

The First Baptist Church of Columbus

Dr. Paul Large, Pastor

**Sermon Notes Outline
November 22, 2020**

T I T L E: KEPT FROM THE HOUR OF TESTING

T E X T: Revelation 3:10 –13

I. THE PROMISE Verse 10

A. It is a promise that needs to be viewed from an end-times perspective.

B. It is a promise relative to a time in the future of unprecedented and indescribable turmoil known in scripture as the tribulation.

Jeremiah 30

Daniel 12:1

Joel 2:2

Matthew 24:21

C. It is a promise to be realized in the future but is never to be taken lightly in the present since the imminent rapture of the church is involved.

John 14:3

1. The rapture is a planned event.

2. The rapture concerns believers only.

3. The rapture is an imminent event. (Could happen at any time..)

The fact that the rapture is imminent should motivate us to purity not wanting to be caught with our hands in the cookie jar, so to speak. 1 John 3: 2-3

II. THE COMMAND "...hold fast what you have..."

- A. It is a command to remain loyal to Christ and Christianity especially in difficult times.

“..hold fast what you have...”

Hosea 6:6

Old southern preacher said, “It’s time for our (the) church to wake up and sing up, preach up and pray up and never give up or let up or back up or shut up until the church is filled up or we go up. Amen!”

- B. It is a command to understand the times in an effort to remain loyal to the Lord.

1 Chronicles 12:32

We Will Not Be Silenced... Erwin Lutzer... newest book....

Each day, you watch America turn further from Christian values and the core principles of liberty. It’s frustrating to feel you can’t assert biblical truth without facing condemnation and frightening to witness outrage and victimhood replace respect and reason. Amidst this dissent, how can you not only stay rooted in your faith but continue to publicly testify for Jesus?

In We Will Not Be Silenced, Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer prepares you to live out your convictions against a growing tide of hostility.

We Will Not Be Silenced will ready you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.

III. THE ENCOURAGEMENT

(note the “I wills” vv. 10 & 12 three times in 12) (...hold fast to what you have)

- A. It is an encouragement to cherish the word of God, i.e. its principles, its truth and its sufficiency and the fact that it is never antiquated and is therefore applicable in all generations.

- B. It is an encouragement to be cognizant of the fact that rewards in heaven can be forfeited although salvation to those who are genuine believers is secure.

...so that no one will take your crown...

Conclusion:

What do we do until we are taken out of this world either by death or rapture?

Occupy — work, serve, make a living, etc.

Purify — live holy lives.

Watch — for His coming, be ready, note the times.

Worship — go to church, praise, thanksgiving, honor and reverence the Lord.