

Held Fast, Loosening Roots

Monday 20 August 2024



Good morning precious saints,

I just want to remind you transcripts are also zipfiled onto the Storehouse page by the month, so if you are new and would like transcripts of older podcasts, you go to the [Storehouse page on my website](#).

I would like to share with you something that the Lord opened up for me this morning. For the last few days, I have been seeing a recurring image in my mind. It is that of a plant suspended in the air, with its whole root ball exposed, still with soil between the roots. I saw this about two or three times and then the fourth time, I saw that hands were holding the plant, and this is why it remained suspended in the air.

As I have meditated on this picture, and asked the Holy Spirit to explain more about what I was seeing, I had this sense that the coming shakings are being sent to loosen our roots from all that pertains to this earthly system and its ways. Those of us whose roots go quite deep down, clinging to earthly things, will be shaken more during the shakings, in order to loosen us from the earthly. God was specifically speaking to the remnant when He showed me this image. This is not about everybody on the face of the earth - it is those who call themselves part of the remnant, who are faithful to the Lord. They are still rooted in the earthly realm; in earthly systems, but God is going to trigger shakings in order to loosen our roots. He is coming to shake everything that can be shaken on the face of the earth, and only that which cannot be shaken will remain.

You know when you pull up weeds, you just pull them up in one movement and cast them away to the side, to a big pile, and it is designated for the fire. This was not what was happening in the image I saw. Weeds are pulled up to be burnt but this plant which I saw was being held firmly and strongly by the hands that had triggered the shaking around the roots and its loosening from the soil it was planted in. It is God Himself who takes hold of His own as the shaking begins, and lifts them above the things of the earth.

Luke 17 and Matthew 24 both say that there will be earthquakes in various places, wars and rumours of wars, plagues and famines, and it says that these are the beginnings of sorrow. That word 'sorrow' in the Greek means 'birth pangs', in other words like when a woman goes into labour. When the birth pangs start, you know the process of delivering the baby has begun. You have come to full term and the shaking has begun.

Well, earthquakes are one of the birth pangs in the natural, and the image I saw says that we will be experiencing shakings, as the remnant, but there is purpose in them because God is wanting to loosen our roots completely from this systems and the foundation of earthly things.

Once those first contractions start with a pregnant woman, the time of birthing has arrived, but there are still stronger birth pangs ahead, greater shakings coming. What you have waited for is not yet, but as Isaiah 66 says, “ *He who brings to the point of birth, does not shut the womb.*” In other words He starts a process of fulfilment of His word and it doesn’t stop until it is completely fulfilled. We all know what the end time prophecies say about the time of trouble, the time of Jacob’s trouble, the time of sorrows, the birth pangs and tribulation.

You know, in labour there is a point when you know that you have to go to the hospital NOW. I think it is when the contractions are 10 minutes apart; don’t quote me, I haven’t had a baby for a long time, and I didn’t have time to look it before I started recording this. But in the same way as there is a certain moment in the labour when you know it is time to get moving, Jesus also gave a sign in Matthew 24 and Luke 17 when it was time to get moving. He said,

“When you seen the abomination that causes desolation positioned in the holy place... flee to the mountains”.

When the labour pains are 10 minutes apart, there is no more time to do other things. You can’t cook a meal for your husband who is going to return home that night, there is no more time to get your hair done, there are no more coffee dates with your friends, there is no more baby clothes shopping for the mother, it is time to go, and things speed up very rapidly from that point, when you are at a certain dilation in the labour pains.

Jesus spoke to those living in Judea and said when their eyes saw a specific marker of the abomination that causes desolation, that they were to flee to the mountains. Get out of the cities, go to a place of refuge, don’t consider earthly things, don’t go and gather up all your stuff. A pregnant woman, when her birth pangs are 10 minutes apart can’t say, “Wait, I just want to tidy my cupboards before I go”. You should have done that the week before. Just like a bride in ancient times had to live in a state of readiness, because she didn’t know which particular day the bridegroom would come for her, so too a pregnant woman, as you get into the season when the birth is due, has to be in a state of readiness. It could be any day. Once the birth pangs start, there is no stopping the process

until it is complete. We all know what happens with birth pangs, whether we've watched it in the movies, or whether we as women have experienced it ourselves. Once the first contraction starts, they get closer and closer together, and the last part of the labour is extremely intense and painful.

Once the earthquakes, famines, wars and pestilence are all going on in diverse places all over the earth, you are on a journey where there is no going back, and at a certain point Jesus has given you a sign, when it is time to flee, when it is time to get moving. This is why, in that image that I saw of the plant who experienced the shakings and had its root loosened, this is why the Lord holds you fast, suspended above the earth, as the shakings intensify, and lifts you out of the realm of the shaking, so although you witness it going on all around you, it is not affecting you like it is affecting those that are deeply rooted in the systems of this earth and the ways of the world.

So don't cling to earthly things, Beloved, allow your roots to be loosened right at the beginning of the shakings, and removed and lifted out of the earthly order. Understand that the pressure that you feel is not the enemy always - it could very well be the Hands of the Lord holding you fast and moving things around in your life, so that your roots come really loose. I know when I try and dig up a big plant to move it, sometimes the roots go so deep that I have to pull it one way, and then I've got to pull it in the opposite directions, and almost go around all the stations of the clock to loosen all those roots. Sometimes you take a spade and you dig down deep to loosen the earth underneath the plant, so that when you take it by its trunk and you pull, it is easier. Sometimes quite a lot of strength is needed to move and transplant a big plant.

Surrender to what God's hands are doing in your life. He is lifting you above the shakings of the earthly realm, even though you personally feel quite shaken by having your roots loosened and detached from the things of this earth. The reason He is doing this is for your protection.

The last image I saw was of this plant, but it was turned upside down, with its roots planted in heavenly places, drawing nourishment and strength from the

things that are invisible. That plant's life had been turned upside down and yet it was flourishing with its roots in the invisible. So, Beloved, yield the whole sum of your life and all that concerns you into His hands. All that He does is for the preservation of what cannot be shaken, which is the life and presence of the kingdom of God within you. The more you hold on stubbornly to the soil of earthly things and ways, the more the roots will be snapped, broken off, and it will cause you much pain. Yield and trust His hand and His will. You were designed to be a vessel for His glory, a tree of His planting, and now the time is coming for the shakings that cannot be stopped until His coming. Trust His wisdom and His will in all things. Don't cling to the familiar, whether it be a place, a position, the source of nourishment and sustaining, make Him your home - the Rock you are planted on. Make Him your source of nourishment and life and peace and protection.

Noah probably didn't understand fully what God was saying about judgement. A flood had never happened before in the earth. He had no grid for understanding and no experience to give him background when the Lord said He is going to bring a flood upon the earth, but he heeded ALL God told him to do, and when it was time to get in the ark, BEFORE one drop of water had fallen, Noah obeyed. He allowed God to shut him inside, without fully understanding the parameters of what was going to unfold once the judgements began. God lifted Noah and his household above the earth as the judgement was poured out from above and below. Noah and his household were saved because of the fear of the Lord in Noah and his diligent obedience to every instruction.

May God grant us the grace to quickly obey His instructions, even when we don't fully understand why, to let go of all that currently grounds us and gives us a sense of security in the earthly realm, and in the systems of this world. We are headed into the realm of the supernatural, Beloved - supernatural protection in the midst of devastation, whether it be from plague or earthquake, supernatural provision in the midst of famine, and supernatural healing in the midst of the rampages of death and hell through plagues.

I want to read you Hebrews 11:13-16. Hebrews 11 is the faith chapter, it has a long list of people who are recorded as having lived by faith and having pleased

God. Some of them are named and some of them are not, but there is one characteristic that all these people had; they acknowledged and confessed that they were strangers and temporary residents and exiles upon the earth. They considered themselves to be pilgrims in the earth. They were IN the world but they were not OF the world, and because of that, God was not ashamed to be called their God. That's a very important thing. So do you consider yourself a citizen of heaven, or of earth? Are you a citizen of a certain nation, or are you a temporary resident there?

I can tell you this, precious remnant, once God has finished the personal shaking in your life and the loosening of your roots, in order to lift you above the terrible shakings that are coming to the systems of this earth and the actual globe itself, the physical ground, once your personal shaking is over, you will consider yourself fully a citizen of heaven. Jerusalem above will be your mother, and you will be a member of the church of the First Born upon the Mount Zion above, and you will consider yourself to be just passing through this world, a temporary resident, a pilgrim and a stranger in this place.

So I want to encourage you to give God full jurisdiction over every area of your life. Don't be afraid; when you feel the initial shaking come. When you feel that pressure surrounding you, know that it is His hand, and surrender to it. Don't fight it. Don't fight to keep structure and familiarity and solid ground under your feet. When you feel that pressure, yield, trust Him. Trust Him as you feel all your existence, all the foundations your life has been resting on, loosened from under you. Trust Him, He is holding you fast. He is loosening your roots from the earthly realm in order to transfer them fully to the heavenly realm, because the things that are seen are temporal but the things that are unseen are eternal. God wants you rooted in the eternal. Then, whatever unfolds in the earthly realm will not be able to rob you of your peace and your joy in the midst of it all, because you know you are held by His hand and anchored in a place that cannot be shaken.

I want to end off by reading to you Psalm 46 in two different versions. I am going to read to you the Amplified version and I am going to read to you the Passion translation. Let's do the Amplified first:

“God is our Refuge and Strength [mighty and impenetrable to temptation], a very present and well-proved help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains be shaken into the midst of the seas,

3 Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling and tumult.

4 There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God will help her right early [at the dawn of the morning].

6 The nations raged, the kingdoms tottered and were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our Refuge (our Fortress and High Tower).

8 Come, behold the works of the Lord, Who has wrought desolations and wonders in the earth.

9 He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow into pieces and snaps the spear in two; He burns the chariots in the fire.

10 Let be and be still, and know (recognize and understand) that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations! I will be exalted in the earth!

11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our Refuge (our High Tower and Stronghold). Selah”.

Now let’s see how the Passion translation puts it:

“1 God, you’re such a safe and powerful place to find refuge!

You’re a proven help in time of trouble—

more than enough and always available whenever I need you.

2 So we will never fear

even if every structure of support were to crumble away.

We will not fear even when the earth quakes and shakes,

moving mountains and casting them into the sea.

*3 For the raging roar of stormy winds and crashing waves
cannot erode our faith in you.*

*4 God has a constantly flowing river whose sparkling streams
bring joy and delight to His people.*

*His river flows right through the city of God Most High,
into His holy dwelling places.*

*5 God is in the midst of His city, secure and never shaken.
At daybreak His help will be seen with the appearing of the dawn.*

*6 When the nations are in uproar with their tottering kingdoms,
God simply raises his voice,
and the earth begins to disintegrate before Him.*

7 Here He comes!

The Commander!

The mighty Lord of Angel Armies is on our side!

The God of Jacob fights for us!

8-9 Everyone look!

Come and see the breathtaking wonders of our God.

For He brings both ruin and revival.

He's the one who makes conflicts end

throughout the earth,

breaking and burning every weapon of war.

10 Surrender your anxiety.

Be still and realize that I am God.

I am God above all the nations,

and I am exalted throughout the whole earth.

11 Here He stands!

The Commander!

The mighty Lord of Angel Armies is on our side!

The God of Jacob fights for us!"

Hallelujah!