

1. we need to avoid temptation to focus on "gaps"
2. we need to beware of those who say they know
- D. enemy will introduce fear, insecurity, anxiety
  1. fear of unknown, not having control
  2. our response: trust in God

**APPLICATION:** 1) Do what He has told us to do  
 2) Trust Him: pray, praise, thank

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**II. Second, ready ourselves for the rough road (5-7)**

**Mystery:** something hidden; about final days, Jesus' second coming  
 & establishment of His kingdom (see Romans 16:25)

- A. God has been long-suffering for 6,000 years
- B. time will come when He will act with no more delay
  1. an impending sense of something coming (signs)
  2. a successive series of terrifying events
  3. no escape or relief
- C. What He said to His prophets will occur
  1. Jesus will return & set things right
  2. He will judge every soul: Heaven or hell
- D. Today is the day of salvation (**2Cor. 6:2NLT**: Indeed the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation.)

**APPLICATION:** 1) Be sure we're right with God  
 2) Pray for Jesus' return (Rev. 22:20)

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**III. Finally, be faithful to God's message (8-11)**

**Prophecy:** speak under divine inspiration (God's truth, sometimes future telling)

- A. He chooses His messenger & gives messenger message
- B. messenger must fully digest God's message
  1. blessing tastes sweet...for those who receive
  2. curse tastes bitter...for those who reject
- C. messenger must proclaim message
- D. may not be what we want to hear or say
  1. we may want to know more or something different; God says what's important to know
  2. we may want to proclaim harsh msg or loving msg, but God gives truth that is both love & judgment

**APPLICATION:** 1) Obediently respond to His message  
 2) Humbly share what He gives us

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**CONCLUSION:**

**ALTAR:** Salvation, repentance, prophecy, prayer (come, Lord Jesus!)

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