

July 12, 2019

Warm hellos to you dear brethren, and spiritual family here on the Coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and scattered children of God.

My wife and I pray and hope this finds you all doing well, and that again your week has been blessed!

### **Man's extremity is God's opportunity**

I remember growing up in Nebraska one of my favorite past times was to go out into the field behind our home where I lived, and gaze into the heavens above. I still do that today as often as I can. I am reminded of this saying "When it is dark enough...men see the stars" ...Ralph Waldo Emerson penned this many years ago.

Emerson's words are also echoed by an old proverb, which goes like this: "Sunshine all the time makes a desert."

What these two sayings express, is not an excuse, not something covering up for the difficult side of life. Rather, I think they speak the truth, and you and I might gain strength by pondering them with reflection. They actually go very deep into the understanding of why we are here.

Mature solid Christians are made not out of just the good times, but out of challenging and difficult times. An oft used word within the Ekklesia of God is "trials". In the flesh these are promised to come, and how we face them gives us an insight into our own minds and hearts, and the mind of God living in us as well.

"Man's extremity is God's opportunity". I've heard many sermons and discussions centered around this statement, and it intrigues me still today.

It is in crisis that the best of character comes to the forefront. God desires that we take on and have His character live in us!

This very age in which we live, which is volatile, turbulent, confusing and uncertain at times is an anvil upon which God can mold us for the good, for the better, to become more like Him. We are admonished to have a moldable, pliable, softened heart, not one that is solid, and cannot or will not change.

It is in the encircling gloom that this world often offers, we can come to realize the importance of being led by the Spirit of God. That Spirit is not the spirit in man, it is God and everything He represents, and how He lives, and lives IN us.

As Emerson says, it is in the night that we can see the stars which are invisible to our eyes by day.

What you and I need, is a spiritually mature outlook, reasonable expectation, a calm and steadfast mind and the Godly patience with which to meet whatever comes, with courage and faith in God, instead of with bitterness and resentment.

We must realize it is God in us that gives us the spiritual focus, and the tenacity to keep going. (Gal. 2:20).

Truly our God gives us the peace of mind that passes all understanding...and He watches over us all. These are promises that will never fail.

*I'm reminded in 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 (J.B. Phillips NT) We should like you, our brothers, to know something of what we went through in Asia. At that time we were completely overwhelmed, the burden was more than we could bear, in fact we told ourselves that this was the end. Yet we believe now that we had this experience of coming to the end of our tether that we might learn to trust, not in ourselves, but in God who can raise the dead. It was God who preserved us from imminent death, and it is he who still preserves us. Further, we trust him to keep us safe in the future, and here you can join in and help by praying for us, so that the good that is done to us in answer to many prayers will mean eventually that many will thank God for our preservation.*

We've opportunity with each new day, and each waking moment to realize God is making a new creature, a new creation in us all...and it is through adversity, as difficult as it is...we become more like Him and share that with the world in which we live.

...as I close this letter, as I do every Friday evening...as we enter His Sabbath...reflect on this with me, will you?

And again, may God continue to richly bless you. Our prayers and thoughts are with you daily! Please do pray for us as well.

*-Scott and Gayle Hoefker (Pastor and wife, The Living God Ministries Gulf Coast)*

The schedule for this week's **Sabbath** is:

**July 12<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Gifts for the Lord/ Praises/Gifts and Prayers to welcome God's Sabbath** 7:00 pm (via Teleconference live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

**July 13<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services** 10:15 am, with local services held in Montgomery. All others are welcomed and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal phone conference. **There will be a potluck noon meal *after* worship services in Montgomery.** (No services will be held in Spanish Fort this Sabbath as the Hoefkers will be in Montgomery).

**July 13<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Sabbath Fellowship Study** (Interactive Bible Discussion) **4:00 pm** from Montgomery with Whit Moore (connecting live with all others via telephone conference).

Next Sabbath's Schedule for TLGM Gulf Coast:

**July 19<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Gifts for the Lord/ Praises/Gifts and Prayers to welcome God's Sabbath** 7:00 pm (via Teleconference live connect) with Stephen Glover and friends.

**July 20<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services** 10:15 am, with local services held in Montgomery with the message by Whit Moore. There will be no local services in Spanish Fort as the Hoefkers will be in traveling on a pastoral visit to Georgia and Florida. (All are welcome and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal phone conference).

**July 20<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Sabbath Fellowship** (interactive Bible Discussion) 4:00 pm *from* Georgia with Scott Hoefker (connect live to all others via telephone conference).

Telephone Ministry (English): Call **1-712-770-4700**; then, when asked, enter Code **112165 #** to join.  
(Note: All callers are muted and must press \*6 to comment and \*6 to resume mute.)

Our Daily Bread Recordings

Sunday through Saturday / Our Daily Bread [listen anytime 24/7 to a recorded 15 minute message] Call 1-712-770-4709 (note this call in number is different and ends in "9"), then when asked, enter code 112165# [reference code numbers are on "Spiritual Fellowship Opportunities" on this website <http://www.tlministriesgc.org> or at "Resources/Archives" on <http://www.haggai114.net>]

Daily Fellowship Opportunities

Sunday – Friday / **Morning Sacrifice** (Prayers & Scripture Reading) at 6:00 a.m.  
Sundays / **History & Background of the Gospels** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Scott & Friends]  
Mondays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Glovers & Moses]  
**Almond Branch Fellowship** at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) (Stephen & Friends)  
Tuesdays / **Haggai Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) [Stephen & Friends]  
Wednesdays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Glovers & Moses]

1st & 3rd Wednesday / **Sons of God Fellowship** (Young men training) at 6:30 p.m. [Stephen & Friends]

2nd & 4th Wednesday / **Lydian's Fellowship** (Ladies) at 6:30 p.m. [Esther/Gayle & Friends]

Thursdays / **Mt. Carmel Fellowship** (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Hoefkers & Friends]

Scott Hoefker, Pastor

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