

Intro:

[Shofar] [Opening Music]

00:27 [Host - Ezra T. Gray:]

Second Corinthians 6:14 says:

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Second Corinthians chapter 6:17 says:

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

00:56

[Music]

01:06 [Host - Ezra T. Gray:]

Hello, my name is Ezra T. Gray. I would like to welcome you to the Camp of The Saints Podcast.

01:18

The Camp of The Saints is not a denomination. It's a group of Christians who realized that the new testament was not addressed to a flock that was scattered here and there but was written for godly and righteous men whose households were joined together in a community of faith. Christ never intended for you to live miles from your meetinghouse surrounded by non-believers in your place of residency. Jesus is calling together a group of like-minded people who will worship the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Living and working together in a community that is dedicated to preserving the true faith until He returns to establish, His millennial reign. If we are to survive the difficult times that lie ahead, we must set aside the foolish notion of division we harbor and follow the word of God. Living and working together has the body of Christ should. If one can put a thousand to flight, and two ten thousand imagine what a whole community of spirit-filled men of God can do.

02:23

[Music]

02:30

Or you can continue to stand out in the middle of a forty-acre field all by yourself waiting for the woods to devour you and they will.

02:41

[Loud Thunderclap]

02:56 [Host - Ezra T. Gray:]

I'd like to welcome you to the first podcast of the Camp of The Saints. As I said in my intro, The Camp of The Saints is not a religion. It's not a denomination, it's not some sort of man-made idea. It is a group of Christians who simply wish to serve God together as God intended us to. I want to be very forward and upfront about what I believe the Camp of The Saints to be. And you know, the best way that I can do that I think is to look at the scripture and show you what I think is coming upon us and why it is important that we need to band together to serve God and to take care of one another. If you would, would you turn with me in your Bibles and I'd like to look at Matthew 24:21-31.

Jesus says, and He's talking about the end of days, but He begins or began in the twenty-fourth chapter at the beginning. But here at the twenty-first verse, He says:

²¹ For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

²² And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

²³ Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.

²⁴ For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

²⁵ Behold, I have told you before.

²⁶ Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not.

²⁷ For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

²⁸ For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

And I want you to pay particular attention to the twenty-ninth verse.

²⁹ Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

³¹ And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

I grew up and the Pentecostal denomination, and you know, we used to have a saying back in the day, and we would say grandma taught it and I bought it.

05:47

I was taught a lot of false doctrines, and I was taught the idea of a pre-tribulation rapture. And as most them, you know the word rapture is not even in the Bible. And a lot of you know how it

came about, and a lot of you don't. But that's beside the point. We can talk about that later on. The thing is that Jesus is talking about His return and right here in the twenty-ninth verse, He says:

29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

And then. When is then? It's after the tribulation. The truth of the matter, my friend and I hate to break the news to you. If you don't already know, but it's not going to be a secret rapture. You're not going to be driving along in your car and all of a sudden, you'll be gone.

06:43

If you survive to see Jesus returned to earth, it will be because you have lived through the great tribulation. Now, a lot of us won't make it to the great tribulation. A lot of us will be killed. A lot of folks will give up their faith. There's a number of things that will happen, but I believe as many others believe that we're going to face this and according to Jesus, the author and finisher of our salvation, there isn't any other way around it. That's simply what's going to happen. Now you can believe in a pie in the sky and the sweet by and by ideology. That's fine. That is fine, but the reality of the matter is that the word of God is true. You say, well, you know what, Brother Ezra, I believe we're going to be taken out of this thing. Well, then you don't believe the word of God.

07:38

You don't believe what Jesus said, and I think it's high time that the church realizes that the word of God was written very simplistically and very straightforward. We need to quit trying to read things into it that are not there. We need to quit trying to add philosophical nonsense and say, well, that's not what God meant, or well, you don't understand the signs of the times, and you don't understand the time that the scripture was written in. It doesn't make a difference. What God wrote to his men two thousand years ago is still the same as it is today. When Paul said what Paul said, it stands strong. What James said James said and is still the word of God. Psalms 119 says that God's word is settled. Let's go over and let's just take a look at that real quick. Let's just read that. Put our eyes upon things.

08:39

We really should. You know, and there's nothing wrong with quoting scripture, but sometimes it's good just to look at it. Psalms 119: 89 says:

89 For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.

Now you either to believe the scriptures. You don't believe the scriptures. You either in the Lord Jesus Christ. You don't believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. You can't argue the word of God. John 1:1 says:

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

It's the word of God. You either believe it, or you don't. It's not a book. It's not just a book. It is the spoken word of God written so that we can look at it, and we can put it into our hearts, and we can operate in the things that God intended us to operate in. So, when we look at this, and we look at what Jesus is telling us, we have to consider without a shadow of a doubt that we're not going to be taken away before the tribulation begins.

09:35

I know that's disturbing to some people. They say, Oh, you're a prepper. You're one of those guys. Yes and no. I started out like a lot of Christian preppers did, and you know I saved up rice and beans and the whole nine yards and, and there's nothing wrong with that. But you are not going to be able to take care of the amount of people that you're going to have to deal with by storing up a bunch of bags of rice. It's not going to happen. This is why the Camp of The Saints is so important, and this is why that we need to band together and look, you know, I just, I want to be truthfully honest with you. I'm not here to have a doctrinal debate. I'm not here to do that. I'm just telling you what the Lord says, and I'm not here to get your money. I don't want your money.

10:24

I wouldn't take your money if you gave it to me. I don't need your money. I don't want your money. God takes care of me. I'm called of God to call the people of God together. It's a strange thing that we have in our world today. For some reason, we think that it's okay for part of the body of Christ to be one place and another part of the body to be another place. We are spread out throughout the world. There's no doubt about that. But the communities that we see in the apostolic church, the beginning of this age, of the age of grace, the communities we see in acts were communities of believers that had settled together and believed together. And here in America, you know, we had this real misconception that the founding fathers were George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and all those folks and, they were of this republic we live in, but to nation prior to those men are arriving.

11:23

The Christians that came here were there in a Christian community. If you look at Jamestown, if you look at Plymouth and you look at the things that were done, these were Christian men living together, taking care of one another, making sure that everyone's needs were met and everyone pulled their weight, and everyone did what they should do. And I'm not talking about some kind of Jim Jones nonsense or some sort of David Koresh, Sheehan type idea. I'm talking about men of God who operate in the five-fold ministry. I'm talking about men who are apostles, pastors, teachers, evangelists, prophets. I'm talking about having men together that have the gift of healing, that can lay hands on one another. They can lay hands on your children and see those children healed. I'm talking about prophets, men of God who are prophets that live next door to you.

12:24

That's a spirit of God uses to warn us of things to come. The Lord is very clear. He's not going to do anything unless He reveals it to His prophets. How many prophets do you know? How many men of God do you know that are prophets? And more importantly, do you have their phone number? Can you call them up? Can you go over to their house? Can you have lunch with them?

Moreover, those are the things. How many apostles do you know? So, if you have a doctrinal question and you have something that is bothering you, I go to my pastor. Well, your pastor can't discern doctrine. He's a pastor. He's not an apostle. We have to get back to where we began. You know, everyone's worried about what's going to happen and, and I understand that. I do, I understand that the idea of pre-tribulation rapture was developed because of fear not because of scripture, but because of fear and it came about I believe because no one really wanted to go through the tribulation.

13:34

I mean, no one does. Obviously, it's going to be a terrible time, but Christ has called us to that, and we don't really have a choice. So why we look at those things, and we look at what's going to come upon the earth, and we look at the things that are going to be happening during this time. And you know, the horsemen have ridden. At least three I think, maybe not the fourth. Because when the fourth horseman rides, a fourth of the earth is going to be killed. But you know, you look at what the first, second, third horseman represent and what they're going to be doing. I mean the third is obviously hyperinflation, and we were seeing that right now. So, I mean these are going to be difficult times and, because people didn't want to live through that, they came up with this idea of this pre-tribulation rapture, I believe it was my whole heart.

14:27

And it's really a coping mechanism to address the fear in hopes that they will be gone. I have a family member, and she's a wonderful person, God have mercy on her, and I love her because I love everyone because faith worketh by love. I can't have faith if I don't have love; I might as well forget it. And so, I love her. But a long time ago when I first voiced my opinion that I didn't believe in a pre-tribulation rapture, she said, well, you're just misled. I said, oh, okay, well I know what the word of God says, and I didn't argue with her. And then as time went on. Then one day she informed me, well, you're still saved, but you're not going to get to go in the rapture. Well, why not? Because you don't believe in the rapture. So now I have to believe in the rapture to get to going to rapture. I thought the only thing I needed to believe in was Jesus Christ and Him crucified and have having accepted Him as my personal savior. But that was the next step. And finally, the end step was, well, you're going to hell because you don't believe in a rapture. Well, you need to show me that in the Bible. I don't find that anywhere. Nowhere is it written in any of the gospels or any of the epistles or anywhere that if you don't believe in a pre-tribulation rapture, you're going to split hell wide open. That is not scriptural. That is not what Jesus said. But just to show you how this has developed over the years, and you know, I finally set her down, and I said, look, you know, here's the deal. You believe in a rapture. Oh, I certainly do.

16:09

She says, and I said, so I don't, and she said, no, no, you don't. And I said, so what happens if I get raptured? She said, well, you're not. I said, but what happens if I do? She said, well, that'd be great, and I said, will be fabulous, won't it? Don't got to live through the tribulation, but I asked her, I said, tell me something. What is going to happen to you if you're expecting to be raptured and you have to live through the tribulation? I said you're going to lose your faith. And there's the term has been coined that I like to use. It's called "rapture-cide," and I'm sure we're going to see it. Because there's many, many people who attend churches, big churches, small churches,

but they're being taught that in the end of days they have no worries. Nothing will happen to them because Christ will take them away.

17:01

Now I'm going to tell you a little secret. You have no worries. You have no worries at all because God is going to take care of you. Jesus Christ himself promised us that He will take care of us. He promised us throughout the old testament and throughout the new testament that God will watch over us. He will make sure that we are all right. There is not going to be a situation that you're going to enter in where God is going to abandon you. God, the Father, only abandoned one person ever in history, and that was Jesus Christ when He hung on the cross. The promise we have now because Christ paid that debt for us, is that He will never leave us nor forsake us. We could not offer ourselves as a sacrifice; only Christ could. Because of that, Christ took the sin of the entire world from Adam on the way down to the last person who will sin ever.

18:03

He took that sin on Mount Calvary, and He did away with that sin. And because of that, we are now the righteousness of Christ. And a word of God applies every bit to us. As it did to anyone throughout the scriptures, even Jesus. When we look at those things, and I know it's a bold statement, but you know, Paul said in Romans 2:11:

¹¹ For there is no respect of persons with God.

God is not a respecter of persons. What God has done for one He'll do for you. If God is going to protect someone through the tribulation, he'll protect you. If you're a child of God. You know I would like to take a look at Psalms 91:

¹ He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

³ Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

⁴ He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Now I want you to pay close attention to this. Verse five says:

⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

⁹ Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways

19:53

And you know when we look at this, and this was a promise, this is a promise of God. This is a promise of God to take care of us to look after us. And you say, well, you know I can have that wherever I am you. You can have that wherever you are, there's no doubt about it. If you find yourself alone, no one is saying that, that you can't be a Christian if you find yourself alone. But I'd like to ask you a question, a sincere question. What part of the body of Christ are you? Are you a hand, or are you an arm, or you an eye? Are you an ear? Are you a mouth? Well, if you're by yourself, how are you going to function? How were you going to function within the body of Christ? A person once told me, they said, you know, Jesus Christ' plan includes people. And it does, it includes the body of Christ.

20:39

We need to realize that there's an old saying that there are strength in numbers. And that's very true. That's very true. What did Jesus say? You know, He says, if there are two or three of you agree on anything as touching anything and we need to think about that and we say, well, you know, I go to church, I go to church on Sunday and I go to church on Sunday night and I go to church on Wednesday. Absolutely. You may do that. And then you can get in your car and one person drives one way and one person drives another way and you don't know what's going on with him. You don't know if they're dead or alive. And that's why I think it is so very important that we look toward a community of people joined together that can assist one another because the fact of the matter is things are not going to be the way they are now.

21:31

You're not going to be able to have a job where you go to your job and you are able to work to make money and that money most of the time anymore isn't. You don't even get paper check. Few people do. Until recently my paycheck was deposited directly in my bank account. I never saw it. I got a statement in the email that said, you got paid this amount and it was deposited in my bank account, at twelve o'five, you know on the morning that was a day. And so those things are going to cease to exist. They're absolutely going to cease to exist and then we're going to have to think about, well, how are we going to survive? Are we going to live in a ditch? Are we going to live in a cave somewhere and live like wild animals out? You say, well, if I have to, I can dig a hole.

22:19

Well, good luck to you. Good luck to you because God never intended you to live in a hole and survive that way. He didn't. Do you remember when Elijah was in the cave? That wasn't a time that the Lord was pleased with Elijah and He fed him, and He gave him water, but He said, why are you acting like this for, I've got seven thousand men who have kneeled to Baal. He said, get up and get out of here. And the thing about it is that we are going to have to look toward that time. I mean, you can't buy or sell unless you have the mark of the beast and as all Christians know. If you have accepted the mark of the beast, you are eternally damned. And I don't care what anybody wrote in a book, and I know someone wrote a book and a woman was fooled that she was given the mark of the beast.

23:12

That's a lie. That's not true. If you take the mark of the beast, you're going to go to hell. Read it. Revelations, it's very clear. You cannot accept the mark of the beasts, and you can't accept it and say well I'm sorry, I got fooled. Everyone that take it is going to be fooled. That's why it's important that we live in communities of like-minded believers to keep us from doing those things. We have to stand strong together. We can't stand strong apart. You know, there's an old expression united we stand divided we fall. Yeah, I mean it's a worldly saying, but it's scripturally sound. When Paul wrote to letters to the churches, he didn't write letters to Joe down in New Mexico and Bob down in Florida or Tom up in Montana. He didn't write those. He wrote them to the churches, to the church at Ephesus, to the churches at Galatia to the churches, is whom he addressed.

24:09

He didn't address. And he did address individuals, as in Timothy and Titus. But, but for the most part, those are addressed to the Christian population in general because he knew that they would be gathered together and they wouldn't just be gathered together three times a week or one time a week or they wouldn't be in a church of five thousand people where you sit next to someone and you don't even know who they are. What do you do? You don't know. Well, in the Christian community, you know when everyone does, you know what they do. You know where they come from, you know what their strengths are, you know what their weaknesses are, just like they know what yours are. And it's open and it's honest and it's the kind of Christianity that Jesus wanted us to participate in. And you say, well, I don't believe that. Well then why did He call twelve disciples and why did they follow Him everywhere He went? They lived together.

25:03

They lived, they ate, they slept, they stayed together. They live together. As did the early church, if you look at the church in Acts, they had all things in common. You say, oh my gosh Brother Ezra that's communism. That's Jim Jones. No, it's not. It is a group of men. And one of the things that I like to say, you notice that I have addressed the men because that's what God has called me to do. God has not called me to a ministry to address women. He has called me to address men, the head of the households, the leader of the households and the leader of the church. If you are participating in a fivefold ministry, you must be a man. Period. End of story. Read the scriptures. If you believe the scriptures, then you're going to have to believe 1 Timothy 2:11-12 and also 1 Corinthians 14:34 if you believe the Bible, you have to stand on the word of God.

26:04

I'm not addressing anyone else but the heads of households and the individuals who are called into the fivefold ministry. It is time that someone tell you that standing outside and allowing everyone else to do the work is going to have to come to an end. You're going to have to stand strong in the word of God. You're going to have to lead your family, you're going to have to help those who need help. And the only way we can do that is if we're standing together. The only way we can do that is if we're in close proximity one to another. Now you know you can take this for what you want and I just wanted to open this series of podcast and I don't know how long, you know, it'll go on for by telling you what this is all about. Now we're going to talk about other things down through time and some of those things are going to be what a lot of folks might consider prepping. Food preparation, things of that nature and some technical things and

other things of that nature. But that's not the bulk of it. The bulk of what we're going to be looking at is things like healing. Well, why is healing important? Well, when you can't go to the doctor and healing is going to be very important. Peter said that by His stripes we were healed. By whom stripes you are healed. And you know, we look at that and we see that, and we say, well, you know, uh, I believe that but sometimes I don't get healed when I pray. Well, you know, that needs to change. That needs to change. You need to be surrounded by people who believe in healing, who can lay hands on you and help you to be healed. And I'm not talking about taking a medication.

27:47

You know what? If you go to a doctor, that's your business, that's not going to make you go to hell. But there will be a time when you will not be able to go to a doctor. And here's my thing. If you're practicing for a marathon, you don't start conditioning yourself the day before the marathon starts. You start years before, weeks, months before and you train, and you practice. And when we find ourselves in that time of tribulation, that is not the moment to say, oh my gosh, I need healed from high blood pressure. We need to be healed from high blood pressure before that gets started and you say, well, you know, I don't know if healing is for today. Well, healing is for today because it was for that time in the scripture when it was written. I don't know about this raising the dead thing.

28:36

Well, I do. I know about it. I grew up with someone who was raised from the dead and they were dead, and God raised them from the dead. He used a man of God who laid hands on, raised him from the dead. It is for today. Just like it was for them. And I think it's important that we come into that knowledge and we begin to understand. You want to talk about prepping, we can talk about prepping, but as a Christian, we need to have the things of God, the tools that were given to us on the day of Pentecost. And everybody says, Oh, you're talking about a being filled with the Holy Ghost. Absolutely, I am talking about being filled. If you're a Christian and you're not filled with the Holy Ghost, you are woefully lacking. Now, can you get into heaven? Most, certainly you can, you just have to be born again.

29:25

But you need to have the baptism of the Holy Spirit. And, and I do use the word filled with the Holy Ghost sets, kind of a holdover from Pentecostal roots. You're filled with the Holy Ghost when you're born again, but you're not baptized with the Holy Ghost until you received the baptism of the Holy Ghost until the Holy Ghost comes up on you. With the evidence of speaking in tongues? And you are then able to perform the things that God wishes for you to performed after you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Now you say, well, I know people who are, are not baptized in the Holy Ghost, that do all kinds of things. And, they do, they do but that's exception, not the rule. And it's because of the grace of God. And they still don't do the type of things those that are baptized with the Holy Spirit do.

30:09

And we need to have that. We need to have that on hand. And then look, you know, you can say, well, you know, I just, I just don't think that's for me. Then it's not for you. And here's the other part of it. It may not be for you. It may be that you're going to die. It may be that you're going to

get your head chopped off. It may be that you're going to die in front of a firing squad during the tribulation. It may be that you're going to die before this ever happens. It may be that God in his infinite mercy knows that you're going to take the mark of the beast if you're left here and He takes you away. He will take you home and He will love you and He will give you eternity and you will be a saint forever and it will all be marvelous.

30:59

But have you fulfilled your mission? Have you fulfilled your mission if you're not standing and doing the things that God wants us to do? Jesus asked a question and He asked it very bluntly. He said, when the Son of man returns, will He find faith here on earth? He asked that question, and the answer I believe emphatically is yes, but it's not going to be because the lone ranger was riding around preaching the Gospel and then riding off into the sunset. It's because of men like Paul and Peter and James and John that built communities based on the faith. Based on the ideas and precepts that are written in the word of God. And we need to look at that. We need to look at that blessing that God has given to us. We need to stand strong in the word of God and we need to join together.

31:54

I know that seems to be the theme because that is the theme of the Camp of The Saints. That is the joy of being a community. That is the joy of knowing that you can trust your neighbor, that you can believe that your neighbor is going to have your best interest in mind because what did Jesus tell us to love thy neighbor as thyself? Now I want to ask you a question and I want you to think about this. You have neighbors probably on all sides of you, more than likely you may not. But most people do. Do they love you more than they loved themselves? And if the answer is no, then my question to you is why will you want to live around those people? While I have got a mortgage? Well, you know what? God can help you get rid of that.

32:39

You know, we talk about the word of faith. The word of faith is true. You know the word of God is absolutely one-hundred percent true. You can't get away from it. You know Mark chapter eleven you know whatsoever thing ye ask believing you receive. That is absolutely true. It is absolutely true, but it's more effective when God is being petitioned by more than one person. If you're living in that community that you can have those petitions multiply. And I think it's important that we consider these things. I think it's important that we look to the word of God, and I think it's very important that we consider that the time of the tribulation is upon us and that we must band together and serve God so that when He returns, He will find faith here on earth.

Closing:

33:28 [Host - Ezra T. Gray:]

Thank you very much for your time. May God keep you and may God bless you.

[Closing Music] [Loud Thunderclap]