

The Proper Response, Part 01

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered 5/31/2020

Text: Mat. 14:1-20

Introduction Summary

In light of the current issue of the day, a man being murdered by a police officer in broad daylight, the church must respond according to Scripture. In this study, we will find three things required in order for Christians to respond properly to the sin of racism in the world today. First, we must know the time in which we live. Secondly, we must place blame where it belongs. Finally, intercession is vital to bringing in God's desired result.

- I. We must know what time it is. We are in the end of days (Mat. 24:3-14).
 - A. Deception is rising. Races of people (nations) would come against one another. Pestilences, like COVID19, would occur at this time (Mat. 24:7, 8).
 - B. Like a woman in childbirth, the closer to the blessed event, the more severe the pangs and the more the gospel is spread.
 - C. The stage is being set for a world-wide harvest of souls (Mat. 24:14).
 - D. We shall be a witness to all nations.
 - E. There are indications of the season (Luke 21:22-36).
 - F. We can pray that these things do not touch us (Luke 21:36).
 - G. Bro. Kenneth Hagin prophesied that there is coming a resurrection of the nine gifts of the Spirit.

- II. Put the blame where it belongs (Eph. 6:12-19), on wicked spirits, not on people.
 - A. To *'withstand'* means to resist; evil/hurtful (Eph. 6:13).
 - B. *'Having done all'* means having overcome all (Eph. 6:13).
 - C. The *'truth'* is the word of God (Eph. 6:14).
 - D. The *'breastplate'* is our identification (Eph. 6:14).
 - E. *'Above'* all means in front of anything else (Eph. 6:16).
 - F. *'Sword'* of the Spirit/the sword the Spirit uses (Eph. 6:17).
 - G. The Word of God spoken out of our mouth in prayer (Eph. 6:17).
 - H. *'Persevere'* means to keep going and never stop (Eph. 6:18).
 - I. Pray for your pastor (Eph. 6:19).
 - J. The white officer was used by a demon spirit to incite chaos.
 - K. One way satan binds people is to lead them into strife (Mat. 12:25-29)!!
 - L. Christians aren't allowed outside the realm of love (1 John 4:18-20 - 5:1-4).

1. God only allows us to walk in love (1 John 4:20).
2. 'Grievous' means *too much* (1 John 5:3).
3. 'Victory' describes *the means of success* (1 John 5:4).
4. The word "overcome" indicates a fight (1 John 5:4).
5. We must overcome wanting to be angry (Eph. 4:31).
6. Always remain calm in every situation.
7. Our *faith in God* causes us to overcome (1 John 5:5).

M. When John the Baptist was murdered, Jesus put the blame where it belonged (Mat. 14:1-17).

1. Jesus was tempted like us, but He did not fall into sin (Heb. 4:15).
2. Jesus, full of compassion, healed the sick and fed 5,000 people (Mat. 14:14-21).
3. Jesus understood who the real enemy was—satan.
4. Jesus helped the people who had satan bound. He delivered them from satan's bondage (Mat. 14:15-23).

Testimony: I've been by grabbed by the police, and thrown over the hood of a car, just for carrying a bag of groceries. I chose the way of God's love. That's the winning side, because faith is made active and efficient by love (Gal. 5:6).

III. God needs Christians to intercede (Isa. 59:12-21).

- A. The word '*judgment*' means verdict (Isa. 59:15).
- B. No one will ever get away with wrongdoing (Isa. 59:18).
- C. God is looking for people to pray (Isa. 59:16).
 1. Christians should pray for the family of the one murdered and for the murderer, so God can move in this situation.
 2. When we intercede, the darkness is lifted from their eyes (2 Cor. 4:4).
 3. God will answer every prayer (Psalm 91:15; 1 John 5:14-15).
 4. Prayer releases angels, drives away the enemy, creates a corridor of the Light of Jesus Christ and draws men to Jesus (Psa. 103:20).

Closing Summary

Now is the time for the church to respond in a way that effects godly change. We must know the times in which we are living. It is vital that we stay in God's love and place blame on satan, the real enemy. Then, in order to see God's glory, Christians must pray in other tongues to bring the light of Jesus Christ and the miracle working power of God into this situation. That is when the Holy Ghost will move everywhere we go.