

PREPARED & REDEEMED

FAITH, PREPARATION, AND COURAGE
IN THE LAST DAYS



JASON TAFT

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Prepared & Redeemed

An End Times Survival Guide for Families

by Jason Taft

Dedication

To every believer searching for peace in uncertain times—may you find your hope unshakable in Christ.

Preface

The world feels like it's unraveling. You don't need to be a news junkie to notice it—wars breaking out, economies shaking, governments stumbling, technology rewriting reality faster than we can keep up. Every day, the headlines seem heavier. And if we're being honest, sometimes the weight of it all can stir fear in our hearts.

I've been there. I've stared at breaking news that made my stomach twist. I've wrestled with what kind of world my kids—or the next generation—will inherit. I've sat in church pews with brothers and sisters in Christ who are anxious, asking, *"What do we do? How do we prepare?"*

That's why this book exists.

It's not about stoking fear. The Bible makes it clear: God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7). If anything, this book is about reclaiming that sound mind in a noisy world. It's about balancing faith with wisdom, hope with practical steps. It's about recognizing that preparation—both spiritual and physical— isn't about stockpiles or paranoia, but about stewardship and trust in Christ.

Faith First, Always

From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture never hides the reality of trials. Jesus Himself warned in Matthew 24 that wars, famines, earthquakes, and deception would mark the days before His return. But He also told us not to be alarmed, to endure, and to stay awake spiritually.

That's the heart of this guide: not just **how to survive**, but **how to stand firm**. To be prepared and redeemed. To live with hope in a world that often feels hopeless.

Why Families Matter in This Conversation

I believe survival starts at home. Governments rise and fall. Economies shift. But the family—rooted in Christ—has always been the backbone of God's people.

That's why throughout this book, you'll see a focus on the **family altar**: prayer, worship, and discipleship within the home. When faith is woven into daily rhythms, families not only endure crises—they shine as a witness to the world.

What You'll Find in These Pages

This isn't a textbook. I've written it so you can read it straight through or dip into the chapters that speak to your situation right now.

We'll start by looking at **the signs of the times** and how to discern them without panic. Then we'll explore **the age of digital deception**, the looming **food crisis**, and the shift toward a **cashless society**. We'll talk about how to **strengthen your family altar**, how to prepare to **endure persecution**, and how to keep your eyes fixed on **the blessed hope of Christ's return**.

And because faith also calls us to wisdom, I've added a **practical survival chapter**. We'll talk about food, water, power, hunting, fishing, camping gear, and even firearms—because wise stewardship includes protecting and providing for your household.

Finally, we'll close with resources to help you—[Trusted Products & Reviews](#) I personally recommend, as well as a section on building financial resilience through tools like [Wealthy Affiliate](#), for those seeking an honest way to generate income online.

Affiliate Disclaimer

Some of the links in this book are affiliate links. This means that if you choose to purchase through them, I may earn a small commission—at no additional cost to you. I only recommend products and services that I personally use, trust, and believe can provide value to you.

The purpose of these links is not just financial support, but to point you toward resources that can help you prepare both practically and spiritually. By using these links, you are helping me continue to provide free content, training, and encouragement through **Prepared & Redeemed**. Thank you for your support!

How to Use This Guide

- **Read it devotionally** – one chapter a week with your family.
- **Use it practically** – pick up tools or ideas that fit your context.
- **Pray through it** – ask God to show you what applies now and what to store away for later.

This book is not about replacing your Bible. It's meant to drive you back into it. Think of it as a compass pointing you toward Christ as you navigate stormy waters.

Why I Call It Prepared & Redeemed

Because preparedness without redemption is empty. You can have a bunker full of supplies and still be lost if Christ isn't Lord of your life. But when you belong to Him, every bag of rice, every solar lantern, every moment of prayer becomes more than survival—it becomes testimony.

Preparedness + Redemption. Both matter. One without the other is incomplete.

A Prayer for the Reader

Lord Jesus, thank You for every person holding this book. I pray You quiet their fears, steady their hearts, and open their eyes. Teach them how to live wisely, not in panic but in faith. Protect their families. Root them in Your Word. And let every step of preparation point them back to You, our only true refuge. Amen.

Chapter 1 – Signs of the Times: How to Discern Without Fear

The headlines hit hard. Wars, earthquakes, pandemics, political chaos—it feels like every week brings a new storm. If you're like me, you've probably wondered, *"Is this it? Are we living in the last days?"*

That's not a bad question. In fact, Jesus told us to pay attention. In Matthew 24, He laid out signs of the times—wars, rumors of wars, famines, and earthquakes. In Luke 21, He added that nations would be in distress and people would faint from fear of what's coming on the world. Paul echoed the warning in 2 Thessalonians 2, saying deception would grow so strong that even believers could be shaken if they weren't rooted in truth.

But here's the key: Jesus also told us, *"See to it that you are not alarmed"* (Matthew 24:6).

That flips the script. We're called to **discern without fear**.

What Discernment Really Means

Discernment isn't about chasing every conspiracy video or predicting dates. It's about wisdom—the Spirit-led ability to separate truth from noise.

- **Discernment is grounded in Scripture.** News changes by the hour. God's Word never changes.
- **Discernment is Spirit-led.** Jesus said the Spirit of truth would guide us into all truth (John 16:13).
- **Discernment is steady, not panicked.** Fear clouds judgment. Faith clears it.

When we discern through Scripture and the Spirit, the chaos of the world doesn't own us.

Pitfalls to Avoid

I've stumbled into some of these myself, and maybe you have too:

- **Sensationalism.** Every storm, every election, every headline gets treated like *the* sign. That's exhausting.
- **Fear-based teaching.** Some ministries thrive on panic. If a prophecy update leaves you trembling more than trusting Jesus, that's a red flag.
- **Neglecting the basics.** Focusing so much on decoding the Antichrist that we forget to love our neighbor. Jesus said faithfulness today matters more than speculation about tomorrow.
- **Conspiracy rabbit holes.** Hours lost to "must watch" videos that stirred me up but didn't build me up. Proverbs 18:17 warns: *"The first to state his case seems right, until another comes and cross-examines him."*

Discernment doesn't mean ignoring the times. It means engaging wisely.

The Bible Is Our Anchor

Life absolutely comes with a handbook—it's called the Bible. God's Word isn't just information; it's revelation. And it never returns void (Isaiah 55:11).

When the ground shakes, we don't need to guess what's true. We can go back to the anchor.

👉 If you want to go deeper on how deception spreads and how to guard against it, I strongly recommend Pastor Jack Hibbs' book [Living in the Daze of Deception \(Affiliate Link\)](#). It's one of the clearest wake-up calls I've read, showing how lies creep into culture and even the church—and how God's Word equips us to stand.

How to Watch Without Worry

Here are a few practical tools for discerning without fear:

1. **Start With Scripture**
Don't interpret the Bible through the news. Interpret the news through the Bible.
2. **Pray Before You Panic**
James 1:5 says if you need wisdom, ask God.

3. **Slow Down Before You Share**

Not every breaking headline needs your repost.

4. **Protect Your Inputs**

Five hours of doom-scrolling will wreck your peace.

5. **Stay in Community**

Don't process world events in isolation.

Family Action Step

This week, try this with your family:

- Pick one headline.
- Read it together.
- Then read a related Scripture (like Matthew 24:6 or Psalm 46).
- Ask: *"How does God's Word change the way we see this story?"*

That simple practice trains your home to respond with faith instead of fear.

Where This Ties In

If you're struggling with fear right now, go deeper into my post on [Encouraging Scripture for Hard Times](#).

And if you're thinking practically about resilience—food, water, light—check out my [Trusted Products and Reviews](#) page. It's not hype, just tools I've personally used to prepare with peace of mind.

Closing Thought

Fear says, *"This is out of control."*

Faith says, *"God is still in control."*

Discernment isn't just about spotting signs in the sky. It's about knowing the difference between truth and noise—and living like Jesus is Lord no matter what CNN, YouTube, or anyone else says.

🙏 Short Prayer

Lord, teach me to see the world through Your Word. Protect me from deception. Keep me steady in Your truth, and let my family live in faith, not fear. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Chapter 2 – Digital Deception: AI, Deepfakes, and the Coming Age of Lies

When Jesus warned about the last days, He didn't just talk about wars and famines. He said deception would be everywhere. In Matthew 24:24, He said: *"False messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."*

That's chilling. And today, deception doesn't just come from a smooth-talking preacher. It comes from your phone. From your feed. From technology that can make lies look more real than truth.

We're living in the age of **digital deception**.

The Rise of a Digital Babylon

Technology is a tool—but like any tool, it can be used for good or evil. The same platforms that let us share the gospel around the world also flood us with misinformation, scams, and counterfeit realities.

- **AI deepfakes** can mimic voices and faces so well that even family members can't tell the difference.
- **Fake news** spreads faster than the truth—because fear sells clicks.
- **Scam sites and phishing emails** prey on desperation, promising quick riches or miracle solutions.

It's a digital Babylon—glittering, powerful, and full of deception.

John 8:44 reminds us: the devil is the father of lies. If he can't destroy you outright, he'll deceive you into believing something false.

Why This Matters Prophetically

Revelation 13 describes a beast and a false prophet who will deceive the world through signs and wonders. For centuries, Christians wondered how the whole world could be deceived at once. Today, it's not hard to imagine—when billions are staring at the same glowing screens, consuming the same manipulated media, and following the same digital voices.

AI and deepfakes aren't just tech—they're tools that could be used in end-times deception. A fake speech, a counterfeit miracle, even a synthetic world leader could be broadcast globally in seconds.

It's not science fiction anymore. It's preparation for deception on a massive scale.

Practical Warnings

So how do we live wisely in this digital minefield? Here are some steps to protect yourself and your family:

1. **Verify Before You Share**

Don't pass along every shocking video or article. Cross-check credible sources.

Proverbs 14:15 says: *"The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps."*

2. **Guard Your Identity**

Use strong passwords, two-factor authentication, and avoid clicking sketchy links. Scam artists thrive on the careless.

3. **Educate Your Kids**

Teach them early that not everything online is real. Show them how deepfakes work, so they're not fooled later.

4. **Filter Your Time**

Just because you can watch endless content doesn't mean you should. Limit social media and news intake. Replace some screen time with Scripture and prayer.

5. **Stay Rooted in Truth**

If you know God's Word, you're harder to deceive. Lies lose their power when you

already know the truth.

The Spiritual Battle Behind the Screen

Ephesians 6:12 reminds us that our struggle isn't against flesh and blood but against spiritual forces of evil. The battle over truth online isn't just about algorithms—it's about souls.

Satan doesn't care if you're glued to a conspiracy theory or a cat video, as long as you're too distracted to seek God.

Discernment online means asking:

- Does this point me closer to Christ?
- Or is it pulling me into fear, anger, or distraction?

👉 If you want to dive deeper into how deception works at every level—cultural, spiritual, and personal—I recommend Pastor Jack Hibbs' book [Living in the Daze of Deception](#) (Affiliate Link). It's a wake-up call that pairs perfectly with what we're talking about here.

Family Action Step

This week, set aside one night as a **“tech-free evening.”** No phones, no TV, no social feeds. Instead:

- Read a passage of Scripture together.
- Talk about one current event.
- Ask: *“How does God's Word help us see this differently?”*

It might feel awkward at first, but it trains your family to recognize truth without depending on glowing screens.

Where This Ties In

When deception and distraction flood online spaces, sometimes the wisest step is to prepare in the physical world—food, water, light, and gear you can actually trust. If you want to see the survival tools I personally recommend, you'll find them on my [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) page.

Closing Thought

We can't stop the rise of AI or deepfakes. But we don't have to be victims of them, either. The Spirit of truth still leads believers. The Bible still outshines lies.

Jesus said in John 8:32: *"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

The world may drown in deception, but in Christ, you can walk in freedom.

Short Prayer

Lord, guard my heart and mind from deception. Give me wisdom to see through lies, strength to resist distractions, and courage to live by Your truth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Chapter 3 – The Coming Food Crisis: Famine in Prophecy and Practical Storage

Food has always been at the center of survival. It's no surprise that Scripture uses famine as one of the clearest signs of judgment and warning. In Revelation 6:5–6, the third horseman rides out, and the voice declares: *"A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!"*

That picture is clear—scarcity so severe that basic bread costs an entire day's pay.

We've seen hints of this in history. Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream in Genesis 41, warning of seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. By storing grain, Egypt not only survived the famine but became a source of provision for surrounding nations.

The Bible doesn't treat famine as a relic of the past—it warns us it will mark the last days.

Why Food Scarcity Hits So Hard

Food touches every household. When shelves go bare, fear rises quickly. Parents worry for their kids. Neighbors become competitors. History shows that when food shortages hit, civil unrest follows.

Think about it:

- Wars disrupt supply chains.
- Natural disasters wipe out crops.
- Economic collapses make food unaffordable.
- Political control often comes through controlling grain, water, and resources.

Scarcity isn't just about hunger. It's about control.

Prophecy and Provision

What Revelation shows us is not meant to drive us into panic, but into wisdom. God gave Joseph foresight so His people could endure famine. That same principle applies today: foresight + faith = resilience.

Jesus told His disciples not to worry about what they will eat or drink (Matthew 6:25–26). That doesn't mean neglect preparation—it means trust God as your Provider, even as you wisely steward resources.

Preparedness is not fear. It's stewardship.

Practical Steps for Families

Here are some simple ways to prepare without falling into panic:

1. **Start Small**
Add a few extra cans or dry goods each grocery trip. Over time, it adds up.
2. **Focus on Shelf Life**
Rice, beans, oats, pasta, canned meat, and freeze-dried foods are inexpensive and last

for years.

3. **Water First**

Food matters, but water is life. Have a reliable filter and stored supply.

4. **Learn to Garden**

Even a small raised bed or indoor grow kit can supplement nutrition. Seeds are one of the best investments you can make.

5. **Practice Rotation**

“Store what you eat and eat what you store.” Rotate stock so nothing expires.

6. **Cook Without Power**

Learn to prepare meals on a propane stove, solar cooker, or even an open fire.

The Role of Stewardship

When you prepare, you’re not just protecting your own family—you’re putting yourself in a position to bless others. Joseph didn’t just store for himself; God used him to feed nations.

Preparedness makes you a resource instead of a liability in times of crisis.

Practical Survival Resources

Preparation isn’t about living in fear—it’s about stewarding wisely so you and your family can weather hard times and even help others. Over the years, I’ve tested and reviewed several survival products that I believe are worth recommending. These aren’t gimmicks or panic-buys—they’re reliable tools that can make a difference when life gets disrupted.

- **Survival Frog: One-Stop Survival Gear**

My #1 recommended survival store. They carry everything from long-term food storage to emergency cooking gear, water filtration, solar power, and camping supplies. If you’re building a preparedness plan, this is one of the best all-in-one stops to get started. [Shop Survival Frog Here.](#)

- **Jackery Solar Generators: Reliable Off-Grid Power**

When the power grid is shaky—or completely out—you’ll want a backup. I’ve reviewed Jackery’s solar generators because they’re dependable, portable, and easy to use. They keep essentials like lights, communication devices, and even small appliances running

when everything else is dark. [Shop Jackery Solar Generators Here](#).

- **Ravin Crossbows: Hunting and Protection**

Guns and ammo are critical tools, but crossbows offer a quieter, versatile option for hunting and survival situations. Ravin crossbows are some of the most advanced on the market, combining accuracy and power with compact designs. In a long-term crisis, hunting gear isn't just useful—it's life-sustaining.

👉 You can find full reviews of these and more on my [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) page.

Preparedness doesn't mean hoarding. It means being equipped so you're free to focus on what really matters—walking in faith, leading your family with peace, and being ready to serve others when the time comes.

Family Action Step

This week, sit down with your household and:

- Take inventory of your pantry.
- Ask: *"How long could we last if the power went out or the store shelves went empty?"*
- Pick one item to begin storing—whether it's canned beans, oats, or bottled water.

Make it simple, steady, and sustainable.

Closing Thought

In times of famine, God always provides for His people. Elijah was fed by ravens. The widow's oil didn't run out. Jesus multiplied loaves and fish.

Yes, prepare wisely. But remember—the ultimate Provider is not your pantry. It's the Lord.

🙏 Short Prayer

Father, thank You for being my Provider. Teach me to prepare with wisdom, not fear. Give me faith to trust You, and generosity to share with others when times are hard. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Chapter 4: Financial Shaking — Cashless Society and the Mark of the Beast

Shaken Foundations: Prophecy Meets Economics

The Bible gives clear warnings that before Christ's return, the world's economic system will be shaken. Revelation 13 describes a time when buying and selling will be controlled by the "mark of the beast." This prophetic warning points to a coming system where personal freedom is tied to allegiance — not just to governments or markets, but to spiritual powers of darkness.

We've already seen foreshadowings of this: rising inflation, debt crises, and nations experimenting with **Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs)**. These technologies promise convenience, but they also create a framework for unprecedented control.

"He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark..."

— **Revelation 13:16–17 (NKJV)**

Digital Currency, Digital Control

We live in a world that increasingly celebrates "cashless convenience." From tap-to-pay credit cards to smartphone wallets, the infrastructure for a purely digital economy is already in place. Yet Scripture warns us that one day, such systems could become the very mechanism that enforces global allegiance to the beast.

- **CBDCs:** Governments around the world are testing digital currencies. These can track every transaction and potentially restrict purchases.
- **Digital IDs:** Some nations now require digital IDs tied to financial services, health, and travel. This could easily be expanded to include faith or ideology.
- **Social Credit Systems:** In certain places, financial access already depends on approved behavior. This echoes the prophetic vision of an economy under spiritual bondage.

Faith Over Fear

It's easy to look at these developments with fear. But Scripture gives us hope: those who belong to Christ are sealed with His Spirit, not with the mark of the beast. Even if persecution increases and access to worldly systems is cut off, God has promised never to leave or forsake us.

“For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we may boldly say: ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’”
— **Hebrews 13:5–6 (NKJV)**

This is why we must prepare with both wisdom and faith. Just as Joseph stored grain in Egypt before famine struck, we can take practical steps now to reduce dependence on fragile financial systems.

“So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said... ‘See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.’”
— **Genesis 41:37–41 (NKJV)**

Practical Steps for Preparation

- **Diversify Income Streams:** Don't rely on one source of provision. Explore ways to build side income that align with your values. This is why I recommend [building a legitimate, ethical online business](#) — not chasing quick schemes. My #1 expert choice for doing this is [Wealthy Affiliate](#). It's the platform I use and trust for learning how to create a long-term, sustainable income stream that isn't tied to unstable world systems.
- **Invest in Real Resources:** Hard goods such as food, clean water, tools, and alternative power matter more than digits on a bank screen during a crisis.
- **Stay Liquid Where Possible:** Having some physical cash or barter-ready items may help if digital systems fail or become restricted.
- **Strengthen Community:** Faith-based communities can share resources and support each other when the world system grows hostile.

Trusted Resources for Financial Preparedness

While no resource is a guarantee against end-times shaking, equipping yourself with the right tools can make the difference between panic and readiness. Check our [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) page for gear that helps with practical survival — from off-grid power to food storage solutions.

Eternal Perspective

Ultimately, our hope isn't in bank accounts or even in our preps. It rests in the One who owns the cattle on a thousand hills. The financial shaking of the last days will expose where we've placed our trust. For believers, it is a call to stand firm, knowing that our treasure is in heaven and our provision comes from the Lord.

"For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine."

— **Psalm 50:10–11 (NKJV)**

Chapter 5: Strengthening the Family Altar — Worship and Prayer at Home

Why the Family Altar Matters

Throughout Scripture, the people of God built altars as places of worship, remembrance, and covenant. Today, the "family altar" isn't made of stones — it's the intentional gathering of families to worship, pray, and seek God together.

In the last days, as deception and pressure mount, strengthening our homes spiritually is critical. The enemy seeks to weaken faith in families, but God calls us to build households anchored in His presence.

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

— **Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)**

A Prophetic Call to Worship at Home

The Bible warns of a time when public worship will be restricted or persecuted. Already, in many parts of the world, believers are forced to meet in secret. Revelation paints a picture of a faithful remnant who overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (Revelation 12:11).

Home altars prepare us for this reality. If persecution intensifies, will our families know how to worship, pray, and encourage one another without a church building?

Building the Altar in Practical Ways

- **Set a Rhythm of Prayer:** Choose a time each day where the family gathers, even if briefly, to pray over needs and thank God for His provision.
- **Read the Word Together:** Open Scripture as a family. Short devotionals, Psalms, or a chapter from the Gospels can anchor hearts in truth.
- **Worship Simply:** Sing hymns, play worship music, or simply read a Psalm aloud. God inhabits the praises of His people.
- **Model Repentance and Forgiveness:** Parents set the tone. When children see humility and prayer, they learn that faith is real, not just formal.
- **Prepare Spiritually and Practically:** Teaching children memory verses, resilience, and even basic survival skills connects faith with readiness.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children...”

— **Deuteronomy 6:4–7 (NKJV)**

Practical Resources for the Family Altar

Strengthening the home doesn't just mean food and water for emergencies — it means creating an atmosphere of spiritual strength. Still, having practical preparedness items helps reduce fear and distraction, freeing families to focus on prayer.

Check out our [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) for resources that make your home both physically and spiritually resilient, including off-grid power, food storage, and tools that help you stay prepared.

The Altar That Cannot Be Shaken

When the world shakes, families rooted in Christ will stand. The family altar becomes more than a tradition — it becomes a fortress of faith where children, parents, and even extended family find courage.

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.”

— **Matthew 7:24–25 (NKJV)**

Chapter 6: Enduring Persecution — Courage When Faith Is Costly

The Reality of Persecution

Jesus never promised His followers an easy path. In fact, He warned us that the world would hate those who belong to Him. In the last days, as allegiance to Christ collides with allegiance to worldly systems, persecution will intensify.

“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you... If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.”

— **John 15:18, 20 (NKJV)**

Across the globe, millions of believers already face imprisonment, discrimination, and even death for their faith. The prophetic warnings in Revelation about those who refuse the mark of the beast point to a future where standing firm in Christ could cost believers everything — even their lives.

Courage in the Face of Costly Faith

End-time prophecy isn't meant to terrify, but to prepare. Revelation 12:11 tells us that the faithful overcome “by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” True victory is not measured by survival, but by faithfulness.

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”

— **2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV)**

History gives us countless examples: the early church under Rome, believers in communist nations, and modern martyrs who stand firm rather than deny Christ. Their courage is a testimony that faith can endure even the harshest trials.

Preparing Spiritually for Persecution

- **Deepen Your Roots in Scripture:** When Bibles are restricted, what you've hidden in your heart will sustain you.
- **Practice Boldness Now:** Share your faith openly today, so you'll be strengthened to stand tomorrow.

- **Pray for Strength:** Jesus taught us to pray, “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil” (Matthew 6:13).
- **Expect Suffering:** Mentally prepare for rejection, exclusion, or loss. Expectation removes the shock and strengthens resolve.
- **Encourage One Another:** Build communities of faith where believers support, comfort, and remind each other of eternal hope.

Practical Readiness in Times of Opposition

Persecution may not only target faith directly but also restrict access to financial systems, food, or community participation. Just as in the other areas of preparedness, it is wise to think ahead:

- Have alternative ways to meet and worship privately as a family or small group.
- Learn skills that make you less dependent on hostile systems.
- Equip your home with essentials so faith gatherings are not burdened by lack. (See our [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) for resources that help households prepare quietly and wisely.)

Faith That Cannot Be Shaken

Even in fiery trials, God promises His presence. Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, believers may walk through fire but not be consumed. Our calling is not merely to survive persecution but to bear witness in it.

“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.”

— **1 Peter 4:12–13 (NKJV)**

Persecution is never the end of the story. Beyond it lies eternal reward. Christ Himself is our example — despised, rejected, crucified — yet risen and glorified. Those who endure to the end will share in His victory.

The Greatest Preparation: Salvation in Christ

All the preparation in the world — food, tools, even courage — will fall short if we are not first rooted in Jesus Christ. The persecution described in Scripture is not just about hardship; it is

about allegiance. In the end, every person will face a choice: to follow the world's system or to follow Christ, no matter the cost.

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it."

— **Mark 8:35 (NKJV)**

The strength to endure persecution does not come from human willpower. It comes from being born again — saved, sealed, and filled with the Holy Spirit. If you've never surrendered your life to Christ, now is the time.

A Simple Prayer of Surrender

You can pray something like this from your heart:

"Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God who died for my sins and rose again. I confess my need for You and ask for Your forgiveness. I turn from my old ways and place my trust in You as Savior and Lord. Fill me with Your Spirit, and give me courage to stand for You no matter the cost. In Jesus' name, Amen."

If you prayed this sincerely, Scripture promises that you have crossed from death into life (John 5:24). You are now part of God's family — sealed with His Spirit and given eternal hope that no persecution can take away.

Chapter 7: The Call to Witness — Sharing the Gospel in Troubled Times

Light in the Midst of Darkness

When the world grows darker, the light of Christ shines brighter. The end-times warnings in Scripture aren't given to make us retreat in fear, but to embolden us to share the hope we carry. Jesus said the gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world before the end comes.

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."

— **Matthew 24:14 (NKJV)**

Even in seasons of famine, persecution, or deception, the mission doesn't change: believers are called to be witnesses.

Prophecy and the Urgency of Witness

The book of Revelation describes a time when countless souls from every tribe and tongue will come to Christ — even during tribulation. This reminds us that God is still saving people, even in the darkest hour of history. The question is: will we be faithful messengers?

“After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands.”

— **Revelation 7:9 (NKJV)**

Every act of witness matters — a conversation with a neighbor, a prayer over a coworker, a word of encouragement on social media. In times of trouble, hearts are more open to truth than in times of comfort.

Practical Ways to Be a Witness Today

- **Start at Home:** Share Scripture and testimony within your family. If your children and spouse see Christ alive in you, your witness begins in the most important place.
- **Leverage Technology:** While it's available, use websites, social media, and digital tools to spread the gospel. (This is one reason I recommend ethical platforms like Wealthy Affiliate, where you can build online influence with integrity.)
- **Show Compassion in Crisis:** Help meet physical needs — food, water, encouragement. Acts of kindness open doors for the gospel.
- **Share Your Testimony:** You don't need theological degrees. Simply tell others what Christ has done in your life.
- **Pray Boldly:** Ask God to bring people across your path who are searching for truth.

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

— **1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV)**

Witness Under Pressure

Witnessing in the last days may carry greater cost. Speaking the name of Jesus could mean exclusion, ridicule, or worse. Yet the eternal stakes are too high to remain silent.

Like Paul, we must be willing to say:

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.”

— Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

Resources That Strengthen Your Witness

A witness is most effective when grounded in both Scripture and practical readiness. Having the right tools for communication, preparedness, and resilience makes you harder to silence when times get tough. See our [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) for practical gear, and [Building Income Streams With Purpose](#) for ways to ethically expand your reach online. I’ve been using **Wealthy Affiliate** for over a decade and so can you. [Check out Wealthy Affiliate Here](#) and see if it’s a good fit for you.

Invitation: Are You Ready to Be His Witness?

The greatest witness begins with knowing Christ yourself. If you haven’t yet surrendered your life to Him, there’s no better time. When you experience salvation, your life itself becomes a testimony to God’s grace.

“Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I confess You as Lord and Savior of my life. Use me as Your witness in these troubled times. Fill me with boldness, and let my life point others to You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Chapter 8: Living With Blessed Hope — Fixing Eyes on Christ’s Return

Hope Anchored in Prophecy

The Bible doesn’t just warn us about shaking, persecution, and deception — it ends with a glorious promise. Christ is coming again. For believers, this isn’t a message of fear but of hope. In fact, Paul calls the return of Jesus our “blessed hope.”

“...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

— **Titus 2:13 (NKJV)**

This hope is what enables us to endure trials, resist deception, and live with courage. Our eyes are fixed not on the chaos around us, but on the King who is soon to return.

Living in Readiness

Prophecy makes it clear that Christ's return will be sudden, like a thief in the night. That's why believers are called to live watchfully, not complacently.

"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

— **Matthew 24:44 (NKJV)**

Hope is not passive. To live with blessed hope means we actively prepare — spiritually, mentally, and even practically — so that we are not caught off guard.

Characteristics of Hopeful Believers

- **Joyful Expectation:** Even in hardship, joy flows from knowing redemption is near.
- **Holy Living:** Purity and obedience matter when we know the Lord could return at any time.
- **Encouraging Others:** We remind each other of God's promises when the world grows dark.
- **Persistent Prayer:** Hope keeps us watchful and prayerful until the day He comes.

"Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing."

— **1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NKJV)**

Practical Hope in Troubled Times

Even as we look for Christ's return, we still live day to day. Having food, power, and income streams prepared reduces anxiety and frees us to focus on eternal priorities. See our [Trusted Products & Reviews](#) for practical preparedness tools, and [Building Income Streams With Purpose](#) for ways to steward resources wisely until He comes.

Fixing Our Eyes on Christ

Hebrews reminds us to keep our gaze steady:

"...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."

— **Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)**

When fear rises, when the world trembles, when persecution threatens — we lift our eyes. The hope of His return is our compass, our anchor, and our victory.

Final Invitation

This blessed hope is reserved for those who belong to Christ. If you haven't yet placed your faith in Him, now is the time. Eternal life, forgiveness, and unshakable hope are found only in Jesus.

"Lord Jesus, I confess I need You. I believe You are the Son of God who died for my sins and rose again. I place my trust in You and look forward to Your return. Fill me with hope, and help me live in readiness until that day. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Closing Section: The Ultimate Preparation — Salvation in Christ

Looking Back: What We've Learned

In these pages, we've walked through the signs of the times, the rise of deception, the coming food and financial crises, and the call to strengthen our homes and endure persecution. We've seen that while the world grows darker, God calls His people to shine brighter — prepared both practically and spiritually.

The thread running through it all is this: **Faith, preparation, and courage in the last days are only possible when our hope is anchored in Jesus Christ.**

The Greatest Preparation

You can stockpile food, guard your finances, and prepare your home — and those are wise steps. But without Christ, those measures cannot save your soul. The ultimate preparation is to belong to Him.

"And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

— **Romans 10:13 (NKJV)**

A Prayer of Salvation

If you've never taken this step, or if you've wandered from God, you can turn to Him now in faith:

"Lord Jesus, I confess that I am a sinner in need of Your grace. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I ask You to forgive me, cleanse me, and make me new. I place my trust in You

as my Lord and Savior. Fill me with Your Spirit, and give me strength to live for You until the day You return. In Jesus' name, Amen."

If you prayed this sincerely, Scripture says you are now part of God's family (John 1:12). Your name is written in the Book of Life, and nothing can separate you from His love (Romans 8:38–39).

Walking Forward in Faith

Your journey doesn't end here — it begins here.

- **Stay Rooted in Truth:** Keep learning and growing in God's Word. For more encouragement, visit Prepared & Redeemed.
- **Prepare Wisely:** Equip your household for both daily life and uncertain times. See our Trusted Products & Reviews for practical resources to help you live ready.
- **Build with Integrity:** In a shaking economy, consider how you can create income with purpose. My #1 recommendation is Building Income Streams With Purpose through Wealthy Affiliate — an ethical way to grow something lasting while staying true to your values.

Anchored in Hope

The pages of prophecy do not end in fear but in victory. Christ is coming soon. Until that day, may we live faithfully, prepare wisely, and keep our eyes fixed on Him.

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

— **Romans 15:13 (NKJV)**

About the Author

Jason Taft is a sinner saved by grace. Once far from God and caught in addiction, Jason experienced the redeeming power of Jesus Christ and now lives to help others prepare both practically and spiritually for uncertain times.

With over a decade of experience in affiliate marketing, Jason has built trusted online platforms including *Scam Busters USA* and *Prepared & Redeemed*. His mission is simple: to expose

deception, point people to the truth, and provide resources that equip families to live ready — for both the challenges of this world and the hope of eternity.

Jason lives out his calling by combining biblical encouragement with practical preparedness and ethical business training, showing believers how to stand firm in faith while building a purposeful life.

 Connect: jason.preparedandredeemed@gmail.com

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