

Pastor-teacher Don Hargrove  
Faith Bible Church  
Sunday, Oct 3, 2010  
<http://fbcweb.org/sermons.html>

Preparation for Bible class: Salvation, 2 Cor 5:17. Fellowship with Christ, Jn 13:8. Spiritual maturity, 2 Pet 1:2-12.

## **LORD'S SUPPER SPECIAL**

### **CHRIST'S GIFTS OF PEACE, COURAGE, AND FREEDOM IN THE MIDST OF TRIBULATIONS**

#### **A. Christ's wonderful gifts of peace, victory, and freedom for perilous times.**

1. The dynamics of Christ's peace, and how His peace enables us to live a life without fear regardless of the circumstances of life, Jn 14:27.

2. Christ's peace and victory provide the basis for our courage in the midst of our tribulations, John 16:33.

#### 3. Jesus' prophecies of future tribulations

a. Explosion of cults and the occult, Mt 24:4-5; 1 Tim 4:1

b. Wars and rumors of wars, Mt 24:6-8

c. Famines, Mt 24:7

d. Earthquakes, Mt 24:7

e. Hatred and persecution of Christians, 24:9

f. Lawlessness, Mt 24:12

g. Preaching of the gospel to the whole world, 24:14

h. The Abomination of Desolation, Mt 24:15

i. Israel's rebirth, Mt 24:32-33

j. Apostasy among the elect, Mt 24:44

k. A world "filled with violence," Mat 24:37

l. Christ will return to the earth during the world's darkest hours and right all wrongs, Mt 24:31, 40-25:46.

4. The Apostles of “New Atheism,” the self-described Four Horsemen
  - a. Richard Dawkins
  - b. Sam Harris
  - c. Christopher Hitchens
  - d. Daniel Dennett
  - e. Differences between the new atheists and erstwhile atheists (i.e. Michael Martin, Kai Nielsen, Antony Flew, J. L. Mackie)
    - 1) The focus
    - 2) The audience
    - 3) The tone
    - 4) The grounding
    - 5) The aim
    - 6) The ignorance
  
5. Only because of Jesus Christ, we need not fear anything.
  - a. Christians need not be intimidated by any adversary, Philip 1:28.
  - b. Christ made it possible for us to live free from the fear of death, Heb 2:15.
  - c. God has not given us a spirit of fear, 2 Timothy 1:7.
  - d. Freedom from fear, like freedom from any enslavement in life, is only possible through Bible doctrine, Jn 8:31-32.
  - e. Respect/awe for God and His Word eliminates all earthly fears, whereas lack of respect/awe for God and His Word results in living in awe and yes, in fear of earthly things, Lk 14:4.

**B. Christ’s five warnings to believers of the church age, Rev 2-3.**

1. Guard your personal love for the LJC, Rev 2:1-6.
2. Don’t compromise with the world, Rev 2:12-16.
3. Don’t condone sin or evil, Rev 2:18-23.
4. Don’t become mechanical or formalistic, Rev 3:1ff.
5. Don’t become apathetic, Rev 3:14f.

**C. True Celebration of the Lord’s Supper, 1 Cor 11:17-22.**