

## **State of the Union**

***Bob Boardman***

### **I. Introduction.**

- A. The speaker was saved for God's use and glory when he was a young man. (Psalm 70:3)
- B. Understand the times, yourself, your spouse and your neighbor.
- C. There is a great difference between knowing something and understanding something.
- D. Understanding basically means to apply what we are doing and to become doers of the Word. (Jeremiah 5:21, 4:22, Isaiah 56:11, 11:3)
- E. We are in an intense spiritual battle that has intensified and clarified. (Ephesians 6:12, 2 Timothy 2:1-9)
- F. Our prayer is to be men or women of understanding so that we might know what to do especially with those we influence. We often fail to interpret the signs of the time. (1 Chronicles 12:42, Matthew 16:2-3)

### **II. The problem of the building with a foundation of sand.**

- A. Our nation is in rebellion and in danger of disintegration relying on "broken cisterns." It is becoming composed of men only concerned with themselves. (Jeremiah 2:13)
- B. Rank individualism has caused people to count privileges as rights, defend fervently individuality, see fairness as more important than morality and unfaithfulness as a norm and condone and legislate immorality.

### **III. The good news.**

- A. The Triune God has and is building his kingdom.
- B. He has given us entities such as the family, church, community and civil government upon which we must stand and defend for the glory of God as best as we can.
- C. Easy believism is a threat to the Christian faith. Spectator Christianity feeds the world system, but this helps the Christian to better empathize with the unbeliever since we know these people and are in touch with them.

### **IV. The end times.**

- A. Despite peace and affluence we are living in the end times.
- B. The signs are wars and rumors of wars, the proliferation of deceit, people in high places taking advantage of their place, the proliferation of availability of sin and pleasure, the rise of misleading leaders, a proliferation of unclean spirits in our land, an increase of natural disasters, and the love of Christians waxing cold.

C. God is trying to awaken us.

D. What can be done.

1. Live in holiness daily by God's grace.
2. Grow in grace and make Christ the center of existence.
3. Refuse an enclave mentality of withdrawing from world forces.
4. Be bold and fearless in your witness never retreating.
5. Live looking daily for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ never putting dates on His return.
6. Develop a witness based on compassion and the fear of God.
7. Recognize worldwide open doors for the gospel in these crucial days.
8. Watch Him—the living God—and His Son Jesus Christ who controls the signs and the seasons.

V. Conclusion.

Application questions.

1. Summarize what the speaker said about the end times. What is the proper attitude to have towards this time?

---

---

2. Why did the speaker believe that he was in the end times?

---

---

3. What three things stand out about the speaker's practical suggestions for response? What will you change in your life to prepare for the end? How will you do this?

---

---