

YOU GOTTA GET PREPARED!!!!

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (NIV)

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, **think of what you were when you were called.** Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ **But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things** of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ **God chose the lowly things** of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ **so that no one may boast before him.** ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, **our righteousness, holiness and redemption.** ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: **“Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”**

- **Paul continues to emphasize that the way to receive salvation is so simple that any person who wants to can understand it.**
- **Skill and wisdom do not get a person into God’s Kingdom – SIMPLE FAITH DOES!!!!**

My mind is **always**.... looking for a new sermon idea...which allows us to relate to something familiar that all of us see in our everyday lives... And when I looked up...there it was...Right in front of me...**PREPARATION H!!!**

We are all familiar with this product.... **PREPARATION H...** It can be used for more than one thing....

- I think that all of us are aware of **the purpose it was made for**.....
- **But did you know**....that it has been proven.....

That a little dab under the eyes will **iron out** any bags or wrinkles???????

NOW GOD SURELY CAN’T MINISTER TO US... THROUGH A PRODUCT LIKE THIS... OR CAN HE.....

I realized that for all of my life....I have been in PREPARATION:

- In grade school in my younger years I learned to read
- In High School, in my teen years, I learned how to study hard for the future.
- In college, I learned what I needed to launch my career.
- In ordination, during my thirties I learned about the Bible...and the stories that lie in its covers
- In my adult life I learned how to lead, a church, a family and a community
- As a Pastor of a church **I'm still in PREPARATION**, to become what God has for me...
- **MY LIFE HAS BEEN FILLED WITH PREPARATION!!!!**
- Now I must PREPARE to get my BLESSING
- Now I must PREPARE to get my VICTORY
- Now I must PREPARE to get my ABUNDANCE
- Now I must PREPARE to get my HEALING
- Now I must PREPARE to get my DELIVERANCE

WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME IN OUR LIFE PREPARING:

- Preparing for a wedding
- Preparing for our food
- Preparing for school
- Preparing for work

THE TRUTH IS...WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME PREPARING FOR THINGS....

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I SAW WHEN I SAW: **PREPARATION H -EAVEN!!!!!!**

PREPARATION H-EAVEN!!!!

What is our purpose on Earth....?????

- To prepare for Heaven...
- This is just practice....

- I heard Bishop Freeman say one time...I hope you like things loud...
- Because in Heaven....everyone is going to be shouting
- And in Hell...everyone is going to be screaming....
- **Our praise here on earth**...is only a practice of what we will do for thousands of years in Heaven.

Psalm 150:1-6 ESV

Praise the Lord! (**Hebrew – Hallelu Yah**)Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! ... **Let everything that has breath PRAISE THE LORD.....PRAISE THE LORD!!!!!!**

EVEN GOD PREPARES:

John 14:1-4 (NIV)

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me.² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that **I am going there to prepare a place for you?**³ And **if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me** that you also may be where I am.⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

The Bible speaks of preparing....nearly 100 times...

- **Get Prepared**
- **Prepare the way**
- **Make Preparation**
- **Be prepared** – For death, service, worship, Judgement, and the coming of the Lord!!!

Luke 1:17 speaks of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Lord, "to make ready a people **prepared for the Lord.**"

My "PREPARATION H" STANDS FOR PREPARATION HEAVEN!!!!

I AM PREPARING TO GO TO A PLACE...WHERE THEY KNOW HOW TO PRAISE:

Revelation 19:1 (NIV)

Threefold Hallelujah Over Babylon's Fall

19 After this I heard what sounded like the **roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:**

"Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,

- PRAISE is the **heartfelt response to God** by those who LOVE Him.
- The more you get to know God **and realize what he has done**, the more you will respond with praise.

Revelation 19:4-7 (NIV)

⁴The twenty-four elders and the four living **creatures fell down and worshiped God**, who was seated on the throne. And they cried:

"Amen, Hallelujah!"

⁵**Then a voice came from the throne, saying:**

"Praise our God,

all you his servants,

you who fear him,

both great and small!"

⁶Then **I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:**

“Hallelujah!”

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad

and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come,

and his bride has made herself ready.

- These righteous acts are not religious deeds done by believers for our merit, **but they reflect the work of Christ to save us!**

Revelation 21:3-7 (NIV)

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ **‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”**

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, **“Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”**

⁶ He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

- Wherever God reigns, there is **Peace, security, and love...**
- What a wonderful **truth!**
- No matter what **you are going through**, it’s not the last word...
- God has written the **final chapter...**
- It is about **true fulfillment** and **eternal joy** for those who LOVE HIM!!!

Praise and worship team come forward for closing>>>>>

THIS ALTAR IS OPEN !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Revelation 1:7-8

⁷ “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”
and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.

⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, **“who is, and who was, and who is to come,** the Almighty.”

- Alpha and Omega are the **first and the last letters** of the Greek alphabet...
- The Lord God is **THE Beginning** and **THE End**.....
- God the Father is the **eternal Lord and Ruler** of the **past, present, and future**
- Without him **you have nothing** that is Eternal...
- Nothing that can **change** your life...Nothing that can **save** you from sin...
- **Is the Lord your reason for living???****Is he your Alpha and Omega???**
- Honor the One **who is the beginning and the end** of all existence, wisdom and power!!!!!!!!!!

PREPARE TO REIGN WITH HIM

PREPARE TO BE WITH HIM FOR AN ETERNITY

PREPARE TO PRAISE HIM

PREPARE TO WORSHIP HIM

PREPARE....PREPARE...PREPARE!!!!

Pastor Sim Bowen

4/7/13 My Church