

Be encouraged! The Lord is our Commander, Collaborator, Companion...and there is a Countdown!

1. COMMANDER (*we report TO and work FOR the Lord*)

- **Col 3:23-24** “Whatever you do, **do your work heartily, as for the Lord** rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. **It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.**”
- **1 Cor 15:58** “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding **in the work of the Lord**, knowing that your toil is not in vain **in the Lord.**”
- **1 Cor 16:10** “Now if Timothy comes, see that he is with you without cause to be afraid, for **he is doing the Lord's work, as I also am.**”

2. COLLABORATOR (*we are God's FELLOW Workers*)

- **Mark 16:20** “And they went out and preached everywhere, **while the Lord worked with them**, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.] [And they promptly reported all these instructions to Peter and his companions. And after that, Jesus Himself sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.]
- **1 Cor 3:9** “For **we are God's fellow workers**; you are God's field, God's building.”
- **2 Cor 6:1** “And **working together with Him**, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain—”

3. COMPANION (*The Lord is WITH Us*)

- **Psa 23:1-6** “1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; **He leads me** beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; **He guides me** in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for **You are with me**; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”
- **Jer 1:4-8** “Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, because I am a youth.” But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ because everywhere I send you, you shall go, and all that I command you, you shall speak. “Do not be afraid of them, for **I am with you to deliver you,**” declares the LORD.”
- **Matt 28:20b** “...and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.”
- **Act 7:55-56** “But being full of the Holy Spirit, he [Stephen] gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and **Jesus standing** at the right hand of God; and he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.””
- **Act 23:11** “But on the night immediately following, **the Lord stood at his** [Paul's] **side** and said, “Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also.””

4. COUNTDOWN (*Christ is RETURNING for me soon!*)

- **Matt 24:44** “For this reason **you also must be ready**; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.”
- **John 14:1-3** “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again and receive you to Myself**, that where I am, there you may be also.”
- **Rev 22:20** “He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, **I am coming quickly.**” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.””