

The Door to Rapture: The Beginning of birth pains:

By Dr. Edward Owour

The hidden secret . . .

The mount of Olives is a little more than a mile beyond the Kidron Valley east of Jerusalem. This mountain rises about 200 feet above the city of Jerusalem offering a spectacular view of the Temple Mount. The sealed Eastern Gate of Jerusalem directly faces the western slopes of this mountain thereby acting as a deep significant spiritual monument. It must be remembered that during the Second Coming, the Messiah will return from this eastern direction and enter by the currently sealed Eastern Gate of Jerusalem. It however will be the first time that this sealed gate opens, ever since the Lord commanded it *shut*. During his ministry the Lord Jesus was fond of the mount of Olives whenever it was his privilege to step aside and pray. It was during one such opportunity that Jesus walked away from the Temple Courts towards the mount of Olives while saying that *no stone would be left unturned* (Matthew 24:2). Aware that Jesus was talking about the end of age, his disciples later approached him privately and pleaded with him to reveal to them the sign of his coming. Only upon arriving at the mount of Olives did Jesus finally disclose to them on the beginning of birth pains that would approach the earth prior to his coming. But what is most fascinating about this revelation is that as the Lord enlisted the earthquakes, pestilences, wars, floods, droughts, famines in the category of birth pains, he then suddenly added "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death . . ." (Matthew 24:8-9). It appears as though Matthew 24:8 defines the beginning of birth pains while verse 9 talks about persecution and death which occur right inside the tribulation. Before the tribulation sets in, the most important spiritual event, the *rapture* takes place on earth. In here is encoded a spiritual wisdom nugget that presents a glimmer of hope to today's church. When Jesus vehemently spoke about the birth pains, it becomes apparent that in between verse 8 and verse 9 of Matthew 24 is hidden the *rapture* (Revelation 16:15). This is because in this private discussion the Lord quickly came from talking about tumultuous events that would mark the beginning of birth pains, jumping right into the persecution of the tribulation. It becomes the greatest secret that the church has ever needed to know in order to make it into *rapture*. The sign of the beginning of birth pains is already at hand on earth, with the record shattering Chinese earthquake, Mid west US historic floods, Myanmar cyclone, the Filipino Fensheng floods, looming food shortage, looming nuclear war coming to Iran, etc.

Revelation on Noah

In the days prior to the flood the Lord sent Noah to warn the people about the coming wrath of God. Noah preached a humble message of repentance and the return to righteousness to avert judgment. However, there was so much *darkness* of sin in those days to such an extent that Noah's warning went virtually unheeded. People were giving into marriage, merry-

making, sexual sin and all form of sinful defilement, year-in year-out. This went on unabated until the day the wrath of God descended upon the earth. When finally the Lord opened the floodgates of heaven, and the floodwaters descended on the earth, Noah and his family and the animals entered into the ark to escape the rising waters. It is especially shocking to recognize that this is apparently synonymous with what is happening on earth today. Today, the message of repentance is not well received even by the church, the leadership inclusive. A great *darkness* has finally overshadowed the earth and taken hold of its people's lives to the extent that they have become spiritually mute to the gospel of righteousness. The same kind of merry-making, sexual sin, giving in to marriage, and sinful defilement of Noah's days appears to have resurfaced today, but this time with a greater intensity. The Christians should desist from sinning with impunity, but learn the Noah's lesson on this occasion. Immediately heaven released the floodwaters, Noah and his family entered into the Ark for safety leaving behind multitudes. This specific moment corresponds to the beginning of birth pains that Jesus intimated to his disciples on the mount of Olives. But we can see that God Almighty commands Noah to enter into the Ark right from when floodwaters appeared, and especially before the full *fury* of the flood was unleashed on sinful man. This short span of grace between the onset of the floods and the unleashing of the full *fury* marks the narrow *door* into the *rapture* of the church. It is a make or break duration that every Christian must be able to identify in order to make it into the *rapture*. This lends semblance to when a woman comes close to the full term in her pregnancy, and begins to feel birth pains. The real moment of truth however does not arrive until the water has broken. When the water has broken then any moment then the baby will be birthed out. So it is with the *rapture* of the church.

The beginning of birth pains is currently raging on, across the earth and the water has broken. This broken water is the floods one sees today across the globe including the historic August 2007 floods in India and Indonesia, the catastrophic May 2008 killer-cyclone in Myanmar, the June 8, 2008 deadly floods in the US, the May 2008 monster Chinese earthquake, the dreadful August 29, 2005 hurricane Katrina, the horrendous December 26, 2004 Asian tsunami, the 2008 global oil crisis, the 2008 global economic recession, the devastating famine that is currently looming over the surface of the earth, and the upcoming nuclear war in Iran, to mention only a few. These are the beginning of birth pains that constitute the *breaking of the water*. It is amazing that when a woman is expectant, right before the baby is birthed out, the first thing the doctor will ask is, "Has the water broken?" Right now the spiritual water has broken across the globe and the holy church of Christ that is watchful, is about to get birthed out into the kingdom of God. Our Lord Jesus was the first born among all men, to be *birthed out* into the Kingdom of our God in heaven when he resurrected, blessed his disciples, and *raptured* (Colossians 1:13-18; Acts 1:9). However, what particularly stands out is the fact that during the time of Noah, when the water broke, God commanded Noah to immediately rush into the ark for safety. Likewise right now the Lord God Almighty is equally commanding the church to prepare and be spiritually ready to enter into the *door*.

Californian homosexuality: Peak of endtime apostasy

Without examining the society around her, it would have been almost difficult to gauge the extent of *apostasy* in the church. When the church falls to sin, many things always go wrong and among the indicators of spiritual deterioration, *moral decay* in the land tops the list. When the church of Christ in the US began to debate and tolerate this very contentious and contagious issue of homosexuality in the priesthood, it marked the height of her fall. The altar of the Lord was endowed with the complete authority to serve as the *rod of God* for correction, redress, and guidance in the land. However, when sin enters into the altar of the Lord (church), there is absolutely no way such a church can purport to be a deliverer yet she herself has not been delivered. In such a *raw form*, she becomes toothless thereby just gargling around and barking without much effect. When the heathen watched and saw how the church in the US had embraced homosexuality, in which case letting it to go scott-free and virtually unrebuked, to them that was a green signal that homosexuality could now be institutionalized, without shame. The key church leaders in the US let this abhorrible abomination slip into the church of Christ in the pretext that their denominations were still intact and not affected by this abomination, and that gayism was just in other denominations. Little did they know that when such an abomination is reported anywhere in the land, it calls for a complete national repentance and rebuke to sin. While Eli was a God fearing man whose righteous standing with the Lord impressed many, his failure to rebuke sexual sin in the house of the Lord however, earned him eternal damnation. How then could California in the US publicly parade today's most horrendous act of homosexual marriages without any leading church minister crying out for an all out national repentance? But it is exactly in the same way that the church leadership in the US did not cry out for an all out national repentance when openly gay homosexual bishops became anointed in that land. These homosexual leaders in church went further on to *flaunt* their abominable relationships on network news, alleging that it does not affect their service unto the Lord? Why then is the church in the US not reading from the scripture in Romans 1:24-32? The world is wondering as to which bible they may be reading from. How could we then expect the church leadership in the US to this time around come out and rebuke this detestable act? But the Lord has been watching (Jeremiah 7:11). The catch here is that the last time the Lord spoke with me about homosexuality in New Orleans, He asked me to pronounce judgment to the effect that he would fail to tell the ocean where to stop in the event that they failed to repent. This, the Lord said would be for the express purpose of washing away their horrendous abomination. And sure enough, proclaimed on July 20, 2005, one month and nine days later, on August 29, 2005, God mightily came through with his Word when hurricane Katrina brought her angry waves right into their homes. And until today their lives in New Orleans have never been the same again, just like I had forewarned. This is perfectly consistent with when Sodom and Gomorrah engaged in this very abominable act of homosexuality, and got their rightful share of burning sulphur plus lightening that struck the place.

Judgment on California

On June 23, 2008 between 3:00-5:00pm the Lord spoke with me about the abhorrible abomination of homosexuality that has bloomed in California. On this day I saw the visions of

the Lord regarding what is about to befall California in the event that she fails to *repent*. In this vision of the Lord, he drew the map of the US in the sky, and he marked out the state of California on that map. After that, the Lord immediately painted the map of California completely *dark black*. And then I saw the next portion of this vision. At that moment the Lord presented small brown ants in their largest numbers that no man has ever seen nor comprehended. It was horrendous a sight. Immediately in that vision, the Lord brought me to my computer at which I was typing the warning to California on her homosexuality. But what was most astonishing is that as I typed on the keyboard, the letters I was typing on this article to warn California, were literally being composed by the same small brown ants that the Lord presented. As I typed, the ants constituted the entire text of the Californian article in a mighty vision of the Lord. Then I saw this entire article completed in this vision and as I sent it to the US, it brought forth a mighty judgment of the Lord in the state of California. The brown ants covered the entire state of California. It is today common knowledge to mature christians who operate in the Holy Spirit, that everytime the Lord presents ants, worms, locusts, bees, wasps, and the like, he implies an extreme judgment of the Lord coming to that land.

Repent California

The Lord has now asked me to warn the US to immediately call for a massive genuine uninterrupted national repentance and wailing. The God of Israel is at this time calling on the wailing woman in the US, if there is any at all, to come out of her closet covered with ashes on her hair and face, and bitterly wail unto the Lord, in her *sackcloth*. This, she should do until all the faces in the land are fully covered with tears and remorse. I have seen the judgment of the Lord coming to the US and California for her homosexuality. Even today as I write this, the Lord talked to me about the horrendous rain and floods coming right into the US homes. In this vision, he took me in the Spirit and upon entering their homes, it rained on me heavily as though there was no roof. The rain I saw came with gusty winds and babies disappeared in the storms leaving parents in complete anguish, wailing and mourning. Mark you, when I warned Kenya in like manner, to *repent* and turn away from the abomination of her sins, Kenya's failure to heed this Word and *repent*, earned her such a historic and most horrendous judgment of the Lord. Many nations of the earth were then able to watch rebellious Kenya struggling for survival. I had warned that if Kenyans would fail to *repent*, the judgment of the Lord would cause them to leave their homes, in large columns, and headed for the refugee camps of captivity. This together with the blood flow that I forewarned them about, was fulfilled to the letter. How about California? How great will be her judgment if she fails to *repent*? Remember, the same God that judged Sodom and Gomorrah and New Orleans must judge California, lest he be caused to *repent* to these two!

Vision of impending nuclear war In Iran

Excerpt from 2006

Rapture Magazine

The kingdom of Persia which constitutes the modern day Iran, is well mentioned in biblical prophecy as being very instrumental in the endtime events. In the book of Ezekiel chapter 38, this kingdom of Persia is presented as one of the main partners with whom Gog (Russia) is expected to join forces and *do battle* against Israel and her allies. This very unique role that Iran is to play towards the endtime events, has in the recent past began to shape up. It has been reflected in the bitter relationship between Iran and Israel over the years. These two are confessed arch enemies across time. In October 2005, while in a mighty repentance meeting in a little border town of Tanzania called Mbeya, the Lord spoke with me regarding the horrendous nuclear war that is coming to Iran. In this vision, the Spirit of the Lord lifted me to Iran and I saw a facility that sat at the bottom of gigantic mountains. The facility I saw at the base of the mountain was a nuclear facility that spotted quite a bit of modern technology in an otherwise remote setting. Then all of a sudden, I saw two missiles shot and targeting this Iranian nuclear facility. The missiles I saw appeared to have been guided missiles because I could see their tails that are adorned with copper-like propellers. The first missile cruised through the skies followed seconds later by the second missile and shockingly, they hit their target with such a sharp precision that left me in complete awe in this vision. Immediately the missile stroke the Iranian nuclear facility, a huge explosion was sparked off that lit the sky with such a tremendous cascade of flames. The flames came from the earth and covered the entire expanse almost touching into the deep heaven. Within the entire flame that covered across the horizon, there were little flames that flickered and blazed with such rage as has never been seen since the earth was created. I hence then set out on a non-stop mission proclaiming the coming of this war onto the earth. This upcoming war will be a historic war that will change the very course of history of planet earth. In a follow-up vision, the Lord again lifted me in his Spirit and took me to Israel and I saw the Israeli army preparing its airforce and planning this war. In that dream, the Lord opened all things to me and I gained complete knowledge on the importance of this war. In this mighty follow-up vision, again I understood the spiritual relationship this war has, with the wedding of the Lamb of God in the *rapture*. After the second vision, the Lord again gave me a third follow-up vision in which I saw many *angry war planes* headed for this Iranian nuclear facility. It was such an incredible moment on planet earth as all the nations were stunned beyond belief. At that time, the Lord also intimated to me that his covenant with Israel is an everlasting covenant and he is the Holy One of Israel. After proclaiming this prophecy on the upcoming nuclear war to Iran for sometime, shockingly enough the global network news media began to report on a nuclear dispute between Iran and the west, (US, EU, UN and Israel). It was astounding and bewildering to hear the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, come on live television saying that he would delete Israel from the map of the world. At that moment, I clearly understood that this war is inevitable. The Lord God has shown me these two missiles coming to hit the Iranian nuclear facility, and that this war is a very important spiritual landmark for the end of age. It is a war that will act as a catalyst that re-aligns the nations of the earth in which case Gog will consolidate her allies from the Arab world to fulfil Ezekiel's prophecy. *Put* which symbolizes Libya, will not be left out in this Gog alliance. Ezekiel the prophet pronounced a major storm that would come to Israel in the end of days. What is particularly stunning is the fact that the Iranian president has always been quoted across all

media as using the vocabulary “the storm coming on Israel.” The events shaping up around this war are a clear sign of the things to come in the fulfilment of Ezekiel’s prophecy (Ezekiel 38: 5 - 11). “You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.” “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: On that day thoughts will come into your mind and you will devise an evil scheme. You will say, “I will invade a land of unwalled villages; I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people — all of them living without walls and without gates and bars.”

By his voice, in a mighty vision of the Lord, the Lord said “everyone must now return to the Lord in repentance.”

Rapture door: What Isaiah saw

When Isaiah the prophet of the Lord saw the *rapture* of the church, among other things, he especially recognized the *door* that leads into heaven. In that vision Isaiah saw those holy ones who were asleep in the dust of the earth, resurrect into the glorious *rapture*. This is the same vision that Daniel the prophet of the Lord saw (Daniel 12:2-3). This vision prompted Isaiah to document in the scriptures, saying:

19But your dead will live; their bodies will rise. You who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead. 20Go, my people, enter your rooms and shut the doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until his wrath has passed by. 21 See, the Lord is coming out of his dwelling to punish the people of the earth for their sins. The earth will disclose the blood shed upon her; she will conceal her slain no longer (Isaiah 26:19-21).

When Isaiah the prophet made this proclamation “*Go, my people, enter your rooms and shut the doors behind you; hide yourselves for a little while until his wrath has passed by.*” he literally meant the entry into the *rapture* and the *shutting* of the *rapture door*. The wrath of God that consumes the earth starts at the beginning of birth pains and attains its height during the great tribulation when gross *darkness* will grip the earth. At that time it will be virtually impossible to evangelize the Jesus of Nazareth because of the great persecution attached to testimony. Here, Isaiah clearly emphasizes on the fact that at *rapture*, the night is over and the morning has come. Inside this scripture is concealed the most vital revelation regarding the *rapture* of the church. It is a revelation on the entrance to heaven that the Lord opened in the sky in the November 1, 2006 vision. In that vision the Lord opened heaven and presented two golden and glorious wedding rings for the *rapture* of the church, at the entrance to heaven.

The morning dew . . .

Isaiah mentioning the onset of the *morning dew* during the *rapture* presents a very precious insight into what is expected of this hour in which the church lives. It is the eleventh and

most critical hour right before the *rapture*. The *morning dew* stated here categorically refers to the Holy Spirit who is finally able to pull the asleep from their tombs and provide them with glorious bodies for *rapture*. This was in greater emphasis of the tremendous pivotal role that the Holy Spirit would have to play on earth in these last days. Such a role is to be articulated in the church that is completely influenced by the Holy Spirit. It draws in the need for the Holy Spirit *surge* in these precious and historic last days. This *dew* is the vivid imagery depicting God's control over the church through the waters of life from heaven. This *water of life* feeds the rivers and streams of the earth to give spiritual life and health wherever they flow in the church. It is a symbol of the *waters of life* that flow from the temple of God Almighty in heaven (Revelation 22:1-2). The *river of life* that it yields is the river by which God Almighty brings forth the *rain* from the storeroom of his upper chambers. The latter rain that is long over due, and supposed to visit the church right now before the *rapture*, is this *morning dew* (Jeremiah 10:13). This mighty river that Isaiah saw appearing as the morning dew is meant to purify and humble the church so she may enter into the wedding of the Lamb. The Lord God esteems those who are humble at heart and contrite in spirit, and only them does he give the privilege to partake of the wedding supper of the Lamb (Isaiah 66:1-3; Obadiah 1:3-4). However, the purifying act that this *dew* is intended to bring into the church of Christ comes as a result of the complete purging of sin that continues to menace this church. Such a revival event is intended by God, to take place in the church through the enormous wisdom of the Lord. Such wisdom is supposed to exceedingly propel and bias the church in the latitude of the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 1:7). No wonder, the scriptures says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom. This *dew* will cause the towers of pride and the pride of man that exalts itself above Christ, to fall on that day of *rapture*. Right now the church has raised up for herself several towers that mirror the Tower of Babel. And yet in this dispensation of the *morning dew*, every mountain will be brought down, hill and valley soaked by the streams of waters from the throneroom of God. These spiritual idol towers of pride that reign inside today's church will have to be brought down by this *dew* from heaven.

On that day, it is noteworthy mentioned that no sin will go unnoticed at *rapture* (Isaiah 30:25). And for Isaiah to have seen the *dew* of the morning purge-up the holy dead from their graves, he must have equally seen the manner in which this *dew* gave life back to the asleep (ressurrection). It is an event that takes place in the twinkling of an eye in a flash of a second (1 Corinthians 15:50-56). This same *dew* purifies the righteous living church thereby translating the holy living christians. No wonder, the Lord says that blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the *tree of life* and may go through the gate into the city of God (Revelation 22:14:). That washing of the robe before the *rapture* is accomplished by the *dew* that Isaiah saw, the *dew* that streams right from the temple of God in heaven into the earth. It is this *midnight dew* (morning) that sends wisdom to the few who chose *holiness* in order that they may be symbolic of the people of Sardis. In this *morning dew* wisdom such a church will not have soiled their clothes hence accorded with the blessing of walking with the Lord while dressed in *white*. The Lord calls them worthy since they have overcome sin and are holy. To any other that overcomes too, they will be like this church at spiritual Sardis. In this category the church will never have her name blotted out from the book of life and the Lord will acknowledge their names unto the Father and angels. After

lavishing *his people* in this way, the Lord himself asks those who have ears to hear what the Spirit says. In this way, the Lord greatly implied that the *morning dew* essentially opens the spiritual ears of the remnant holy church at *rapture*. This happens to the five wise virgins when at the *midnight hour*, the vile of *morning dew* opens their ears and they hear the voice of the Son of Man (Revelations 3:4-6; Matthew 17:1-13; Matthew 28:1-5).

The church is a very important conduit for this life-giving Spirit of the Lord. The gate of heaven is the *door* that Isaiah saw the elect enter into. In his oracles about this *rapture door*, the prophet Isaiah further went on to elaborate on how the earth would fail to conceal both the blood shed on her and her slain. This becomes a significant import of our time that is directed towards the church. In other words, this scripture emphasizes that in the days prior and through into the *rapture*, no sin or evil will be hidden at all when the latter glory falls. The day of *rapture* marks the beginning of judgment as the Lord will separate the holy *raptured* saints from the disobedient majority. God on that day is coming to avenge the oppression of his holy people through his divine judgment of tribulation. These holy elect he calls 'my people' (Zechariah 13:7-9; Ezekiel 11:19-20). God's people will have their names written in the Lambs book of life (Daniel 12:1).

Shutting the door

The prophet Isaiah heard the holy *raptured* saints being strictly instructed, "*enter your rooms and shut the doors behind you*". It immediately raises a very red flag that warns of the impending shutting of the *door* at *rapture*. If there was anything that the church should dread in these last days prior to the *rapture*, it should be the shutting of the *door* to heaven at *rapture*. At *rapture* the entire global population, dead or alive, will be split into two camps. The *raptured* against the *unraptured*. The Lord Jesus himself promised the church that he was going to his Father's house in heaven to prepare a place for the *raptured* church. In this promise, the Lord emphatically asserted that there are many rooms in his Father's house in heaven and that he would go to prepare the rooms for the elect. So when Isaiah saw the *raptured* elect being told to enter their rooms and shut the *doors* behind them for a little while, it was these mansions Jesus went to prepare. They are the rooms that will become a safe haven for the holy elect as tribulation engulfs the earth. In this way, the *raptured* church will escape the wrath of God that consumes the entire earth during tribulation. However, what the church needs to grasp is that everytime the Lord closes this *door*, it is always *shut* forever. This can be seen when the Lord Jesus himself spoke about the *rapture* using the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins. Nonetheless, it is noteworthy to seize that during the time of Noah such a *door* for repentance had too been opened by the Lord. Then, there was so much abhorable sin in the land. However, the complete absorption of the people into their daily sinful lives is what blocked them from repenting when the *door* was still open. Regardless of this, when the fullness of time matured, the Lord himself *shut* this *door* of repentance and grace (Genesis 7:16). That means that the Lord God himself is the one who has the full authority and control over this *rapture door* that leads into heaven. He can hence shut it at his discretion. Everytime the *door* is *shut*, a severe judgment often befalls the earth killing all people. That is exactly what transpired at Noah's time. But after floodwater receded

and all the people and animals killed, the Lord opened the same *door* and led man to a safer place. The wrath of God had now passed and Noah's family walked through this *door* to a saner and safer earth. Sanity had now prevailed as sin had been wiped out. Peace began to reign on earth as Noah renewed the covenant of holy worship with God Almighty. This led Noah to raise an altar and offer a holy sacrifice of clean animals unto the Lord. It would then seem like when sacrifice is all defiled and there is *no more* hope this *door* then leads to the restoration of worship. The Lord approved of this by affirming his covenant of worship in the rainbow that he arrayed across the sky. This episode exactly simulates what happens at *rapture*. Just before the *rapture* takes place, today the Lord is busy pleading with the nations of the earth to prepare for the *rapture* to avoid the judgment of tribulation. This the Lord is doing as the beginning of birthpains rages on, symbolic of the broken water. But just as Noah's days were, people today are very disobedient to the voice of repentance. Even the church does not embrace repentance for her restoration. And because of this only a remnant equivalent of the minute Noah's family will be able to enter into the safety of *rapture*. After the entry of the *raptured* saints into the wedding of the Lamb, the Lord will *shut* this *door* just like did he at Noah's time. Our Lord Jesus himself spoke very clearly on the *shutting* of this *door*. When he hinted on the *rapture* using the parable of the ten virgins, he asserted that the five wise virgins would enter into the kingdom of God. They went to be with Jesus as the gross *darkness* of tribulation and persecution reigned on the earth. But what is particularly most awakening is that this *door* was permanently shut behind them to such an extent that when the five foolish virgins tried to knock, their request was turned-down and they were literally denied entry. The same thing happened during the time of Noah when the floods came and the *door* was *shut* as people scrambled in the last minute rush to try to get into safety, but it was too late.

For a little while . . .

After the *rapture*, the *door* to heaven will be *shut* for '*a little while*' until his wrath passes by. This '*a little while*' that Isaiah the prophet saw is exactly seven years during which the wrath of God consumes the face of the earth. It constitutes the dreadful tribulation and the horrendous great tribulation when no one will be allowed to testify on earth in the name of Jesus. The specific act of closing this *door* is what ought to be the mightiest awakening of this age. In one instance, the Lord exemplified the act of closing this *door* as that event in which only the five wise virgins entered into the banquet with their lit lamps. The foolish virgins however were shut out as this *door* was slammed closed by the Lord. But prior to the closure of this *door* was the trimming of the lamps by all the ten virgins. Then most importantly then, the morning *dew* that Isaiah saw is the one that replenishes the brand of light emitted from the lamps of the five wise virgins. It is this morning *dew*-empowered light that practically permitted the five wise virgins to be on the inside as this *door* closed.

Entering through this door

It is one thing to agree with the five wise virgins and long to be like them, while it is quite another thing to engage in the real act of entry through this *door* to *rapture*. What exactly

does the church need to do to practically enter through this *rapture door* that stands open right now? Albeit the longing of the church to enter into the *rapture*, only the attainment of the true character of the five wise virgins will for sure earn her a full entry through this *rapture door*. But again, one may wonder as to what the character of the five wise virgins would translate into their own individual day-to-day lives. This would be the only sure way that the christian would have to tell with absolute certainty, whether they will make it into *rapture* or be shut out by this *door*. First and foremost, if today's church would like to partake of the *rapture*, she would have to realize that one of the most important attributes of the five wise virgins is that they lived under the fear of the Lord at all times (Proverbs 9:10; Proverbs 14:16; Proverbs 15:33). This wise church that can enter through the *rapture door* has also to live in total trust of the Lord, trusting him with all her life, and everything therein (Proverbs 3:5). A wise church must also be ever mindful of the Lord in all her routines and everything else that she does on the earth, minute-by-minute. In that way any minute the *rapture* happens she would be found not wanting, but fully ready to go. Such a christian that opts to live the life of the five wise virgins should also be cognizant of the fact that living wise will most definitely involve choosing the Lord's ways and wisdom above all ways of man in the world (Proverbs 8:10-11; Proverbs 3:6; Proverbs 17:24). And if such a church still continues to choose to live wise, that church must come face-to-face with the fact that the wise virgins lived in complete *submission* unto the Lord's discipline (Proverbs 1:2-3; Proverbs 3:11). Though this comes at such a peak of gross disobedience in the church, and total failure of submission to God's discipline, there is still a glimmer of hope in that *morning dew* that Isaiah saw. By this time it hopefully has become clearer on how difficult it is to live the life of the five wise virgins except that one loses their own lives, taking upon themselves the life of Christ Jesus. But only that *morning dew* that comes from the fountain of life in the temple of God in heaven can overcome the works of the flesh and bring the life of Christ into the church. This would perfectly translate the lives of the five wise virgins right into the heart of the church, as the *morning dew* takes charge. Moreover, the wise virgins lived a very repentant life that was full of the regular confessions of sins. By inference the wise christians who will enter through the *door of rapture* will also have to be ready to live a life of confessing their sins on a regular basis. This means that such a church must have a tender repentant heart in the midst of all that is happening around her today. The pain of embracing repentance in today's church becomes a worrisome factor because the church today is not yet ready to take rebuke and face her sin (Proverbs 28:30). The church that emulates the wise virgins nevertheless, must also be concerned about the spiritual well being of widows, orphans, prisoners, destitutes and those under privileged of the society, in which she finds herself. In this way, such a wise church will constitute the *sheep* and not *goat* nation. The *goat* nations are shut out of the *rapture* by this *door* while the *sheep* nations are pleasantly welcomed into the *rapture* wedding banquet by the Lord's warm hands. To the christians that did not care for the under privileged he will say, "*depart from me you who are cursed into eternal fire . . .*" (Matthew 25:41-46). Even as one tries to mirror the life of the five wise virgins whom Jesus welcomes through the *rapture door*, the church must still understand that these five virgins were entirely *teachable* and *not intractable*. What is particularly most disturbing right now is that when one closely examines today's church, one finds a church that is mostly intractable, and resistant to the teachings of *holiness*. The present-day church

is not yet ready to reform back to *righteousness*. Whether in her dressing, or on the most contentious issue of her separation from this world, she is totally adamant. Today's church is practically not yet willing to take instruction of the Holy Spirit our Counsellor, at this late hour. On the same note, the five wise virgins pleasantly received and loved instruction from the Lord (Proverbs 18:15; Proverbs 19:20). Notwithstanding, the christian that chooses to enter through this *rapture door* must still not forget that the five wise virgins lived their lives perpetually growing in the *wisdom* of the Lord. That implies that the holy remnant bride of Christ must grow in the wisdom of the Lord, on a daily basis, and into full stature (Ephesians 4:11-16; Proverbs 1:5; Proverbs 9:9; Proverbs 10:14). As though this were not enough now comes the caveat. The edge that the five wise virgins enjoy over their foolish counterparts rests upon the fact that they were completely *righteous* and not *wicked*. Today's church that would like to enter through *rapture door* must hence wear this celebrated *righteousness*. It is such a requirement that hinges directly on the foundation of her christian walk. This is because the Lord Jesus who is the chief bridegroom, is completely righteous. The five wise virgins also hated what is false and totally shunned evil (Proverbs 13:5; Proverbs 3:7; Proverbs 14:16; Proverbs 16:6). To be wise and enter through the *rapture door* will also require of the church that she take upon herself this very important character of the wise virgins. That wise church that enters the *rapture* is inevitably a *humble* and not a *proud* church (Proverbs 15:33). But this becomes a difficult one because today's church is largely a very *proud* and *egoistic* but not a *humble* house. Either proud in the amount of earthly wealth that she commands, or the physical beauty with which she walks, or the earthly well-connected friends that clamour around her. She calls them her inner circles of friends and they are entirely worldly by all spiritual standards. Such friends strictly base their value systems on what one has or does, thereby constituting the eye, arm, and leg that Jesus said, the church should cut off if they would easily lead her into hell (Matthew 5:29-30; 1 John 2:15-17).

Do Not Love the World

15Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. 17The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

However, considering the manner in which today's church has loved and compromised with the world, this particular requirement off the lives of the five wise virgins becomes a serious hurdle. This hurdle she must jump over in order to see the privilege that the five wise virgins will receive as they enter the *rapture door*. The wise church is also expected to be *self-controlled* and not *rush* in her temperament. She should wear a *calm* patient spirit with which she can accommodate the long sessions with widows among other requirements (Proverbs 29:11; Proverbs 17:27). Such a wise church must also be *cautious* and not *hasty* thereby thinking of every spiritual implication before she acts. She also ought *think* very carefully in the Holy Spirit before she *speaks* (Proverbs 12:23; Proverbs 13:16; Proverbs 19:2; Proverbs 14:8; Proverbs 15:2). The church that the Lord Jesus is so much fond of, hence calling her wise is also that church that is easily *forgiving* and not *vindictive*. This will call for extreme *patience* on her part, as she gets concerned about the goodwill of others, thereby forgiving

those who wrong her. But again she must not be vindictive. Put together, all these precious traits of the five wise virgins constitute the basis of a *redeemed* and changed *born again christian life*. This is the life that the church ought to live as she mirrors the image of Christ Jesus, the chief bridegroom (2 Corinthians 6:14-18). The time to live such a Christ-like life is now and not later. And that implies that for as long as the church receives the Holy Spirit of God Almighty, she will be helped to walk in through the *door* on that day of *rapture*. This door that has currently been open in the sky right now spots the two golden wedding rings. Remembering that the *rapture* takes place in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, making it virtually impossible to prepare in that instant, then the time to prepare is now. By inference, at *rapture* it is more about the closing of this *door* than the opening of any other *door*. After then, this *door* will be shut and rendered completely closed.

However, after *a little while*, during the Second Coming of the Lord, this *door* will again be opened when Jesus returns with his *raptured* saints to a now safer earth at Jerusalem. At that time, holy sacrifice will be restored and peace will animate world over as Jesus rules the earth. This interlude which will go on for a thousand years, simulates the time when Noah's ark anchored to a safer earth, on Mount Ararat and the *door* re-opened (Genesis 8:1-22). Since the water had now receded, the Holy Spirit in the symbol of the dove, came out of the ark into the earth, and returned to the ark with an olive leaf as a symbol of the reign of the Holy Spirit. Noah's remnant of the Lord then subsequently came out through this open *door* into the safer earth of holy sacrifice. The same thing happens post-*rapture* during the Second Coming of the Lord when the reign of the Holy Spirit will be instituted. This will be the dispensation when the judgment of the tribulation and great tribulation will have passed by in '*a little while*'. Therefore, when the Lord said 'like it was during the time of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man', he gave the biggest clue on *rapture*. Noah entered into the ark and *shut* the *door* behind for '*a little while*' until the wrath had passed by. The clue is that this current open *door* of repentance that stands open, will remain so momentarily but finally *shut* on the day of *rapture*. Let those who have ears, hear and *repent* in readiness to enter, because it is the *door* of grace. Time will come when it will be *shut* and the wrath of God will soak the earth, yet it surely will have been *closed* eternally. The foregoing presents a tremendous challenge that boils down to a personal one-on-one self-evaluation as each christian now begins to take stock of their spiritual lives *vis-a-vis* the *rapture*. It is 11:59pm and the night is old!