#### Dear Friend,

The Lord has never called me a prophet and I do not pretend to be one. However, simple meditation of the Word of God gives us much insight into God's character and the manner in which He generally functions in certain situations. In fact, the Bible tells us plainly that we can study what happened to the nation of Israel in the Old Testament and learn by example how God will deal with us.

## 1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

When God's people turned away from Him in order to serve other gods, repeatedly judgement would come upon them in order to bring them back to a state of repentance. God loves His people, and He does not want them to perish. Difficult times would manifest in various ways so the people would see their need to turn back to the God who loves them.

I am not a prophet, but it is obvious that as a nation, the USA has turned away from God to serve the gods of this world. This nation that was founded by Christians for the purpose of spreading the gospel around the whole world ... is in a current state of rebellion against God and has been in that state for a very long time.

What can we, as a nation, expect? We can expect the same things as happened to our example in the Old Testament. Difficult times are coming as God shakes this nation (and the world) to bring it to its senses once again, so that the people can repent and turn back to God the Father, and to obedience again unto our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah chapter sixty is one of my favorite prophecies concerning the coming of Jesus Christ, our Messiah. But in my meditations recently, it seems to me the Holy Spirit has highlighted the following two verses to describe the coming times that are right in front of us ... increasing darkness ... and glorious revival!

# Isaiah 60:2-3 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. [3] And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The darkness is increasing at a tremendously accelerated pace. I hardly recognize my beloved country from just twenty years ago. We are living in a time of darkness ... and increasing darkness daily. (Thank God for the word "but" in the next sentence.) Gross darkness shall cover the earth and the people ... BUT ... the LORD shall arise upon thee, and HIS GLORY SHALL BE SEEN UPON THEE!

Seen by whom? Those who are living in the gross darkness. There is a shaking coming to the USA and to the world at large. That means very difficult times are coming, and with that shaking

will come painful horrors. (Just go back and read from the example of Israel in the Old Testament.) BUT ... no matter how difficult and painful the times will be ... no matter how gross the darkness gets ... HIS GLORY SHALL BE SEEN UPON THE REMNANT WHO CONTINUES TO WALK IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM!

And did you notice? The Gentiles, the unbelieving world, SHALL SEE HIS GLORY UPON US ... AND ... THEY WILL COME TO HIS LIGHT. THAT IS REVIVAL! This is His Word to the remnant who will not bow the knee to Baal or any other false god:

### Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

No matter the horror, the pain, the difficulty of the times while the shaking is going on, our mandate is clear. ARISE church! SHINE church! This is no time to be fearful. This is the time to exercise boldness like never before. Do not hold back your voice from speaking the truth of the gospel every chance you get. Be diligent in worship, the Word, prayer and fasting. These will be very dark times for the world, but it will be a most glorious time for the remnant church and the kingdom of God.

### ARISE! SHINE! HIS GLORY SHALL BE SEEN UPON YOU!

I love all of the Word of God, but I would specifically like to recommend three New Testament books to you in order for you to prepare for the coming shaking. The book of James, 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, and Hebrews were all written during the peak years of the persecution of the early church. They are like manuals for Christians who are experiencing what Jesus described as persecutions and afflictions for righteousness' sake. One last thought ... always rejoice in persecution, just as our Master told us to do.

Matthew 5:10-12 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [11] Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. [12] <u>Rejoice, and be exceeding glad</u>: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

Your fellow servant for Christ,

GARY