INTRO: There is much we may not know about the providence of God. We can know that God raises certain men to power; and as He chooses, He deposes them, Dan. 4:25, etc. We also know that eventually, God will bring all who have lived to the final judgment. Men will be weighed by God’s standards & sentenced accordingly. Many, like Belshazzar, will be weighed, and found wanting.


John 16:1-3, These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.

A. Many are ignorant about the true identity of Jesus. JN 5:39
B. Many are ignorant about the reality of heaven & hell. John 14:1-3; Rev. 21:4; Luke 13:28
C. Many are ignorant of God’s plan of salvation.

II. MANY WILL BE FOUND WANTING IN THE MATTER OF INFLUENCE. Each of us exerts an influence on others. Will we use that influence for good, or for evil?

Matt. 5:13-16

Phil 2:14-17, Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked & perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

III. SOME WILL BE WANTING IN PRAYER. Pray for those in authority. Pray for those who need to be saved. Pray for those
who are sick or in pain. Pray prayers of thanksgiving for God’s blessings. Pray for wisdom & courage to do what is right.

James 4:2-3, You lust and do not have. You murder & covet & cannot obtain. You fight & war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

IV. SOME WILL BE FOUND WANTING IN ZEAL & PERSEVERANCE. Rev. 3:15; 1 Cor. 15:58

IV. SOME WILL BE FOUND WANTING IN THE MATTER OF FORGIVENESS. Matt. 6:14-15; Matt. 18:21-22

V. SOME WILL BE FOUND WANTING IN COMPASSION & LOVE.

C. Love, even for our enemies, Matt. 5:43-44.
D. Compassion on those who are in trouble or in need. James 1:26-27; Matt. 25:31-46

NOTE: If we serve only out of duty, we may seek an opportunity to excuse ourselves. If we are full of compassion, we simply seek a way to be of help.

Jonestown, TX, May 5, 1968
Springhill, LA, June 4, 1972
KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, December 10, 1972
La Porte, TX, December 18, 1977
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 21, 2003