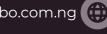




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# WHAT NEXT IN A TIME LIKE THIS?

Pastor A.S.O Olaleye

**September 26, 2022** 

#### **DAY ONE**

What is the time we are in now.

1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 1 Timothy 4:2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.

1 Timothy 4:3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Text: Esther 4:14, "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?""

What Does Esther 4:14 explained?

One thing that is certain, God will have his way and accomplish his purposes. Esther had been supremely put in place by the God of her people for the very purpose of Haman's evil plan to eradicate the Jews to fails. The very real problem facing Esther was that there was an official decree that if she approached the king uninvited, she may be put to death.

When Esther hears from Mordecai she chose right, saying that she would go through it and play her assigned role, and if she should perish, "then she would perish" (Ester 4:16).

Esther chapter 4 presents the reaction of the Jews (4:1-3) upon discovering that an edict had been written with instructions "to destroy, kill and to reduce to nothing all the Jews, from young to old, children and women, on a single day" (3:12-13).

The discussion between Esther and Mordecai ended in agreeing to carry out Esther's instructions of gathering all Jews for a fast (4:16–17).





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Breaking Down the Key Parts of Esther 4:14 #1 "Fo at this time,"

Christians and all people on the side of God in the world will likely face the same dilemma, even if not so severe as the one facing Esther and the Jews.

Though a conflict may not be a life or death matter, any conflict can be a trial, especially when one faces possible rejection as for standing on the side of God. The question is whether we will speak up when called upon, or will we "remain silent."

#2 "Relief and deliverance for the Jews will arrive from another place, but you and your father's family will perish."

God will always accomplish his purposes one way or another. Even our disobedience won't ultimately stop him.

But Mordecai's warning to Esther was that she would have no part in the glory if she did not submit to God's plan for her, and not only that, in his estimation, their whole family would perish, including her, if she allowed this to take place with no attempt at intervention.

At the end of time, God will be victorious, but many will not stand with him. They will rather stand with his vanquished enemies, having, like satan, foolishly opposed him, whether out of unbelief or out of fear.

#3 "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

We should always assume that God has a plan for any situation in which we find ourselves, but there will be specific challenges in our lives where the fact will be obvious, but fear will also be a factor.

Walk with God and abide in Christ, so that when your moment comes, you will be found faithful.





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One of the things we need next in a time like this in the world is "The Grace To Endure" at this end time.

Every one of us faces difficult and temptation time in our lives when we want to give up even on what God has called us to do.

The truth is that no one can escape this kind of season.

Temptation doesn't give regards to a pastor or a church leader.

The question is, what do you do with that temptation?

One characteristic of people who God uses is that they never give up.

So, what should you do when you feel like giving up?

The Bible gives us six steps God wants us to take when we feel like giving up.

The steps are spell out in the word ENDURE.

E – Embrace God's purpose.

We can endure almost anything if we know there is a purpose behind it, because without a purpose, we'll collapse.

The Bible says this about God's purpose behind our problems:

(1 Peter 1:7 NLT) "These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold".

Your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold.

People often mean evil toward you, but God brings good out of the bad. God's purpose behind your problems is always greater than any problem you're experiencing.

In fact, the Bible tells us in the book of James 1:3-4 NIV) "You know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything".

No matter what you're going through right now, enduring the trial will help you become more like Jesus. Never forget, God never wastes a hurt.





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N – Nurture your spiritual roots.

The Bible tells us we develop spiritual roots by sinking them deep into God's Word. To illustrate this point, Jesus uses the Parable of the Sower. He notes four kinds of hearts who hear the Word of God and respond to it. The person whose faith grows is the one who has roots deep in the Word.

Luke 8:15 "The seed in the good earth—these are the good-hearts who seize the Word and hold on no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest".

Circumstances change. Public opinion changes. Culture changes.

Prophecy, vision, miracles, signs and wonders will cease.

But the Bible says the Word of God lasts forever.

When you build your life on something that doesn't change, you find stability in the midst of trials.

D – Direct your attention on Jesus Christ.

Corrie ten Boom once said, "If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God you'll be at rest."

You can either look at your problems, or you can look at the solution.

The more you look at God, the smaller the problems get. The more you look at your problems, the larger they get. The Bible tells us to do this in Hebrews 12:2: "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus endured the cross by looking beyond it, to what God would do through it to save us.

To overcome the difficulties in your life, you have to redirect your attention away from the problem and toward Jesus Christ who gives the solution.

U – Use your experience to help others.

Sometimes we experience troubles because God wants us to use those problems to help others.





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Paul said in 2 Corinthians 1:6 Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer.

Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

As God comforts you through whatever pain you're experiencing, he is preparing you to comfort others with the very comfort you've been given.

Remembering how God will use our pain to help others is one of the reasons we can endure pain. Our love for others keeps us going.

The Bible says, "Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance" (1 Corinthians 13:7 NLT).

R – Rely on God's power.

You can't endure pain on your own. You need God's power to handle it.
In fact, God never meant for you to go through life on your own power.
Colossians 1:11 says, "We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need" (NLT). God uses difficulties to teach us to trust him.

You don't know God is all you need until God is all you have.

E – Expect God to bless you.

Faith is expecting God to do something in our life.

Matthew 9:29 says, "Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you."

We need to know how much God helps us through the difficult times. If you expect God to help you, He will.

God makes this promise to us in James 1:12: "God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him" (NLT).

God wants us to grow in faith.

Endurance is one of the most important characteristics any of us can develop in Christ and in the ministry.

Hebrews 10:36 says, "For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: