

November 20, 1994 Reuben

Trouble Ahead

There is no way of getting around hardship and circumstances — tribulation in the community. It says there will be trouble ahead. That's the way to make it into the kingdom. He said in this life — Luke 18 — many times you are going to be discouraged, UNLESS you pray. Our Master told them a parable that you must always pray in order not to be discouraged, or turn coward, or give up. He knew that community life was going to be hard. There is no way of getting around it. We are never going to have a perfect community with everything just right here. So, therefore, He said, "I'm going to tell you this parable in order that you will always pray."

What did I do when I read that today? I went out and I prayed. And what happened? I was encouraged. I was ready to get discouraged, but I went out and prayed and I was encouraged. If you want to be discouraged, don't pray. If you want to be encouraged, pray!!!! That's what He's trying to say. Now a child could understand that, couldn't he. Go thank Him for all the wonderful trouble we are having, that everything is going wrong. That's what we're supposed to see. Everything is going wrong. First thing that happened when Andreas got out of the water — everything went wrong. They had the wrong clothes for him ... isn't it wonderful? You're on the right way. Let's rejoice!

Eternal life is where brothers and sisters are dwelling in unity. It will startle the nations.