

DAY 14

Gratitude and End-Time Survival

*‘In the final days the culture of society will become extremely fierce and difficult for the people of God...They will be **ungrateful** and ungodly.’ (2 Timothy 3:1-2 TPT)*

‘Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you might be blameless and innocent, children of God in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation. Among them you shine as lights in the world...’ (Philippians 2:14-15 TLV)

In the Middle East today, believers are driven from their homes, kidnapped, abused, raped and beheaded by terrorists. Current worldwide figures show that Christians are the most persecuted group in the world; 11 Christians *per day* are being murdered for their faith!

In the West, persecution comes by psychological and illogical political correctness. During the 2019 Australian Election, rugby star Israel Folau lost his \$4 million contract because he quoted a Bible verse on social media. The Biblical quote spoke of those who would go to hell. PM Scott Morrison, a Pentecostal Christian, was hounded to see if he too believed in hell—as part

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of the political debate! And when he miraculously won the election—pundits were shocked to discover that many Australians were afraid of losing their religious freedoms!

The hatred toward Christians is part of the end-time spirit. Jesus warned us, if they hated Him, they will hate us too! Such vitriolic hatred tests a person's commitment and gratitude to the Lord.

Paul warned us it would get difficult for believers in the last days. He also identified that gratitude would diminish in the end-times. In other words, grumbling would increase and be one of the signposts of the end-times!

Demonic strongholds are entrenched and empowered by grumbling, therefore as darkness increases, so too will grumbling. End-times issues will test our resolve to give thanks rather than grumble! Developing a lifestyle of gratitude will be necessary for remaining faithful to the Lord in the midst of persecution. Thanksgiving and worship in the glory realms will be necessary for overcoming victory.

The one distinguishing difference in the end-times is light and darkness. Those bound by darkness will grumble and those walking in the light will praise. Therefore, we really need to secure the concept and habit of gratitude.

The end-time spirit of ingratitude has a focus upon self and entitlements; i.e., selfishness. Rick Joyner had two visions described in his books *Fire on the Mountain* and *The Valley*. In the second book, *The Valley*, Joyner⁵¹ says selfishness will be deadly for believers in the end-times. Believers operating in selfishness will have no defence against the enemy.

Selfishness has an expectation to be pampered and given entitlements. If these are withheld, one can expect toddler-like behaviour. Selfishness is the antithesis of dying to self. So too, grumbling is the antithesis to thanksgiving.



It is only natural that grumbling is part of the end-time scenario of selfishness. We already see it among global elites who have emotional 'melt downs' when they do not get their own way.

The only way to overcome this end-time spirit of selfishness and grumbling is the way of the cross and in gratitude expressed to the Lamb who was slain. Yeshua's defeat of all the devil's works include selfishness and grumbling. The cross is the power of God to overcome the end-time spirit.

Grumbling caused a generation of Israelites to die in the wilderness and never reach the Promised Land. Later, grumbling led to rebellion, idolatry and further captivity, but this time in Babylon. Grumbling basically says God can't or won't help me. When we limit God from helping us, we effectively invite the devil to 'help' us instead! Therefore, if we are seduced to grumble, we can be captured by the end-time spirit.

Israel could not sing the song of the Lord while they were captives in Babylon. The song of the Lord is not a natural sound in the devil's lair! Mystery Babylon itself has its own unique sound—and it's not praise! It is a sound of rebellion, hatred and murder; being 'drunk with...the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.' (Revelation 17:6 NKJV)

In the book of Revelation, all who are with the Lamb fill the air with praise 24/7. And 'Mystery Babylon' wars against the Lamb and all who are with Him. (Revelation 17:14) I believe strongly the end-time battle is like a 'battle of the bands'—it is over who we worship, and our sounds and songs of praise. When Babylon is defeated, its deathly music and sounds will also be silenced! (Revelation 17:22)

Praise is the language, environment and power of heaven. In heaven the Lamb is honoured 24/7, and His name and power are exalted. The sound begins in the heart of gratitude. Therefore,

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gratitude and praise in our homes are like a welcome mat for heaven to enter our earthly neighbourhoods.

However, grumbling is the language, environment and power of hell. Grumbling is an invitation to the hordes of hell.

Israel overcame giants and enemies when they went out in praise! So too, gratitude is a major weapon to overcome the end-time spirit of anti-Christ and Babylon.

ACTIVATION

1. Pray in tongues.
2. Confess and repent of any grumbling, complaining, ingratitude. Be as specific and thorough as possible, rather than just saying a general prayer. (1 Peter 2:9)
3. Confess to a friend according to James 5 where there is a promise of healing.
4. Ask Holy Spirit for His help to stop grumbling. Thank Him for answered prayer.

PRAYER

Father, I thank You for Your exhortation and warning of the importance of thanksgiving and praise in these end-times. I am so grateful You have not left me to fall into the trap of grumbling, but rather You have forewarned me and provided me with help to overcome. Amen

Now invite the Spirit of praise...

51. Rick Joyner: *Fire on the Mountain Book 2, The Valley*