



TOPIC Make Room for the Master

SPEAKER Elder Goh Hock Chye

THEME End-Time Exhortation

DATE 26 & 27 Jan 2019

MESSAGE SUMMARY

MAKE ROOM FOR THE MASTER

In this message, Elder Hock Chye continues the exhortation on end-times, expanding on the text of 1 Peter 4: 1-19. This text was written by the apostle Peter to encourage the Christians in their time to endure suffering and stand firm in God's grace by giving themselves to God, despite the increasingly hostile environments they were living in.

Elder Hock Chye further expounds the text, giving us practical handles to how we can stay alert for His return.

STAY AWAKE!

Elder Hock Chye dissected his message into 5 key takeaways for us:

1) Keep your HEAD clear: PRAY

1 Peter 4:7 reminds us to be firstly self-controlled, hence disciplined and alert; secondly, we ought to be sober-minded, and serious.

It is imperative that we stay connected to reality always, and not be weighed down by the dissipation, drunkenness and demands of life (Luke 21: 34-36). Further to that, we are also to be single-minded, choosing Jesus over the world, and be in a state of contentment. We are only able to achieve all these through constant and fervent prayer.

2) Keep your HEART warm: LOVE

The apostle Peter also wanted us to love one another earnestly (1 Peter 4:8), as love covers a multitude of sins. This love for one another is to be carried out with an intense and serious conviction. In our fallen nature, we may sometimes say and do things that cause regret, and it is the depth of the love that will absorb the negative effects of sins. We should never give up loving one another and to hold fast to love.

3) Keep your HOME open: SHARE

A great way to extend God's love is through extending hospitality (1 Peter 4:9), without complaints! We are encouraged to be hospitable by keeping our homes open, offering what we have without grumbling. It is through an authentic living out of God's blessings in our lives that we will bless the people who come to share their lives with us.

4) Keep your HANDS busy: SERVE

Everyone has gifts, and the purpose of these gifts are for them to be used. Through our service to one another (1 Peter 4:10-11), we are allowing God's grace to be channelled through us, thereby demonstrating God's varied grace, ultimately for Him to be glorified.

5) Keep your HOPE alive: PERSEVERE

Elder Hock Chye reminds us not to be alarmed when suffering comes; the testing of your faith produces steadfastness and perseverance. Through faith and patience, we will rejoice in exultation at the revelation of His glory (1 Peter 4:12-13).

CONCLUSION

Even though we do not know the definite time of Jesus' return, Elder Hock Chye reminds us of the importance of staying alert amidst the end times, and to make room for His return. We do this through the continuous postures of prayer, love, sharing, serving, and persevering, in view of the end of all things. In these times, as a Christian, we will endure sufferings and trials, and face persecution. However, God is also good and just to promise that we will inherit the salvation that He has promised if we persevere.

QUESTIONS

1. Elder Hock Chye brought up five points in which we are to make room for the Master. What are the five points? Summarise what they mean.

2. Has there been anyone you have observed whom you would like to emulate in any one of the five ways – through praying, loving, sharing, serving, or persevering. Share what that person did that impressed you.

3. Of the five pointers that Elder Hock Chye shared, pray and reflect on one area that you would like to commit to doing more (praying, loving, sharing, serving, or persevering) this year. Share with the group how the steps you would take could look like.