**Now is the Time to Awake**

**By Vikki Tynan**

*“Do this, knowing the time, it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than we believed. The night (deep darkness of this evil age) is almost gone, and the day (of His returning) is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light*.” *Romans 13:11-12 (NASB)*

The time of the Lord’s returning is drawing near. The Lord is sounding the alarm for us to awaken and He has even nudged us to arise. We cannot afford to ignore the alarm or hit the snooze button. The time for slumber is over; the time to arise is now.

My son is a perfect example of one who is difficult to wake from a deep slumber in the morning. He sets several alarms, but either hits the snooze button or just sleeps through the alarm. The only way to wake him up is for someone to keep shaking and talking to him until his feet are on the floor and he is standing.

We must be more aware of the “alarms” the Lord has set to awake and prepare us for His return. “Arise” means to get up and stand. Like my son, many people think opening their eyes once and then falling back asleep is the same as getting up, but we are not truly awake until we are out of bed and standing up ready for our day. God has sent those who are awake to come alongside us, to shake us awake, and to stick with us until we are up (awake) and standing (arisen).

Lord, thank you for you faithfulness to awaken us. I pray we will all have an excitement to hear your voice every day; and awaken, arise, and follow You with all our heart.