A MILESTONE IN MY MINISTRY

Text: II Timothy 4:1-5

Introduction: On April 6, 1981, you moved my family to Houston, Texas to start serving as your pastor. That was just 10 short years ago. Several things have happened in this short period of time. I moved into the forties. My children moved into and out of their teenage years. I will have been preaching 29 years, April 22nd. Over a third of that time has been with Grace. Nearly one half of that time has been in South Texas. I have witnessed my 25 years in the ministry which is a record in our day.

Jerry and I have celebrated 25 years of marriage together. I have witnessed the marriage of my daughter. Two-thirds of the marriages and funerals that I have been a part of have been here.

I. THE MINISTERING

A. The ministering to the sick.
1. I have been with many of you during times of sickness, surgery, and hospital stays.
2. I have visited many of you in the hospitals all over Houston.
3. We have visited together, prayed together and asked God’s blessings on our sick together.
4. I have felt compelled to be at the hospitals in the daytime and at night and felt guilty when I haven’t made it as often as I wanted to.

B. The ministering to the sorrowing.
1. I have met with a good number of you to comfort, cry, and confess my inability to say or do what I wanted to in the hour of your grief.
2. I have stood in the funeral home and tried to comfort husbands, wives, parents, children, and friends in the death of a loved one.
3. I have prayed for the right words to say at the funeral of a mother who was killed by her daughter, a man killed in a motorcycle wreck, a young 17 year old girl raped by 3 men and killed.

4. I have ministered to families when that young baby died and when that father who was in his 90’s died.
5. I have been with our members, their friends, and even strangers in times of death.

C. The ministering to the sinful.
1. I have tried to help when husbands and wives were having problems.
2. I have tried to help when parents and children were having problems.
3. I have talked with people who have gotten out of the way and were living sinfully.
4. I know what it means to talk with people who want to get out of problems, but won’t do what God says.

D. The ministering to the stressed.
1. My heart goes out to people when they have to deal with the problems caused by others which affects them.
2. Parents have talked about children that were breaking their hearts and they didn’t know what to do.
3. Problems seem to be multiplying and no solution is found or people won’t accept God’s solution.
4. I have dealt with people who were fearful of their jobs or who had problems on their jobs.

II. THE MOVES

A. Moves toward God’s salvation and service.
1. We have seen people saved in our services.
2. We have seen people who were saved at home walk down the aisle and want to be baptized and become a church member.
3. I remember one Sunday we saw 11 or 12 young people walk the aisle and join our church. They had been saved at camp. Two other couples joined too.
4. Not long ago we saw 6 join our church.
5. Last Sunday we saw little Jennifer Odel accept Christ as her Saviour.

B. Moves upward.
1. Our church family has been called on to help families whose loved ones have died.
2. We have lost some very dear members and friends who have been promoted to glory.
3. I remember one six-month period of time we lost 6 men who had been dedicatedly involved in our church.
4. We rejoice as our people go to be with the Lord, but we are saddened by their leaving us.

C. Moves over.
1. In ten years we have had a large turnover in our membership.
2. It always bothers me when any of our members choose to leave our Missionary Baptist work.
3. We have lost a good amount of people to other churches in our area.
4. I have pleaded and reasoned with a lot of them and they still left. Some have joined and didn't even want to tell our church goodbye, God speed, or anything else.

D. Moves beyond.
1. We have seen a good number of our members move out of town.
2. Within the first year I was here, we lost 6 families who moved to other towns.
3. I can remember thinking, Lord you have called me to this church and people are moving out of town.
4. We have said goodbye to a lot of dear members who have gone to East Texas to retire.

III. THE MOTIVATING.

A. The study.
1. When you stay at one place for 10 years, it challenges you to study a lot more.
2. The teaching, preaching, radio programs, outline books, and Sounding Out the Word paper has challenged this preacher to do more Bible study.
3. Between 60 and 70 percent of all of my outlines or messages have been built here.
4. I have learned to preach and teach through books of the Bible and develop series of messages here in a greater way.

B. The steadfastness.
1. We are to be steadfast in the Lord. We are to be good soldiers in Christ — II Timothy 2:1-4; I Corinthians 15:58.
2. The larger the church, the more people and problems. The more problems, the harder it is to serve.

3. You want to give up and quit when you are doing so many things and problems and troubles arise -- Acts 20:24.
4. There were times that I wished God would open up a door for me to move. The Lord wants us to trust Him and be steadfast.

C. The service.
1. God has called me to preach His wonderful Word.
2. He called me to minister, help, and direct people in all circumstances to Him.
3. Minister is not only a title it is a job that we are called on to do.
4. The greatest among us is the one that is willing to be a more yielded servant to God and man.
5. When we get down, the Master will be busy trying to get us to get up and continue serving the Lord.

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AN ALL OUT BATTLE

Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

Introduction: On January 17, 1991 the U.S. and several of her allies declared war on the armies of Iraq for the invasion of Kuwait. Our U.S. troops were led by General Norman Swartzkopf, better known as Stormin' Norman. The Iraqi troops were led by General Saddam Hussein, better known as Insane Hussein. This war was known as the most sophisticated and technological war that has ever been. Iraq would send up its Scud Missile, and the U.S. would fire back with her Patriot Missile. This war is over now, but it won't be forgotten.

There is another war that is taking place: a war between satan and Christ and Christ's people. Innocent people are dying, many lives are being destroyed. There is a battle going on, and you're in the middle of it. Paul warns us to prepare ourselves against the wiles of the devil (the cunning devices, or trickery of the devil). Paul also tells us to watch out for the fiery darts (or poison arrows) that satan is shooting at us. As we draw nearer to the close of this dispensation, we need to guard ourselves more than we ever have. We need to dress for the occasion everyday.
There are some tactics of war that satan has that we have never seen before. **Satan is out to hit us where it hurts the most.** You may think that you can stay out of the battle, and if you do, **satan is out to destroy you and those you love.**

I. SATAN IS LAUNCHING AN ALL OUT ATTACK ON THE CHRISTIAN HOME!

A. Satan's attack is causing divorces.
   1. In our country over 50% of all marriages are ending up in divorce court.
   2. The family unit is being destroyed at an alarming rate and satan is the cause of it.
   3. He is using every trick in the book, and busy firing poisonous darts at us.
   4. Financial difficulties, family disturbance, and freedom from responsibilities contribute to the breakup of the family unit.
   5. The majority of this generation of people aren't willing to make a total commitment.
   6. Adultery is at an all-time high. This is one of the oldest tricks in the book for satan.
   7. God never intends for any marriage to end up in divorce. God has made one allowance for it, adultery, but His desire is for the man and woman to work it out if at all possible.

B. Satan's attack is causing discouragement.
   1. Moses felt overworked and burdened.
   2. The devil used one woman to discourage a man of God. Elijah ran from that woman and crawled under a juniper tree and wanted to die.
   3. Pressures in life do us the same way. Sometimes we feel so pressured and all alone and we become discouraged.
   4. The Lord has the remedy for discouragement and depression. Psalms 55:22, "Cast thy burdens upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee."

C. Satan's attack is destroying the parent and child relationship. Proverbs 30:11-14.
   1. The lines of communication between parent and child have been cut.
   2. The financial pressure of living has caused both the mother and father to seek employment.
   3. This has caused the child to be more dependent upon himself and others.
   4. Children aren't seeking advice from their parents like they used to. They're looking to others; sometimes the wrong people.
   5. The Bible instructs us to love our children, to lead them, to train them, and communicate with them.
   6. I encourage you to go to your children, hug them, and let them know that you love them.
   7. I encourage children to do the same to their parents.
   8. It's time to mend fences.

D. Satan's attack is demolishing the lives of families.
   1. Early in the history of the human race, the devil began to invade the home, seeking to destroy the backbone of humanity.
   2. Cain killed his brother and dishonored God and his parents.
   3. If we allow it, the devil can and will demolish the home and the family unit.
   4. Satan will deceive you, divide you, discourage you, demolish you, and utterly destroy you and your family.
   5. We must prepare ourselves daily for the battle at hand.

II. SATAN IS LAUNCHING AN ALL OUT ATTACK ON THE CHURCH HOUSE!

II Thessalonians 2:3, There is going to be a great falling away of the Lord's churches.
Revelations 2:4, The church at Ephesus had left it's first love.
Revelations 3:16, The church at Laodicea was a lukewarm church.

A. Satan is out to devour the saints.
   1. I Peter 5:8, "...your adversary the devil... walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."
   2. The translation of the word is to literally drink in. This is satan's activities against the believer.
   3. Satan is working overtime in these last days.
   4. Evidence of this is seen in the decline of our Sunday School, Worship Service, Sunday night, Wednesday night, etc.
   5. Paul warns us in our text to beware of the wiles of satan...his darts are out to devour you.

B. Satan is out to divide the flock.
   1. If satan can get into this church building he will try to divide.
   2. The church at Corinth faced this problem, I Corinthians 1:10,11.

C. Satan is out to destroy your faith.
   1. He wants to destroy your faith in Jesus and His Word.
   2. Satan sought to destroy Job.
   3. God said of Job that he was a perfect man, an upright man, one that feareth God and avoids evil.
   4. Satan said to God, "Put forth Thy hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse Thee to Thy face." Job 1:11.
   5. Job 2:3, "He holdeth fast his integrity."
   6. Peter, a disciple of Jesus, one who said he would follow Him, would go to jail for Him, would even die for Him.
   7. The devil sought to destroy his faith.
   8. Luke 22:31, "Simon, Simon, behold satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat."
   I Thessalonians 2:18, "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, but Satan hindered us."

D. **Satan is out disguising his ministers.**
   1. Satan has disguised himself as a serpent, as a snake, and as an angel in the pulpit with a Bible in his hand.
   2. II Corinthians 11:13,15.
   4. Jesus is the true Light...the only Light, John 1:9.
   5. Satan ministers are as Jesus described them..."as wolves in sheep's clothing."
   6. They're out to hurt you.

E. **Satan is out disillusioning God's people with other interests.** I believe that this is one way that II Thessalonians 2:3 will be fulfilled.

F. **Satan is out to dampen the fire.**
   1. He is the captain of the bucket brigade.
   2. He will pour cold water on any fire you get started for Jesus.

**III. SATAN IS LAUNCHING AN ALL OUT ATTACK ON OUR COUNTRY!**
   Psalms 73:16,17, "When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me: until I went into the sanctuary of God, then understood I their end." Job 1:7 says that Satan is "...going to and fro in the earth, and exalting up and down in it."

A. **Satan is attacking this country with the use of drugs.**
   1. Drugs are destroying more and more lives everyday.
   2. It is estimated that over 28 million people in the U.S. take illegal drugs.
   3. Alcohol, crack, cocaine, LSD, even glue is destroying the minds and lives of individuals, and even their loved ones.

B. **Satan is attacking this country with demoralizing sin.**
   1. Murder, rape, incest, homosexuality, and crime.
   2. Personal experiences on my job.

C. **Satan is attacking this country with devil worshipping.**

D. **Satan is attacking this country with dreaded diseases.**

E. **Satan is attacking this country with death by suicide.**

**IV. SATAN IS LAUNCHING AN ALL OUT ATTACK ON OUR CONFIDENCE!**

A. **Satan is causing people to doubt their salvation.** A lot of this is done through his own preacher.

B. **Satan is causing some to doubt the Scriptures.** Baptists have debated it; others teach it.

C. **Satan is causing some to doubt the security they have as a believer in Christ.**

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**TOMORROW**

He was going to be all that he wanted to be -- Tomorrow.
None would be kinder or braver than he -- Tomorrow.
A friend who was troubled and weary, he knew, Who'd be glad of a lift, and who needed it, too, On him he would call and see what he could do -- Tomorrow.

Each morning he stacked up the letters he'd write -- Tomorrow.
And thought of the folks he would fill with delight -- Tomorrow.
But hadn't one minute to stop on his way, "More time I will give to others," he'd say -- Tomorrow.

The greatest of workers this man would have been -- Tomorrow.
The world would have hailed him if ever he had seen-- Tomorrow.
But, in fact, he passed on, and he faded from view, And all that he left here when living was through. Was a mountain of things he intended to do -- Tomorrow.

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*Author Unknown*
HOW YOU CAN BE FAITHFUL TO THE LORD
By Charles Swilling

Text: I Corinthians 4:1-2; Romans 12:1

Introduction: There is a great need of God's precious people to be faithful. The Word of God teaches us to be a dedicated faithful people to the Lord. Some seem solid as a rock that you cannot move. Others seem to be moved by every little thing. Some preach a few years and disappear. Others continue on preaching and serving as long as they can. How can you be faithful to the Lord?

I. THE RESPECT FOR THE LORD.
   A. The attitude -- Colossians 3:2.

II. THE REVERENCE FOR THE LORD.
   A. Reverence for His Word -- John 14:23.
   C. Reverence for His Ways -- Galatians 5:22, 23.

III. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE LORD.
   A. We are made righteous -- II Corinthians 5:21.
   B. We are ministered to in righteousness -- John 16:13.
   C. We are to mind righteousness -- Philippians 2:5.

IV. THE RELIANCE ON THE LORD.
   A. Rely on Him to serve -- Matthew 26:41.
   B. Rely on Him to supply -- Philippians 4:19; Psalms 23:1.
   C. Rely on Him to submit -- James 4:7; Philippians 4:13.

V. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO THE LORD.
   A. To worship Him -- John 4:24.
   B. To work for Him -- I Thessalonians 1:9.
   C. To war for Him -- I Peter 5:8, 9.

VI. THE REJOICING IN THE LORD.
   A. Rejoice in the Saviour -- Philippians 4:4.
   B. Rejoice in the Scriptures -- II Timothy 2:15; 3:16, 17; Romans 7:22.
   C. Rejoice in the Spirit.

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AMERICA, CONSIDER YOUR WAYS
By Marc Shultz


Introduction: Is America still one nation under God? Could we be on the border of judgment?

I. CONSIDER WHAT WE HAVE NEGLECTED --

   A. God has made His will clear.
      1. II Peter 3:9.
   B. We have neglected to listen to God.
   C. It is time to refocus our attention on what we have neglected -- II Chronicles 6:38-39.

II. CONSIDER WHAT HAS CHANGED --
    Malachi 3:6-7.
    A. We have changed our attitudes -- Romans 12:2.
    B. We have changed our consciousness -- Proverbs 16:25; Romans 6:21.
    C. We have changed our actions -- I Peter 2:8.
    D. We have changed our desires -- Jude 4.

III. CONSIDER WHERE WE ARE HEADED --
     A. We are encircled in darkness of sin.
     B. We have become fools.
     C. Many have subscribed to the humanistic theory of we being our own gods (verse 23).
     D. We have changed the truth into what is convenient for man.
     E. God could be on the verge of giving up on us and sending judgment.

IV. CONSIDER WHAT IS NEEDED.
    A. More knees bowed in prayer.
    B. More bodies surrendered in service.
    C. More pews occupied in worship.
    D. More eyes studying the Word of God.

How to Be Miserable in
20 Easy Steps!

1. Use 'T' as often as possible.
2. Always be sensitive to slights.
3. Be jealous and envious.
4. Think only about yourself.
5. Talk only about yourself.
6. Trust no one.
7. Never forget a criticism.
8. Always expect to be appreciated.
10. Listen greedily to what others say about you.
11. Always look for faults in others.
12. Shirk your duties if you can.
13. Do as little as possible for others.
14. Never forget a service you may have rendered.
15. Sulk if people are not grateful for your favors.
16. Insist on consideration and respect.
17. Demand agreement with your own views on everything.
18. Always look for a good time.
19. Love yourself first.
20. Be selfish at all times.

Author Unknown
ON HIS PROMISES I STAND!


Introduction:

A. The Lord's promises are sweet, sure, precious, practical, some personal, plain, and profound!
B. My Testimony...
   "My Bible and I"
We've travelled together, my Bible and I.
Through all kinds of weather, with smile or with sigh;
In sorrow or sunshine, in tempest or calm,
Thy friendship unchanging, my Lamp and my Psalm.

We've travelled together, my Bible and I,
When life has grown weary, and death even was nigh;
But all through the darkness, of mist or of wrong,
I found there a solace, a prayer and a song.

So now who shall part us, my Bible and I,
Shall 'isms' or 'schisms' or 'new lights' who try?
Shall shadow for substance, or stone for good bread
Supplant they sound wisdom, give folly instead?

Ah! No, my dear Bible, exponent of light!
Thou Sword of the Spirit, put error to flight!
And still through life's journey, until my last sigh,
We'll travel together, my Bible and I.

I. THE PROMISES OF THE SAVIOUR'S REDEMPTION.
B. Promises -- Romans 10:13; Romans 10:9-10.

II. THE PROMISE OF THE SAINTS' RIGHTEOUSNESS.
A. The sinner's predicament -- Isaiah 53:6; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Jeremiah 13:23; Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23.
B. The Saviour's power -- Hebrews 7:25.
C. The Saviour's promise -- Isaiah 1:18.
D. The Sovereign Provision -- Matthew 1:21; John 3:17; II Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:5. "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

E. 'And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.'

III. THE PROMISE OF SOUL REST!
A. Proclamation of God -- Isaiah 57:20-21, "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.
B. Hezekiah's confession -- Isaiah 38:17, "Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back." (I John 1:7b, 9)
C. Heaven's Promise! -- Matthew 11:28-29
D. A Future Rest for the laboring: Revelation 14:13

IV. THE PROMISE OF THE SEEKER'S REVIVAL.
A. The seeker's plea for revival: Psalms 85:6
1. How oft one needs to make this plea!
2. How oft do we allow the 'lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life' to rob us of our warmheartedness toward God, His Son, our Saviour, the Holy Spirit's leadership, His blood-bought church, His Holy Word!!!
B. The Sovereign Promise: Isaiah 57:15 "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place with Him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit ... to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." (Contrite = * Showing remorse for guilt.)
1. Note the purpose of reviving: rejoicing.
2. Note the Person who revives: the High and Lofty and Holy One.
3. Note the persons revived: CONTRITE and HUMBLE!!!

C. Revival comes on a 'PERSONAL' basis!

V. THE PROMISE OF AND PROVISION FOR RESTORATION OF THE SHEEP.
A. The plea of a straying one--Psalms 51:12
B. The acknowledgement of the restored:
   1. Psalms 23:3
   2. Psalms 40:2-3 "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord."
C. The saved admonished to take part in the ministry of restoration--Galatians 6:1; James 5:19-20, "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that He which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."
D. Look at the blessed results to restoration!
   1. When Simon Peter went back to the trade of a fisherman...They say unto him, "We also go with thee," John 21:3.
   2. After "bitter weeping session" and restoration...he was the spokesman the day 3,000 were saved and added to the first church!!!
E. The Promise of restoration—II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land."
VI. THE PROMISE OF A SAINT'S RECEPTION:
   A. The Savior's Proclamation—John 14:6; John 1:1,12.
   B. The saved one's present acceptance:
      1. Ephesians 1:6, "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved."
         a. Once dead, now alive in the beloved!
         b. Once a sinner condemned, now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus!
   C. The sure promise of a future reception:
      1. John 14:3.
      2. I Thessalonians 4:16-17.
VII. THE PROMISE OF SWEET REJOICING:
   A. Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice."
      1. He didn't say rejoice in circumstances, situations, etc.
      2. He didn't say rejoice in victories and battles won!
      3. He said, "Rejoice in the Lord!"
   B. There is a present "rejoicing!"
      2. One can rejoice in the Lord and His blessings even in adverse circumstances! Matthew 5:11-12,"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."
      3. One can rejoice in others', II & III John.
   C. My dad's favorite song, "There's a great day coming bye and bye."
      1. When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!!!
      2. When we see others there we had a part in helping them to get there!
         a. Psalms 126:5-6.
         b. I Thessalonians 1:19-20, "For what is our hope, or joy or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy."
      3. In John 20:20, "Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord." How much more so when we see Him as He is!!!, I John 3:2.
      4. When Jesus takes unto Himself His bride: Revelation 19:7-9, "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

WHAT JESUS IS LOOKING FOR IN THE CHURCH--
THE BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE


Introduction:

A. Presenting the varied views - different views.
   1. The views of the present world.
   2. The views of the religious world.

B. Perceiving the vital view - divine view.
   1. What Christ is looking for is vital because this is the determining factor on whether or not we'll be recipients of His blessings.
   2. It's extremely important to focus on "root" needs as opposed to the "fruitage" of our varied situations.

I. FAITH - verse 2.

B. The identification relative to the Biblical perspective.
   1. Fact - Faith is only as good as the object of faith.
   2. Focus:
      a. Faith in the faithful God.
      b. Faith in the faithful sayings - the Word of God.

C. The insight - Romans 10:17.
   1. Intellectual aspect of faith.
   2. Relational aspect of faith.
   3. Volitional aspect of faith.

II. LOVE - Verse 2 with Romans 5:5.

A. Eros - egotistical love.
B. Phileo - mutualistic love.
C. Agape - spiritualistic love - this is the love that He is looking for.

III. HOPE - Verse 2 with I John 3:2.

A. The return of the Saviour.
B. The rapture of the saints.
C. The reunion of the saints.
D. The rewards for the saints.
E. The reigning of the saints.

"WHAT THE LAST DAYS ARE LIKE"

By B.A. Morris

Text: Jude 8-10.

I. The Last DAYS ARE IMMORAL. 8a, ... these filthy dreamers defile the flesh.
Filthy is not in the original language.
Dreamer, in this context, means to have sensual images in mind which lead to that condition.
Defile means to soil or dye a garment.
Immorality is in view here (flesh).
A. The immorality here resembles (likewise) Sodom of verses 7-8.
1. Homosexuality and lesbianism are getting more bold publicly.
2. In August of 1987 200,000 strong marched on Washington D.C., declaring their rights. This march was compared to 1960 civil rights march.
3. Homosexuality and lesbianism are strong enough to block votes and win a campaign.

B. The immorality results in: broken down health; deadly AIDS, diseased body. (defile = soiled or dyed as a garment). Heresy usually precedes immorality.

C. Let’s look at modern day immorality.
1. CRIME: 5 out of 6 of today’s twelve year olds will be victims or intended victims of violent crime during their lifetime, according to the present crime rate.
2. PORNOGRAPHY: is an $8 billion per year industry.
   a. Pornography is the third leading industry of organized crime, after gambling and drugs.
   b. Of the 800 pornographic magazines sold in 1984 in the U.S.A., 275 were monthly publications dealing with child pornography.
3. TEEN PREGNANCY:
   a. More than 1 million teens get pregnant per year.
   b. Surveys report that the preventive programs don’t curb immorality, but rather encourage it.
   c. The best and only sure method of pregnancy prevention is to say NO!

4. DRUGS.
5. ALCOHOLISM.

II. THE LAST DAYS ARE INSUBORDINATE. (despise dominion) or reject authority. dominion means to set aside or disregard. Dominion means one who possesses Lordship over another.
A. The Archangel Lucifer rejected the authority that God had over him. (Verse 6a.)
B. There are levels of authority being rejected today.

1. The levels of authority that rest within the family circle.
   a. All family members are to respect the level of authority of each other.
   d. Children must respect level of authority of parents, Ephesians 6:1-2; and parents must respect level of authority of children. Ephesians 6:4.

2. The authority of church and levels of authority within the leadership of the church.
   a. There is no higher authority, before God, and under God, than the New Testament church. Matthew 28:18.
   b. There is a thin line and a narrow space between strong progressive leadership within the church and authority.
   c. I believe there should be respect, support, loyalty, and dedication shown to leadership within church.

3. The levels of authority within the circle of civil society.
   a. Government
   b. Law enforcement agencies.

III. THE LAST DAYS ARE IRREVERENT. (speak evil of dignities). Speak evil means slander or defame; dignities means that which is honorable; having aspect of commanding respect and recognition.
A. The Israelites spoke slanderously to Moses Numbers 14:1-4.
B. Disrespectful (irreverence) to the people of God.
   1. The name of God is esteemed lightly.
   2. The position of Pastor of church.
   3. The leaders in churches should be respected as to what they try to do.
C. Disrespectful to property of God.
   1. The church building, furniture of the church.
   2. The Bible as being authoritative.
D. Disrespectful in Worship of God.
   1. The inward mental, emotional attitude is not conducive to communicate to God in worship.
   2. Outward gestures.

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