Summary of Daniel Lim's Herrnhut Presentation

As the Apostle Peter approached the end of his own life he wrote a key sentence that we must reflect upon as we too now wait for the restoration of God's Kingdom on the earth.

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering towards us, not willing that any should perish but all should come to repentance. - 2nd Peter 3:9

Peter was stressing that though the timing of Jesus' promised return might be longer than we expect or desire, we can not allow ourselves to lose sight of our blessed hope. We as believers must be disciplined to stay engaged, sustained, and urgent in our faith for the return of our glorious King. Below are 5 key aspects of the importance of studying the "End Times" in the Bible and how they help us keep our faith.

- 1. **The Eternal Perspective:** The study of Biblical eschatology forces us to continually align our heart, mind, and soul with eternity. If we start each day with an eternal perspective we are not bound by time, space, and the metrics this world uses. If this world's metrics do not apply to us then the temporary success or failure of this life will not cause us to stray in our short pilgrimage of faith.
- 2. **The Cosmic Plan of God:** As finite creatures, we are so prone to be narrow-minded in our perspective of life but by engaging our hearts with the End Time storyline we are reminded of the cosmic and universal plan of God. He is not just after saving ourselves as individuals, no, He desires to redeem nations, lands, and all of creation. We need this vision of the coming glory of Christ in the whole earth to not be swayed by the darkness that is coming upon the earth in the days to come. (Habakkuk 2:14, Revelation 5:5-10, Daniel 7, Genesis 11-12 and Matthew 5)
- 3. Irrevocable Covenant with Israel and Jerusalem as His Kingdom Epicenter: As we study God's plan for the redemption of the earth we are exposed to His perspective on the nations and the covenants He has made with them. The Bible is uncompromised in its bold witness of God's everlasting covenant with Israel and that Jerusalem will be the place of His physical reign. At the same time, we see His value for the nations. It is clear that ethnic groups stay distinct in God's plan for redemption and that He fulfills His desire to bless them. (Revelation 7:9)

- 4. **The Value of the Family:** In Genesis 12:1-3, the Lord makes it clear that the family unit has a key place in His redemptive narrative and it is a key "target" of the blessing He desires to release. As we study the end of this side of time we are reminded of the compounded revelation of His nature in the family structure. He Himself is coming to rule the earth as the Father. And in the difficult days preceding Christ's return, it will be the fruit of the Gospel among families that will be a brilliant witness of His love. (Matthew 12:50, Mark 10:20-31, Ephesians 1:17-23 and 3:14-21)
- 5. **The Value of the Individual:** Finally, the study of Jesus emphasizes to us the value of each person. **In** Matthew 19 we see Christ's interaction with the rich young ruler and how the Great Commandment is given not to the collective to follow but for the individual. The Great Commandment & Great Commission takes first place over everything in this journey of life and how we respond to them will be evaluated at His throne. (Genesis 1:26-27 and Psalms 139:13-24)

Questions for discussion:

- 1) Daniel 11, Isaiah 19, Matt. 24 and Rev. 4-11 are all clear canonical end-time redemptive narratives which give blueprint to pray. How does our understanding of these Biblical Passages fueled our confidence in prayer?
- 2) In Revelation 12:11, The saints overcome by the blood of the Lamb, words of our testimony and faithful witnessing unto death. How do prayers cultivate and sustain overcomers in Christ who do great exploits?
- 3) How do prayer movements help align us with the great commission with God's plan for Israel and the nations according to Matthew 24:14 and Rom. 11:11-29?