

**THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS**

Message Nine

**The Characteristics of the Men  
Who Turn the Age**

Scripture Reading: Dan. 1:8; Matt. 7:13; 1 John 5:19; 2 Tim. 2:21-22; Rev. 18:4; Dan. 9:2; Eph. 6:17-18; Col. 3:16; Dan. 6:10; 1 Thes. 5:17; Acts 1:14; Dan. 1:12-13; 2:17-18; 9:19; 11:32; 3:17-18; Psa. 110:3

**I. The first characteristic of men who turn the age is that they are separated persons—Dan. 1:8:**

- A. We must know that everyone in this age is walking on the same road and is swept into the same current—a way that follows Satan—Matt. 7:13.
- B. This way was initiated by Satan, pioneered by Satan, far from God, and is always going downhill—1 John. 5:19; cf. 2 Pet. 2:15; 2 Tim. 3:1-3; Luke 10:30-31:
  - 1. Young people are most susceptible to follow others in their manner of living, feeling that since others can do something, they can do the same and since everyone else is doing it, it is all right for them to do it also—cf. 1 Pet. 4:4.
  - 2. Please remember that if we follow this way, we will become completely useless and can never be used by God to turn the age because we do not stand on God's side but on Satan's side—2 Tim. 2:21.
- C. Hence, we must have a separation from those in the world and stand up to be an anti-testimony for God by inwardly standing up against the tide and being different from this age—Rev. 18:4; 2 Tim. 2:22; cf. 2:13; Eph. 5:17-18; Dan. 1:20.

**II. The second characteristic of ones used by God to turn the age are that they not only read God's Word regularly but are persons who are joined to God's Word—Dan. 9:2; cf. 2 Tim. 3:15-16:**

- A. When we come to God's Word, we have to learn not to study for some scholarship or for some knowledge but to find out God's desire from His Word—cf. Luke 10:39-42; Matt. 26:6-13.
- B. Whenever we find out God's desire, we must immediately join ourselves to that desire to be His anti-testimony—Eph. 6:17-18; Col. 3:16; cf. Dan. 2:30:
  - 1. Many young brothers and sisters read the Bible regularly, but your reading of the Bible may not affect your living or join you to the Bible—instead your living remains totally separate from the Bible—cf. 2 Cor. 6:14.
  - 2. Such persons cannot turn the age and cannot be an anti-testimony in a degrading age—cf. Rev. 3:15-16.

**III. The third characteristic of men used by God to turn the age is that they are persons always praying prayers that cooperate with God to turn the age—Dan. 6:10; Eph. 6:18; 1 Thes. 5:17; cf. Col. 4:2:**

- A. The highest expression of a man who cooperates with God is prayer—Acts 1:14; cf. 13:1-4; John 17.
- B. They believe absolutely in prayer, declaring before God and Satan that they do not depend on worldly food and drink for the health of their body but only on God's care—Dan 1:12-13; cf. Matt. 6:33-34; Luke 12:13-21.

- C. They pray with their companions to afford God the highest cooperation and the highest coordination to do what man cannot do and to understand what man cannot understand so that the desire of God can be revealed and “printed” into them—Dan. 2:17-18.
- D. They pray at set times to touch God's heart and fulfill His desire as their most important business, not allowing anything to interfere with their prayer—6:10; cf. Acts 10:9.
- E. They meet God's need to have persons on the earth who cooperate with God to bring His will and His kingdom to the earth—cf. Dan. 9:2-19; Matt 6:9-12.
- F. They are constituted to be persistent praying persons who pray steadfastly against Satan's resistance—cf. Dan. 10:2-3, 12.
- G. Their prayer reaches the highest peak asking God to do something for Himself and for His sake—prayer that is totally for God and not for themselves—9:19.

**IV. The fourth characteristic of persons who are under God's hand and can be used by Him to turn the age is that they are self-sacrificing persons who do not care for their own life—Dan. 1:8-12; 3:17-18; cf. 2:12-13; 6:7-13:**

- A. Everyone God uses to turn the age is afraid neither of heaven nor of hell and fears nothing except to offend God and to lose His presence—cf. Exo. 33:13-14.
- B. Everyone God uses to turn the age is bold not in a wild or natural way but because of their fear of God and their courage to confront difficulties—Dan. 11:32.
- C. God wants to gain absolute young people so that He can use them to turn the age; everyone who has received mercy from God today will surely respond to this matter and will surely want to touch God's desire, be voluntarily-consecrated ones, Nazarites, and be used by God as an anti-testimony in this ever-degrading age—Psa. 110:3; Dan. 9:23; 10:11, 19.

**FOCUS:** *The four characteristics of men who turn the age are that they are separated persons from the age, they see and join themselves to God's desire in the Word, they are praying persons that cooperate with God for His move on the earth, and they are self-sacrificing persons who give the Lord an upper-room consecration for His interests on the earth.*