a Hebrew he was a thinker of

the east and they would have been

familiar with a principle called

recapitulation or repeat and enlarge

it's very common it throughout the Bible

the Psalms are the probably the greatest

example of this recapitulation but a

very familiar Psalm think about how that

is and by the way what is recapitulation

is simply something that is repeated and

enlarged it's something that has said a

second time with more details so for

example Psalm 51 a very familiar Psalm

what's the first thing that says that it

says create in me a clean heart O God

and then that's repeated how is it

repeated and renew a right spirit within

me what is it doing it's making a

statement then making a second statement

that is identical but telling you how

that clean heart is created through the

renewal of a right spirit and so in the

Book of Daniel we have this

recapitulation that occurs in Daniel 2

Daniel 7 Daniel 8 and 9 and then Daniels

10 and not Daniels there's only one

Daniel. Daniel 10 through 12 four times

in the Book of Daniel where the same

sequence is outlined with greater detail

then the Bible goes on in Daniel chapter

8 beginning in verse 13 then I heard

Holy Ones speaking and another holy once

said to that certain one who was

speaking how long will this vision be

concerning the daily sacrifices and the

transgression of desolation and the

giving the giving of both the sanctuary

and the host to be trampled underfoot

and he said to me 2300 days

then the sanctuary shall be cleansed now

I want you to think of the simple

outline here Daniel sees two beasts a

large horn four horns a little horn and

then the 2300 day prophecy what's going

on here well in the earlier prophecies

Daniel was shown the pattern nation's

judgment Second Coming so what should we

expect in Daniel chapter 8 what we would

expect the same thing and in fact we

don't need to wonder because in Daniel

chapter 8 verse 15 the angel continues

then it happened when I Daniel had seen

the vision and was seeking the meaning

that suddenly there stood before me one

having the appearance of a man and I

heard a man's voice between the banks of

the Eloi who called and said Gabriel

make this man understand the vision so

he came near where I stood and when I

came I was afraid and fell on my face

but he said to me understand Son of Man

the vision refers to the time of the end

now as he was speaking with me I was in

a deep sleep in my face to the ground

with my face to the ground but he

touched me and I he touched me and

stood me up right and he said look I am

making known to you what shall happen in

the latter time of ignant-- indignation

for at the appointed time the end shall

be now I'm going to come back to this

verse in just a moment because it's

something I had never noticed before in

20 years of studying the Book of Daniel

but I want to continue on in the in

these verses to kind of finish off so I

don't leave you hanging on what's going

on here the angel continues there

continued the RAM which you saw having

two horns they are the kings of media

and Persia and the male goat is the

kingdom of Greece the large horn that is

between his eyes is the first king as

for the broken horn and the four that

stood up in its place four kingdoms

shall arise out of that nation but not

with its power you see an understanding

Daniel chapter 8 we have the same

pattern of Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 Nations

judgment second coming now someone may

say why Babylon is not there you are

absolutely correct

then the reason for that is under the

reign of Belshazzar Babylon was coming

to an end and no longer significant or

relevant in the prophetic timeline now

what became much more relevant to Daniel

and his people was medo-persia or the

kingdom of Persia and the kingdom of

Greece and then the kingdom of Rome and

so we see the RAM is medo-persia the

goat is Greece we don't need to guess we

don't need to prognosticate because the

Bible is quite clear in identifying

those two the notable horn was the first

king of Greece and what notable person

would we find as the first king of the

kingdom of Greece that would be none

other than Alexander the Great a young

boy by the way a young boy who grew up

in Macedonia who was there when the

Persians would invade Macedonia and

decimate the people a young boy who

would remember the brutality of the

Persians and so when the Bible describes

the action of the of this goat as it

comes across to defeat the RAM that is

in fact how Alexander the Great

conquered Persia with a mighty army an

army often much smaller than the Persian

armies but with a goal and more than a

goal Alexander the Great was God's

appointed vessel of conquering the known

world with absolute precision the

properties see predicted that Greece

would not rule forever but would be

divided into four and historically

Greece was divided into four: Ptolemy,

Cassander, Lysimachus, and Seleucus. Why did

this happen because as Alexander lay on

his deathbed and his generals Cassander

Ptolemy, Lysimachus, and Seleucus scam to

him they said Alexander who will inherit

the kingdom who will rule over Greece

and in those famous words Alexander

Alexander simply answered he who is

strongest Greece would be divided never

to come together again and then out of

one of the four winds of heaven in the

West in the western empire of Greece

there began the coalescing against all

odds of a people of a republic and there

in the western edges of Greece the

Republic of Rome was established and one

of the most unlikely moments in history

this little Republic which had been

greatly influenced by the Hellenistic

thinking of Greece developed into the

strongest empire ever in the history of

earth pagan Rome rose out of the western

edges of Greece and then moved and

conquered and transformed Society

transform society so much that it still

has an influence today in fact if you

visit modern-day Turkey almost all of

the major highways in Turkey today's

highways are built on top of old ancient

Roman roads but over time pagan Rome

would take on a decidedly different

element it would take on not just a

political element but a religious

element and this religio-political power

would give way to become papal Rome and

the ending of papal Rome and excuse me

and then papal Rome would be the last of

the empires and after papal Rome comes

to 2300 days which is the judgment and

immediately following the judgment the

second coming but I want to draw our

attention to verse 19 there in verse 19

the Bible says look I am making known to

you what shall happen in the latter time

now this is absolutely critical for our

understanding and I believe very

critical in our time of COVID-19 we're

gonna look at something that is

absolutely essential that gives us the

absolute hope and the reason that I'm

making such a big deal about this is

because in modern Christianity there are

many who want to take verse 19 and put

it off some time in the distant past but

the angel says I'm going to make known

to you what it will happen in the latter

time but not just any latter time what

does the Bible say there the latter time

of indignation for at the appointed time

the end shall be what is the latter time

of indignation what is the end the

latter time of indignation appears

several times in the scriptures but one

that I want to point out that helps us

understand is Jeremiah chapter 29 and

verse 11 it will help us understand this

phrase the latter time the Bible says

you know Jeremiah 29:11 well I'm sure

for I know the thoughts that I think

toward you thoughts of peace and not

evil sometimes we stop there to give you

a future and a hope now here's where I

don't want you to miss it the word their

future is the identical Hebrew word -

the word used in Daniel latter times

identical word what is the future or the

latter times that Jeremiah was speaking

of what is the latter time of hope that

Jeremiah spoke to that latter time of

hope is the only true hope that exists

in the world

the latter time of Hope that gives us

hope is when Jesus will break forth

through the clouds and when he does he

will bring an end to all the pain in the

suffering in this world

don't miss this my dear friends God

doesn't need another pandemic the

pandemic is just a sign of what is

happening around us and what is to come

and that is that Jesus is coming

you know Jesus my dear friends is

waiting for his people to come to a

realization that there is nothing that

we can do there is no government in the

world and what they can do there is

nothing that society can develop that

will bring us true lasting genuine hope

games will come to an end my dear

friends drinks will come to an end food

will come to an end they may bring you

temporary satisfaction but Jesus wants

to bring us the satisfaction that will

be everlasting that will last throughout

time you see even the best moments that

we have in our life are nothing in

comparison to the latter times of

that Jesus has for each of us you see

God wants us to understand the only real

hope is the future that he is developing

at the appointed time of Jesus return

you see Isaiah chapter 46 also helps us

understand this latter time of

indignation verses 9 and 10 remember the

former things of old for I am God and

there is no other I am God and there is

none like me declaring the end from the

beginning and from ancient things that

are not yet done the word here end in

Isaiah chapter 46 verses 9 and 10 is the

exact word that Daniel used for the

latter times why am I emphasizing this

there are some who want to place Daniel

8:19 in the past and apply it to a not

very well-known general in Rome

Antiochus Epiphanes however Daniel was

not pointing to some irrelevant

Antiochus Epiphanes but to the most

relevant cataclysmic glorious and joyous

day ever to happen in this earth and

that is when Jesus will come again in

glory you see it's not just any latter

time by the way it says the latter time

of indignation the word indignation what

is that word indignation can be simply

summarized as God's outrage against sin

there is a difference between

indignation and wrath

you see indignation is how God feels

about sin how does God how does an how

the question is is how does God feel

about sin God hates sin he's outraged by

sin and Jeremiah chapter 10 and verse 10

tells us what God will do with

Unforgiven sin but the Lord is the true

God he is the Living God the everlasting

king at his wrath the earth will tremble

and the nations will not be able to

endure his indignation my dear friends

God is outraged by sin and that is

indignation he was outraged by the fall

of Lucifer he loved Lucifer but outraged

by his fall he loved Lucifer but his

heart was broken his heart was broken

that Lucifer chose a rebellious path

God is outraged by what sin has done to

this earth God is outraged by COVID-19

you know sometimes I wonder aloud my

dear friends that if it might be one of

the reasons that we are still on this

earth is that many of us don't really

understand the magnitude of what sin

really is the magnitude of rebellion and

what it's done in the universe you see

too often we treat sin like oops I made

a mistake but my dear friends our sin

killed the son of God our sin on this

earth transformed the course of history

in the entire universe and God is

outraged by what sin has caused some are

wondering where God is in the midst of

COVID-19 the coronavirus we know where

he is God is outraged by COVID-19 and

the damage and the pain and the

suffering that Lucifer is causing by

bringing it about on this earth where is

the God in the midst of suffering where

is God in the midst of COVID-19 where is

God in the midst of cancer where is God

in the midst of an accident God is

outraged by Satan's attack on your life

on your loved ones life and God is going

to do something about it because people

often ask me so if God is so outraged by

sin if he's so upset by what's happening

why doesn't he just come then well

second Peter chapter 3 and verse 9 tells

us why he's not yet come the Lord is not

slack concerning his promise as some

count slackness but is long-suffering

toward us not willing that any should

perish but that all should come to

repentance see God's heart is a heart

that wants to save everyone now do we

know from the Bible that there will be

people who are not in the kingdom

certainly there will be those that make

a decision to trust in themselves rather

than trusting and

God but God's heart as outraged by sin

as he is he's outraged even more by the

reality that his son is preparing a

place he's preparing a place in heaven

for each and every one of us and God

would be outraged by the reality that

some people would not be there he wants

us there and most important today for

you to consider as he wants you there he

wants your son there he wants your

daughter there he wants your brother

your sister your mom and dad he wants

them all there in the midst of God's

outrage in the midst of his indignation

is his justice and mercy because at the

appointed time the end shall be at the

appointed time God has indignation there

is a latter time of indignation where

his indignation will be worked out

through his wrath at the end ignant--

indignation is how God feels about sin

his wrath is how he deals with sin and

his wrath is what brings an end to sin

it is what the prophet Isaiah calls

God's strange act when a God of love

must bring an end to sin however in

bringing an end to sin he must bring an

end to angels whom he created he must

bring an end to human-- human beings whom

he has created it is God's strange act

because the nature of God is love he

wants to save you he is for you yet when

we cling so much to our sin that we're

not willing to let go and cling to him

God has to deal with sin in Genesis 6:13

God dealt with sin the Bible says the

end of all flesh has come before me in

Matthew 13 39 speaking of the devil it

says the enemy who has sowed them

excuse me the enemy who sowed them is

the devil the harvest is the end of the

age it is the same word used in Daniel

chapter 8 and just so this doesn't come

out as bad news

this is good news friends you see in the

latter day of indignation where God

works out his feelings against sin by

his wrath against sin here is one of the

great ironies of the Bible that that

ending then prompts a new beginning and

that new beginning is a joyous new

beginning because the Bible describes it

as a kingdom that begins that will have

no end

Daniel chapter 12 describes that in

verses 1 to 3 at that time what time is

that at that time and according to

Daniel 11:40 that time is the appointed

time at that time Michael shall stand up

the Great Prince who stands watch over

the sons of your people and there should

be a time of trouble such as never was

seen since there was a nation even to

that time and at that time your people

shall be delivered everyone who is

found written in the book and many of

those who sleep in the dust of the earth

shall awake some to everlasting life

some to shame and everlasting contempt

those who are wise shall shine like the

brightness of the firmament and those

who turn many to righteousness like the

Stars forever and ever

friends God has an appointed time where

he will bring everything to an end and

in bringing everything to an end then he

can begin with a new beginning a new

beginning where there is no end and

here's the question that I want us to

deal with in the closing moments of my

sermon today will you be ready for that

day will I be ready for that day it

won't be because we've worked hard

enough it won't be because we've done

enough it will simply be because of this

that we are willing to let go and allow

the Holy Spirit to work in us that he

might work through us because there is

an end coming the appointed time when

the latter day of God's indignation

wears out

rage will be worked it'll be worked out

through his wrath and whereas outrage

will be on display and eliminate sin

forever

but in the elimination of sin we can

take joy because in the elimination of

sin is the elimination of death is the

elimination of suffering is the

elimination of pain is the elimination

of disease it's almost too difficult for

our human minds to comprehend a place

with no suffering and no pain in one of

my favorite books that traces the course

of God's working in history the great

controversy on page 678 it says these

words the great controversy is ended

speaking of the appointed time sin and

sinners are no more the entire universe

is clean one pulse of harmony and

gladness beats through the vast creation

from him who created all flow life and

light and gladness throughout the realms

of illimitable space from the minutest

atom to the greatest world all things

animate and inanimate and their

unshadowed beauty and perfect joy

declare that God is love you see God has

an appointed time for the end of all

things but is appointed time to end all

things marks a beginning God has an

appointed time for the end of sin in

your life you see Romans chapter 6

outlines when we yield fully to Christ

we die to sin and we are raised anew

with Jesus Christ that we can walk in

the newness of life a life that he

offers God wants to bring an end to

those things in our life that keep us

from our inheritance in his heavenly

home many ask the question what shall I

do what's God's will in my life in the

midst of COVID-19 what shall I do

the answer is overly some simplistic but

clear first Thessalonians 4:3 says this

for this is the will of God your

sanctification the word sanctification

in its simplest terms is God's

preparation for you to go to the

heavenly king

and so what does this mean any

relationship any job any activity any

career and he thought any action that

would deter us from the path to heaven

is outside of the will of God in the

book pilgrims progress it calls it the

path to the celestial City my dear

friends God's will is that any

relationship any conduct any association

anything and everything that takes us

off the path to the celestial City is

outside of his will in your life so what

do we do mark chapter thirteen 32 to 34

tells us clearly what we should do but

of that day or hour no one knows not the

angels in heaven nor the son but only

the father why is that by the way

because God is the one who has an

appointed time to bring an end of all

things and then Jesus says these simple

things take heed watch and pray for you

do not know when that time is the word

their time by the way is the Greek word

Kairos translated elsewhere as the

appointed time friend if there is any

teacher preacher friend relative that is

telling you that they have identified

with precision the time in which Jesus

is coming now is the time for you to run

and not listen to them the Bible is

clear only God in heaven knows when the

appointed time is his counsel to you is

to take heed watch and pray because you

don't know when the appointed time is

the word there take heed literally means

to watch to observe to be alert my dear

friends now is the time that we need to

be alert to watch what's happening and

to be ready for Jesus come Jesus coming

now is the time for us to shine the love

of Jesus in our life just because we are

isolated does not mean that we are

exempted from letting the light of Jesus

shine God is calling for us to take heed

to be on alert

the word their watch literally means to

lie awake we need to be alert and awake

I have a fear my dear friends that when

coronavirus comes to an end when the

stay at home orders are released I have

a great fear my fear is that many of us

will simply return to life as normal

Jesus described that time as the days of

Noah people marrying eating drinking I

would hope and pray that coronavirus has

taught us something very important now

is the time to get serious and now is

the time to prepare we are to

spiritually and figuratively lie awake

we are to be aware of the times to study

God's Word to study God's inspired

counsel and then as we watch and we take

heed allow the power of God to move in

our lives through prayer why do we pray

because John 15 is clear with Jesus we

can do all things but without him

without him we can do nothing so what do

we do I want to conclude with the words

of a little pamphlet written over a

hundred years ago called the youth

instructor on page 32 I will not read

the entire passage the author Ellen

White gave these councils over a hundred

years ago Jesus is coming he will visit

this world again but not as his first

Advent to be despised scoffed at and

hated to have his head pierced with a

crown of thorns and have nails driven

through his precious hands and feet

Jesus is coming but not to be the meek

suffering teacher he once was Jesus is

coming but not to listen to the

of mankind and here the guilty sinner

confesses sin and to speak pardon for

him for everyone's case will then be

decided for life or death Jesus is

coming as he ascended into heaven only

with additional splendor he is coming

with the glory of his father and all the

holy angels with him to escort him on

his way instead of the cruel crown of

thorns to pierce his holy temples a

crown of dazzling glory will deck his

sacred bow brow he will not then appear

the man of sorrows acquainted with grief

but his countenance will shine brighter

than the noonday Sun he will not wear a

plain seamless coat but a garment whiter

than snow of dazzling brightness Jesus

is coming but not to reign as a temporal

Prince he will raise the righteous dead

changed the Living Saints to a glorious

immortality and with the Saints take the

kingdom under the whole heaven the

kingdom will never end then those who

have patiently waited for Jesus will be

made like him and then she closes with

these words dear young reader now maybe

you're watching today and you're not

that young but that's okay because you

are young in heart and Jesus is gonna

make you young listen to these words

dear young reader seek a thorough

preparation to meet Jesus that when he

appears you may exclaim with Joe joy lo

this is our God we have waited for him

and he will save us eternal life will

then be yours you will be a partaker

with Christ of his glory and ever to

hear his glorious approving voice and

behold his lovely person so the question

that I have to you today no matter where

you are no matter what part of the world

you are in what will you do I'm pleading

with you today friend Jesus is coming

soon coronavirus is truly a sign of the

time that Jesus is coming soon how soon

is he coming I don't know but the only

thing I know is that we have today

we have today and now is the time to

submit fully to him because as we fit

fully to him he who began a good work in

us will finish that work we live in

unprecedented times now is the time

there is a little creature that I

believe we can learn a valuable lesson

from it is a little bird in which we can

find a valuable lesson it is a bird that

takes residence in the eastern portion

of North America it's called the Tufted

Titmouse

this bird has adapted because it has

learned this bird has learned because it

has taken heed and watched and why is

that of this little bird normally eats

things from the ground creatures little

insects out of the tree but this little

bird has come to understand that some

terra somewhere around September or

October there are many people in the

eastern part of North America that put

out a little thing called a bird feeder

and there in the bird feeder they fill

it with all kinds of seed and this

little bird has adapted so that when

those bird feeders come out it gathers

the seed and amazingly it gathers each

seed one at a time most of these birds

make their home within a hundred feet

thirty or so meters from that bird

feeder and one seed at a time they take

it to their home to build up a

storehouse that they might have

something to eat don't misunderstand the

illustration I'm not counseling you to

become a prepper and fill your cupboards

but let us learn from this little bird

who took heed and watched now is the

time for us to take heed and watch and

prepare for Jesus wherever you are today

friend whether you're sitting in North

America whether you're in inter America

South America whether you're in Europe

in Asia in Australia possibly even

Antarctica whatever continent on which

you are residing maybe you're in Africa

Jesus is calling upon you today to take

heed to watch and to be ready the

Apostle Paul wrote these words which I

will conclude with behold now is the

accepted time behold now is the day of

salvation Jesus has an appointed time

whatever happens with COVID-19 I don't

know this is what I do know this book

says that Jesus is preparing a place for

you and God wants you to be there he

wants you to make a decision today so

right now in your home maybe in your

living room in your bedroom you might be

laying on a bed right now you might be

laying on a couch right now I want you

to take this moment seriously we're not

broadcasting from our church to be a

form of entertainment we're broadcasting

from our church to be a source of hope

so right now I'm going to invite you if

you've heard the message today it's

touched your heart and you want to take

heed watch and be ready and pray and

invite you right now wherever you are no

matter how you're dressed

whether you're dressed like you're going

to church whether you're still in your

pajamas I'm going to invite you right

now slip to your knees

and I want you to pray with me friends

now is the time now is the time to be

ready for God's appointed time to watch

to be on alert to pray give our life

fully to Him and be ready

he will get us through he will see us

through COVID-19 and he is coming soon

we're hey we'll bring an end to all sin

suffering pain where there will never be

a disease ever again

and the beauty of the Scriptures is this

he's doing everything he can to make

sure you were there

so right now slip to your knees and

let's pray together

our dear Heavenly Father I don't know

what's happening in the lives of the

thousands and thousands of viewers that

are viewing this now or will view it in

the future I don't know what

circumstances are being faced what

difficulties are being faced maybe

there's someone infected with COVID-19

that's watching right now maybe there's

someone going through other-- other

difficulties other health challenges I

just want to pray dear God today that we

would come to you that we would yield

our life fully to you that we would let

go

of all that keeps us attached to this

earth and we would cling to you

with all of our might and strength which

is only fueled by your Holy Spirit may

our eyes be fixed and turned from the

pandemic of this world and from the pain

of this age to look fully into the eyes

of Jesus to look full into his wonderful

face and to look with anxious

anticipation for the appointed time of

his return o God help us to be ready for

that day we pray this in Jesus name. Amen.