



Vision: Embracing the “Long View” - Part 1

- This is surely a kairos moment

- We need a God-sized Vision

- If the Holy Spirit is about to release **courage** to do the impossible and the **resilience** to sustain us when things get difficult, we should desire with all our hearts to have a **God-sized vision** of where we fit into His picture, the Kingdom of God.
- In November of 2009, the Lord gave Evangel this assignment in the form of an exhortation: **“Prepare for the return of Jesus!”**
- Since that time, we have studied **1 & 2 Thessalonians**, spent 2-years going through James Bryan Smith’s **Apprentice** series, dedicated 10-weeks to studying Randy Alcorn’s book, **Heaven**, did a 3 1/2 year study of the book of **Revelation** (and made it all the way to Chapter 8!), spent 6-months studying the book of **Habakuk**, did a 4-month study of the culture we live in we called **Understanding the Times**, spent another 4-months studying what it means to live out a **Culture of Honor**, and just finished a 5-month study in John 13-17, where Jesus shares His **Final Thoughts** with His disciples before going the cross.

All this in response to a word almost 7-years ago that we were to

“Prepare for the return of Jesus!”

- Personal Note: I was wrapping up the week 2 teaching for this series this Tuesday, when I listened to a 26-minute teaching by **Asher Intrader**, a messianic leader from Israel entitled, **“The Prophetic History of Secular Israeli Leaders.”** I was profoundly effected by what I heard and challenged to postpone this morning’s message until next week and share the teaching instead. It’s all about courage, right?
- **“One New Man”**
 - My plan for today’s teaching was to talk about how the Lord will release **courage** and **resilience** to people who have a vision big enough to actually require it. He wants us to have a **Long View** of His work in our lives! That’s the phrase he used with me...Long View!

- I'm listening to this teaching, realizing that Asher is painting a beautiful picture, a prophetic vision, of what the Lord is doing in our midst in this day. He paints this picture with a Jewish brush, but **he is including US in the picture**. Paul paints this same picture in his letter to the church in Ephesus...
 - Although you were once distant and far away from God, now you have been brought delightfully close to Him through the sacred blood of Jesus— you have actually been united to Christ! Our reconciling “Peace” is Jesus! **He has made Jew and non-Jew one in Christ**. By dying as our sacrifice, He has broken down every wall of prejudice that separated us and has now made us equal through our union with Christ! Ethnic hatred has been dissolved by the crucifixion of His precious body on the cross. The legal code that stood condemning every one of us has now been repealed by His command. His triune essence has made peace between us by starting over— **forming one new man, Jews and non-Jews fused together!**
~ Eph 2:13-15 (Passion)
- **A Change of Plans...** This Friday, I realized this teaching was **important enough** to push back what I was going to share today until next week, and listen to this message together as a congregation. The clip is 26-minutes long. Pay close attention to these **ten prophetic insights** Asher is sharing out of contemporary history. **Courage is mostly about trusting God**. What he is sharing should cause us to look at what God has been doing this past 70 years and marvel at His goodness!
- **When we're finished**, I will make a few comments about what we can do with this “**kairos**” word.
- **FORESIGHT, INSIGHT & OVERSIGHT...** A God-sized vision is more than just being able to see the future. Pastor Banning Liebsher says that "true spiritual vision consists of foresight, insight and oversight that come from His sight."
 - **Foresight** is like looking at life through a telescope. This outlook allows us to know what is ahead as it connects us to our future. Foresight is the element of vision that helps life make sense and gives us the motivation move towards it.
 - **Insight** is like viewing life through a microscope. This perception gives us an understanding of why things happen in life. It also helps determine the underlying motivations of the heart.
 - **Oversight** puts life into context. It is like flying over your house in a helicopter. There is a perspective that we can only receive from this vista that helps us understand where we are with respect to where everything else is. The sons of Issachar are great examples of this kind of vision. The book of I Chronicles says that these men understood the times and had knowledge of what Israel should do (12:32). People that are blessed with this type of vision often have great wisdom concerning the seasons of life.
- **Here is a link to this morning's video:** <https://youtu.be/l8eYjbZpUmk>