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Top 15 Sermons

Radical, Biblical, Apostolic, Christianity



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Being in the Right Place at the Right Time

Acts 9:6

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And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

The 9th chapter of Acts deals with the conversion of Saul. Saul was an educated Jew and also a Roman citizen. Many scholars suggest that he was also a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin Court. He was also consenting to the stoning of Stephen. Gleaning from the Scriptures, we are left with the impression, that Saul had heard about those disciples who were preaching, Jesus Christ, was risen from the dead and is now, the Lord of Glory. He had information about the event that happened on the Day of Pentecost in the Upper Room, when the Holy Ghost was poured out upon the believers.

He had information about there being some strange languages being spoken, as many people were speaking in other tongues, as the Spirit gave the utterance.

Saul had heard about a man, named Peter, stirring the crowd of Jews, with his sermon condemning them for crucifying the Lord of Glory, who God had raised from the dead. He had heard about the event of those being baptized in Jesus Name, around 3,000 converted to followers of that way.

Being a devout Jew, and a chief of the Pharisees, he saw how this heresy could be a real threat to the elders of Israel and to the Jewish faith.

A council meeting was called, for those on the Sanhedrin Court. Saul came, attending with his education and deep love for the Law of Moses.

The court had heard about there being some Jewish believers of the way, residing in the city of Damascus.

The vote was cast and Saul was appointed and authorized with authority, to go to Damascus and kill and destroy all those people, who were followers of Jesus Christ. He was in-trusted to this task, as a devout Jew and a strict observer of the Law.

With written authority from the Sanhedrin Court, Saul, along with his buddies, began his journey to Damascus to fulfill his mission of destruction. With money in hand and court authority, a smile on his face, he began his dusty journey on the road to Damascus.

Saul was looking forward to this day for so long, now, he was going to dispel the myth forever, that Jesus was alive and had been seen of many.

I've got the power.

I've got the authority.

I've got the reason.

I've got the reputation for being ruthless.

Who would dare to oppose me? I'm Saul, the great.

I am Saul, the avid persecutor of those Jesus Name people.

Look out people, here I come!

"Hello Damascus," I'm on my way!

Slaughter is about to begin.

Saul thought he was doing the Perfect Will of God.

Many people, today, think they are doing the Perfect Will of God.

They walk on, in their stubborn ignorance

Just like Saul, they are so blinded by their own stubborn will.

As Saul journeyed toward Damascus, Jesus was taking note of his zeal and stubborn will. God looks upon the just and the unjust.

I heard a farmer say one time, "You have to knock a mule upside the head to get his attention." This was what Jesus did to hard-headed Saul.

As Saul came to the outskirts of Damascus, Jesus knocked him down with a zap of celestial glory, and rolled him in the dust.

Saul was hit so fast with blinding light from Heaven, he didn't have time to react, he didn't have time to curse. He didn't have time for Jesus, but Jesus got his attention in just one second.

God needs to knock some people down, today, to get their attention. Take the stiff starchy sinner and roll him in the dust, show him who is the boss.

God had to knock me down one day and put me in the hospital. I thought I was going to die. Did God get my attention, you bet! I took out my half-pack of cigarettes and threw them in the trash cans, as I was wheeled into the emergency room. I was a sinner and knew I needed to be saved. I prayed to God for another chance at life. I knew that I was a fool for neglecting salvation in Jesus Christ.

I promised God I would live for Him, if He healed me and gave me another chance. This was all God was waiting for; He healed my body and I was out of the hospital within a week.

A few weeks later, at an old-fashioned revival, in Texas, I got up out of my seat and headed for the altar.

The Devil said, "don't go," "I said, get out of my face, old Devil, I am going."

I repented of my sins at an altar and was baptized in water, in Jesus Name.

I felt the years of sin, guilt, and burdens roll from my soul. I felt so light and clean I thought I could jump over the moon.

That night I died.

That night I buried the old man.

That night I became a new creature in Christ.

That night I felt so good more than I ever felt in my life.

What a change, I gave God my old sins and He gave me a new heart.

I had a new chance at life. I could start all over again, the slate was wiped clean.

No more cigarettes.

No more drinking beer.

No more cursing God.

No more chasing women.

No more bar hopping.

No more worldly friends.

I later got the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave the utterance, a few weeks later.

I spoke a language I knew not. I had no control over what I was saying. The joy of the Lord was filling my soul. This experience was what I was looking for all these 31 years.

The joy was not found in a bottle.

The joy was not found puffing on a cigarette.

The joy was not found on a bar-room stool.

There I was, a 6'3" man, weighing around 220 lbs., a former weight lifter, on my knees, crying like a baby, out to God.

I thought only girls cried, well, I was wrong!

I thought grown men did not cry, well, I was wrong!

I thought Church was for old ladies and children, well, I was wrong!

I thought everyone was looking at me, well, I was wrong!

The Devil got mad and left, Jesus became my new Master.

I soon, thereafter, began preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Well, we go back to Saul, lying in the dust, just hit with celestial glory.

Jesus said unto him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?"

Jesus knew his name, Jesus knew his number.

His buddies were astonished, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. Sounds spooky to me. Jesus almost scared them to death. They were speechless. When God gets your attention, in this manner, you will be speechless, also.

Saul said, "Who art thou, Lord?"

Saul did not say, "Who art thou, Lord."

There is a question mark there. Saul was not sure who hit him with celestial glory, but he had a pretty good idea.

"Who hit me, was that you, God?"

The Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest."

Saul was not persecuting Jesus, he was on his way to persecute the followers of the way, those baptized in Jesus Name and filled with the Holy Ghost.

What a revelation, he was persecuting Jesus.

Saul, trembling and astonished, by what, he just heard from Jesus said, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

Now, he was willing to do God's Will, instead of his own will.

Now, Saul realized God knocked some sense into him.

Now, Saul wasn't so bad, after all.
His letters of authority, in his vest, were now meaningless.
Who now cares about the Jewish Court?
Who now cares about the killing followers of the way?
Sinner, when you get ready to do God's Will, instead of your own, only then, will you find the purpose for your life.

Notice carefully, what Jesus told Saul to do.
"Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."
Who wants a preacher telling them what to do?
I was told what to do by my dad, all my years growing up.
When I joined the military service to get away from this, I was amazed that I was still being told what to do. And this time, I said, "yes, sir."

Here comes Saul into Damascus, being led by the hand.
He couldn't even walk on his own.
He couldn't find the way by himself.
His eyes were opened, yet, he could not see.
He was a walking blind man, just like many people today.
Jesus did not tell Saul to go to Straight Street.
Jesus did not tell Saul to go to the House of Judas.
This was where he wound up on his own accord.
This was no accident.
Sinner, it is no accident, when you go to Church.
It is no accident, living for Jesus Christ.
Going to Heaven, is no accident.
Going to Hell, is no accident.
All of these, are by your own free choice.

Saul was in the Right Place At The Right Time.

It was no accident, that Saul, himself, wound up on Straight Street, you talk about divine direction.

Saul did not go to Popular Avenue.

He did not go to Trinity Boulevard.

He did not go the Charismatic Circle.

He did not go to Gold Dust Lane.

He did not go to Push Over Drive.

Saul went to Straight Street. He wanted something from God.

When you want God in your life, you will find Straight Street. Going straight is the best thing to do. We have many people, today, who are living on Crooked Street.

Homosexuals, lesbians, and child molesters, to name a few.

Transsexuals live on Weird Circle

Drag Queens live on Sin Avenue.

Child molesters live on Crooked Street.

There is nothing straight or righteous about them.

Saul didn't go to the nearest beer joint.

Saul didn't go to the nearest dance hall.

Saul didn't go to the nearest bowling alley.

Saul didn't go to the nearest movie theatre.

These are the wrong places, at the wrong time.

Many people, today, are living at the wrong place, at the wrong time.

If you love God, and are sincere in finding the truth for your salvation, you will be led to an Apostolic Church, where you can be saved and live straight for Jesus.

Straight and narrow is the road to eternal life; Broad Street is the way to Hell.

Here lies Saul, on Straight Street, in the House of Judas, praying, and fasting, for three days.

Was Saul saved? No, not yet!

Sinner, when you start praying and fasting, God will hear your prayers.

Saul hadn't yet received the truth.

God knew his number.

God knew his address.

God knew where he was.

God knows where you live, today.

When you get to The Right Place At The Right Time, pray and fast, God will hear you and bring deliverance to your soul.

Across town, there was an Apostolic preacher, napping named, Ananias. God appeared to him, in a vision, and told him to go to Straight Street, there in Damascus, to inquire in the House of Judas, for one called, Saul.

Ananias began to question God, because he had heard many evil things about him, how that he had letters of authority to kill all those who called on the Name of the Lord.

God assured Ananias, that Saul was a chosen vessel unto Him.

On the other side of town, Saul saw, in a vision, Ananias coming to him and laying hands on him, so he could receive his sight. God was working on both sides of the town.

Go, Ananias to Straight Street, one is praying by the name of Saul.

Sinner, when you start praying, God starts working and moving on your behalf.

You find truth seekers on Straight Street.

You find those that pray on Straight Street.

You find those that live Holy on Straight Street.

You find those who are sincere on Straight Street.

When Saul prayed, the answer came.

When Saul prayed, salvation came.

When Saul prayed, healing came.

When Saul prayed, truth came.

When Saul prayed, the power of God came.

Ananias didn't go by himself.

Along came truth.

Along came mercy.

Along came deliverance.

Along came healing.

Along came compassion.

Along came salvation.

Along came Jesus Name.
Along came the Holy Ghost.
Ananias was on his way.
Saul, your salvation is on the way.
Saul, your healing is on the way.
Saul, the Holy Ghost is on the way.
Sinner, yours is on the way, if you mean business with God.
Mercy is coming down the dusty road.
Salvation is coming down the dusty road.
Deliverance is coming down the dusty road.
Fellowship is coming down the dusty road.
Jesus Name is coming down the dusty road.
The Holy Ghost is coming down the dusty road.
Saul was in The Right Place At The Right Time.
He received his sight.
He received his deliverance.
He received his salvation.
He received the truth.
He received Jesus Name Baptism.
He received the Holy Ghost.
He started eating, and received his strength.
He never felt better in his entire life.
Now, his physical and Spiritual eyes were open.
He now knew the reason for his existence.
He now knew the purpose for his life.
He now became a chosen vessel.
He now began to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
The persecutor of the Church, now became, the protector of the Church.
The unbeliever, now became, the believer.
The letters of authority from the Jewish Court, now became, void and possibly were
thrown to the wind.

Saul became a tongue-talking, One God, Holy Ghost, Apostolic preacher.
Who can believe such a thing?
Look what the Lord has done!
The Devil is hopping mad!
The Devil's prize, now, becomes his worst nightmare!
The very thing Saul sought out to destroy, becomes his only salvation.
Saul, is now numbered, as one of them.
Once God got his attention, everything was different.
The moment he obeyed God, he was a chosen vessel.
The moment he found the truth, he ran with it!
Apostle to the Gentiles.
How is that for a title?
How could it be? With God, all things are possible!
Sinner, how could you be delivered? With God, all things are possible.
How can you be saved, with God all things are possible!
How can you be a chosen vessel, to preach God's Word? With God, all things are possible!

When is your time to be saved? Right now! Where is your place today? At the altar of prayer.

Today, is the day of salvation.
Come, let me lay hands on you, in Jesus Name, and pray for you.
Repent and get baptized in water in the Name of Jesus Christ.
Get filled with the Holy Ghost.
Get on the Straight Road to Glory.
You are in The Right Place And Now Is Your Right Time.
Saul, the persecutor, now became Paul, the preacher.
Turn the world upside down, Paul you have earned it.
Saul's Road to Damascus became his road to salvation.

The road you are on today, can become your road to deliverance, if you will do what God has commanded you to do through His Word.

Obey God or lie in the dust of shame and disgrace.

Become a Holy Ghost Apostolic Preacher of the Acts 2:38 doctrine, as Apostle Paul did. Fight the good fight of faith and point others to Jesus Christ.

Sermon compiled and preached by:

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Apostolic Temple

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Daddy's Miracles

Joshua 3:14-17

“And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant before the people: And as they that bare the Ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the Ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overflowed all his banks all the time of harvest), That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho. And the priests that bare the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.”

I used to listen to my dad talk about the old brush arbors he attended in the woods of East Texas. People for miles around could hear the singing, praying, and preaching of these old time Pentecostal people. Many were healed by the power of God, and many received the Holy Ghost in these old time meetings. People came in their wagons and teams to be in an old time Pentecostal camp meeting.

My dad is gone now, and so are the old stories I used to hear him talk about. My mind is still filled with the memories of the stories my dad used to tell. You talk about “Precious Memories,” I could fill a book about them.

Of all the ones my dad related to me, the one I loved the most was when he told me about the time an angel appeared in a Pentecostal service. It was about 9:00 P.M.

at a Sunday night service. The preacher had just finished his sermon and closed the Bible on the pulpit. He stepped down from the rostrum to minister to the people that

had gathered at the front altar benches. Then it happened, an angel with glowing presence came in the front door, walked down the aisle and came upon the rostrum. He walked to the pulpit and laid his hand on the closed Bible. He then turned around and began walking back down the aisle again heading for the front door. The people saw the angel and were stricken in awe at his presence. Some shouted for joy and some began to weep.

The front door was left open when the angel appeared, and a sinner man was sitting in his car facing the front door of the Church. He also saw the angel, and turned on his headlights in disbelief to get a better look at the angel. As the angel reached the front door he immediately disappeared into thin air. The sinner man said he never saw the angel leave the Church, He just disappeared into thin air just before reaching the front door.

Revival began to sweep that country Church, and to his dying day, the sinner man told everyone he saw about the night he turned on his headlights and saw the angel put his hand on the Bible and disappear into thin air.

What a miracle!

What a wonderful true story my daddy used to tell!

Miracles of old!

Daddy's Miracles.

I often wondered if those miracles of old could happen again.

I often wondered if God would do it again.

I often wished to see the power of God demonstrated again.

I often wished to be in a Pentecostal service where the people shouted for joy and the people were slain under the mighty Spirit of God.

I stand before you tonight and believe in Daddy's Miracles.

I believe in the old time power of God.

I believe God can perform miracles again.

I believe people can receive the Holy Ghost just like they did on the Day of Pentecost.

I believe that people can be baptized in water in Jesus Name just like Peter baptized Cornelius and his household.

I believe that God can raise the dead just like Jesus did when He came to the tomb of Lazarus.

I believe that God is getting His people ready to cross over this Spiritual Jordan.

We have been in the wilderness long enough Church, it's time to move to the promised land.

It's time to see Daddy's Miracles performed again.

Israel was in the wilderness, ready to enter the promised land.

God was wanting to see His people on the move.

God was ready to give the people the same miracle He gave their father's in crossing the Red Sea. This generation never saw the Red Sea miracle, they were told about it from their daddy's.

They never saw drowning horses and Egyptian soldiers.

They never saw Mt. Sinai aflame with the presence and power of God.

They never saw the Glory of God on the face of Moses, as he descended from Mt. Sinai.

They were born in the wilderness.

They were the generation that grew up on Daddy's Miracles.

We heard about the miracles of God way back then, what about now?

The same God who performed miracles in the past is performing them today.

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
The miracles of daddy's days are here again.
Shout "Hallelujah" somebody!

God can still raise the dead!
God can still heal the sick!
God can still open the eyes of the blind!
God can still heal the deaf!
God can still cause the lame to walk again!

Daddy's Miracles were OK in daddy's time, but you and I are in a different generation.

I'm tired of listening to Daddy's Miracles, I want to experience one for myself.
I want to see the power of God for myself.
I want God to do it again for me.

Our miracles of today start with the power and presence of almighty God.
This was what the Ark of the Covenant represented.

The priests were commanded to lift up the Ark of the Covenant before the people.

Revival and miracles start when the ministry lifts up God before the people.
Preacher, stand before your people and bear the Ark, lift up the Name of Jesus before your congregation.

Lift up the standard of Holiness!
Lift up water baptism in Jesus Name!
Lift up speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance!
Lift up praise and worship unto God!
Lift up His Glory!
Lift up His Majesty!

Lift up His Righteousness!
Lift up His Mercy!
Lift up His Truth!
Lift up His Word!

The priests did not drag the Ark of the

Covenant.

Preacher, don't drag your service.

Don't drag your standards!

Don't drag your convictions!

Don't drag the Word of God!

Don't drag on God!

Lift Him up, lift Him up!

Living for God is not a drag!

Living for God is joy and peace in the Holy Ghost!

Saints, lift up your hands that hang down and give God praise!

Not only did the priests lift up the Ark of the Covenant before the people, they also carried trumpets.

The trumpet was used to sound an alarm.

Preachers of today need to sound the alarm!

Wake up the sinners!

Wake up the saints!

We're on the move, it's moving time. It's going home time!

I saw a sign on a Church one day that said, "The Church on the move."

Saints, we are on the move, to the Promised Land!

The priests blew the trumpets and the people shouted.

Are there any shouters here today?
Saints, you need to shout the Victory!
Shout over the Name of Jesus Christ!
Shout over your healing!
Shout over your salvation!
Shout over the Devil!
The Devil may hinder you, but you get the last shout!

We're about to cross over, one more river to cross and we all will be going home.

Saints, get your house in order!
You are about to see Daddy's Miracles again!

The people were commanded to take down their tents.
Saints, we've camped in the wilderness long enough!
We're not on a camping trip, we're on our way to the promised land!
I'm not going to settle here for a tent city when my mansion is on the other side of
Jordan!
It's moving time!

Shake off the dust of yesterday, this is a new day!
A young child would say to their mother, "Where are we going, mother?"
We're going to see the miracles of daddy's days.
We're going to see God do it again!
This is a new day, my child!
We haven't passed this way, heretofore!

The priests started moving and the people started moving.
We can't have the miracles of daddy's days until we move.

We have to get where God wants us to be!
So many times we are sitting in our tent, Churches, waiting for God to move.

God has already moved!

He has moved Heaven and earth for us, saints!
As the song says, “ We gotta move, we gotta move!”
We need to get out of the ruts of the past!
We need to get to where God wants us to be!
We need to move when the preacher preaches!
We need to move when the Spirit flows!

Jordan overflowed all her banks at the time of harvest.
It's harvest time today in this world, and souls are waiting to be won to Jesus Christ.
I see a floodtide of ungodliness sweeping our generation today.

Going home looks impossible, but with God all things are possible.
We're on the march, saints!
Jordan here we come!

As soon as the feet of the priests hit the water, God rolled back the tide, just as He did with Moses at the Red Sea.

Daddy's Miracles were alive and well!
God can still roll back the tide!
God can still calm the troubled waters of your soul.

The priests were commanded to stand still on dry ground in the midst of Jordan.

Preachers, we need to take a stand for God today!
We need to stand up for the Word of God and the truth against an ungodly generation.

We need to stand against the floodtide of evil that is sweeping America.
We need to stand on God's promises!
We need to stand on God's Word!
We need to stand firm in our faith!

Stand still in your Jordan!
Let the floodtides of evil roll, I'm standing for Jesus today!
I'm standing by Faith on the Promises and miracles of God!
Stand still preacher and see the salvation of our God!
I'm standing on Daddy's Miracles again!
I'm going for my miracle today!
Saints, let loose your desert wanderings.
Forget your past experiences and failures.
Daddy's Miracles are here today!
Move in the Glory of God!
Walk in the Glory of God!
Let's walk together to the promised land!
Receive your blessing today!
Begin your walk of faith in Christ Jesus!
Deliverance day is here!
Your miracle is here!
Trust God for your new beginning!
Trust God for your deliverance!
Give Him Glory!

Give Him Praise!

If you need healing, I encourage you to move to these altars today!
If you need the Holy Ghost, I encourage you to make a move toward God!
God can't move until you move!

Have you ever played Spiritual checkers with God?

God can't move till you move!

He has already moved, so it's your move now!

I encourage you to make your way forward and see what God can do for you.

Move by Faith!

God is waiting to perform a miracle in your life!

Move with the Saints, move with the Church, move with the Spirit.

Let's cross this Jordan and rejoice together on the other side!

Let Daddy's Miracles be your miracles, today!

Sermon compiled and preached by:

Rev. D. R. Vestal, Ph.D.

Apostolic Temple

Garden Valley, Texas

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Dressed For the Occasion

Zechariah 3:1-5 And he showed me Joshua, the high priest, standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand, to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord, that has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. An unto him, he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with a change of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So, they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by.

Joshua was the successor of Moses who led the children of Israel across the Jordan River, conquered Jericho, and became a high priest.

Joshua was a man of great accomplishments. He was a man who put God first in his life. As he stood before the angel of the Lord, Satan stood there, at his right side, to resist him.

Joshua stood before the Lord and Satan was there to condemn.

Satan has access to Heaven and accuses those that live for God. He is the accuser of the brethren.

Satan is always there to resist.

Satan is always there to oppose.

Satan is always there to accuse.

Satan is not in Heaven to encourage you.

Satan is not in Heaven to support you.

Satan does not build up your faith.

Satan is there in Heaven to accuse you before the Lord in all that you do.

While you were sleeping last night, Satan was there before the Lord, accusing you.

Lord, look at this person!

Look what they have done!

Look at all their sins!

Look at all their failures!

Satan wants to bring up your past and condemn you for it.

Satan condemns your past, but God for-gives you of your past.

Our sins are covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Satan enjoys in digging up your past and accusing you before the Lord day and night.

Don't count on Satan to speak well of you.

Don't count on Satan to give you a good word.

His mission is to condemn, condemn, and condemn.

Satan condemns us for repenting of our sins.

He condemns us for being baptized in Jesus Name.

He condemns us for speaking in tongues.

He condemns us for living Holy.

He condemns us for reading God's Word.

He condemns us for praying.

He condemns us for singing.

He condemns us for fasting.

He condemns us for worshipping.

He condemns us for going to Church.

He condemns us for loving peace.

He condemns us for loving our neighbor.

Satan is always negative, he wants to pull you down and destroy you.

He does not want you to do good. He does not want you to receive salvation.

He does not want you to worship God.

He wants to control your life.

He wants to drag you to Hell.

The moment you started living for God is the moment Satan starts resisting you.

Saul had no problem in his life when he allowed Satan to control him.

Saul had no problem in persecuting the Church.
Only when he was converted in Damascus, did the Devil start fighting him.
The moment Saul started preaching Jesus Christ, was the moment the Devil was out to kill him.

Satan had Paul stoned.

He had Paul whipped and beaten.

He had Paul shipwrecked.

He had Paul snake bitten.

Satan finally had Paul's head chopped off in Rome.

I don't care what the Devil does, I'm going to live for God.

I'm going to speak in tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

I'm going to preach Jesus Name baptism.

I'm going to preach One God.

I'm going to sing and praise God.

I'm going to live Holy.

I'm going to Church.

I'm going to read God's Word.

Let Satan rant and rage.

Let Satan accuse.

I'm going to rebuke him in Jesus Name.

Adam and Eve had a problem with the Devil in the Garden of Eden.

All the prophets of old had a problem with the Devil.

Jesus had a problem with the Devil.

The early Church had a problem with the Devil.

The Church, today, has a problem with the Devil.

The Lord is there to rebuke Satan.

The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan.

The Lord is there on our behalf.

The Lord will not allow Satan to speak his mind and bring an accusation against us.

We can rebuke Satan, today, in the Name of Jesus Christ.

The Lord has chosen Jerusalem.

He has chosen Jerusalem for His place of dwelling.
He has chosen Jerusalem among all the cities of the world.
If God will defend Jerusalem, He will defend us, today.
God has chosen the Church to dwell with Him, in Jerusalem.
Joshua was a brand plucked out of the fire.
God's ministers, today, are a brand plucked out of the fire.
We leave our mark on this world.
We leave our brand on the world.
The Church is a hot brand, ready to do business for God.
We are a hot brand fresh from the fires of Pentecost.
We've been through the fire and are ready to go.
A cold brand will not get the job done.
A cold brand leaves no mark.
We're on fire for God.
Joshua was clothed in filthy garments. This speaks of unrighteousness.
Joshua was not Dressed For The Occasion.
Our filthy garments of sin will not do.
Our unrighteousness will not cover our sins.
Only the blood of Jesus Christ will cover us.
Fig leaves and filthy garments are banned from Heaven.
We need the righteousness of God.
We need a change of garments.
If you want to go to Heaven, you need a change of garments.
You must be Dressed for the Occasion.
You must be dressed for the Marriage Supper.
You must have on the wedding garment.
You must be dressed to walk on streets of gold.
No streakers in Heaven.
A garment change is needed.
The world, today, needs a garment change.
Stinking soiled garments will not make it beyond the gates of pearl.

God caused Joshua's iniquity to pass from him.

This was a Spiritual cleansing.

God causes our iniquity to pass from us when we repent and are baptized in Jesus Name for the remission of our sins.

We need clean clothes at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

We need clean clothes to walk on the streets of gold.

The Church is clothed in white linen.

Set a fair mitre upon His head.

Joshua was crowned.

The Church is to be crowned in glory.

The Church will rule and reign with Jesus Christ in His Kingdom.

The Church is a royal priesthood.

Joshua went from condemning to cleansing to clothing to crowning.

If we walk in the ways of God and resist the Devil, God will give us robes of white, and a crown of gold.

Like Joshua of old, we can go from condemning to cleansing to clothing to crowning.

And the angel of the Lord stood by.

God's angels, today, are standing by the Church.

The angels stand watch over you, child of God.

The angels will bear you up when you dash your foot against a stone.

The angels of God stand watch over you as you make your decision to live for God and put on His robe or righteousness.

I'm Dressed for the Occasion today, I'm dressed for glory.

I'm ready for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Sermons compiled and preached by:

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Garden Valley, Texas

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I'm Here for the Blessing

Micah 6:6-8

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“Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thou-

sands of rams, or with ten-thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”

It was customary in the days of old to bring a present when you came before the King.

This was to show respect for his authority, as well as your sincerity of the heart.

Most Kings would not allow you to enter their court without permission.

We can look at the account, in Scripture, where the wise men came before the Lord, as a young child in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:11).

The wise men came to King Herod in Jerusalem and asked him, “Where is He that was born, King of the Jews?”

We have seen His star in the East, and are come to worship Him.

King Herod got slapped in the face, so to speak, by these wise men, who asked, “Where is this King of the Jews?” Herod thought he was the King of the Jews.

This news of a newborn King troubled Herod and the people of Jerusalem.

This was all Herod needed, a new King to challenge his authority over the Jewish people.

Herod had to act fast, this kind of news could be his downfall.

He called for the chief priests and scribes and demanded of them, where this Christ was born.

They said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus, it is written by the prophet."

Micah prophesied hundreds of years before, that a ruler would come forth out of Bethlehem, whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting (Micah 5:2).

When you want to find God, always go to the Scriptures. The Holy Bible reveals who God is and where He is.

Herod told the wise men to go and find this child, in Bethlehem and bring him word, also, that he might come to worship Him.

Herod had no intentions in coming to worship the Christ child.

Many people, today, have no intentions to come to the House of God to worship Him.

Herod wanted to kill Christ, just as he had many others.

King Herod coming to worship a young child in Bethlehem? That would be the day!

The wise men were led by the star, to Jesus, where He was with his parents.

The wise men fell down and worshipped Him.

That's the first thing a person should do when they come into the House of God, is to worship Him.

The wise men also brought gifts to the Lord: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Notice that the worship came first.

God is a God that desires worship, first of all, the gifts come later.

The gifts didn't override the worship.

God doesn't need our gifts, He owns the whole world.

He does need and demands our worship.

A God that demands gifts over worship, is not a God.

The wise men went on their way back home, rejoicing. They had been in the presence of the Lord of Glory.

They had received their blessing.

Herod was not wanting to worship, he did not come for his blessing.

Back to our text; How should man come before the Lord?

He is the King of Heaven and earth.

What are we to offer Him for the sin of our soul?

Shall we come before His presence with burnt offerings?

Would the Lord be satisfied with a burnt offering of a calf, one-year old?

Would this meat offering satisfy the Lord for the sin of my soul? No!

Save your calves, God doesn't need them.

This would not bring the blessing.

Shall we come before the Lord with thousands of rams?

Will the thousands of rams satisfy the Lord for the sin of my soul? No!

God doesn't need thousands of rams.

He already owns all the cattle on the hill.

This would not bring the blessing.

Shall I come before the Lord with ten-thousands of rivers of oil? No!

If I had thousands of rams and ten-thousands rivers of oil, I would be a rich man.

God doesn't need your rivers of oil, He already owns all the world's supply of oil, anyway.

This would not bring the blessing.

Shall I come before the Lord with the sacrifice of my firstborn? No!

God isn't interested in human sacrifices.

God isn't interested in human sufferings and pilgrimages.

Oceans of blood have already been shed to satisfy the sin of the soul.

God is not in the torture and self-sacrifice business.

The sacrifices of man can never redeem his soul from sin.

Some idol gods demand human sacrifices.

The living God demands the sacrifice of the fruit of our lips.

A lot of people, today, try to come before God with their excuses.

Imagine coming before God with these excuses:

Lord, I really don't have the time.

Lord, I don't have the clothes to wear.

Lord, I don't have any money to give.

Lord, I got other things to do.

Lord, I don't feel good.

Lord, I hate going to Church.

Lord, my mate won't go with me.

Lord, there are too many hypocrites in the Church.

Lord, I'm content the way I am.

Lord, I don't care for the pastor.

Lord, I've committed too many sins.

Lord, I have to work.

People with these silly excuses rob their soul from the blessings of the Lord in their lives.

A lot of people try coming before the Lord with their complaints.

Lord, my brother did me wrong.

Lord, my neighbor stole from me.

Lord, I'm O.K., but what about so and so?

Many people spend a lot of time complaining before the Lord and rob themselves of a blessing.

A lot of people come before the Lord with their accomplishments.

Lord, I preached last week and 20 got the Holy Ghost, bless me, now!

Lord, I baptized 50 people last month, bless me, now!

Lord, I built and pastored ten Churches bless me, now!

Lord, I've lived for you for 40 years, bless me, now!

Lord, look what I have done!

The Lord isn't interested in your earthly accomplishments.

If this is all you have to offer to God, you are robbed of a blessing.

Many people come to God offering Him worldly goods.

Lord, heal me now, and I will give you my whole house.

Lord, do this, and I will give half of my possessions to you.

People rob themselves of the blessings, by trying to offer their worldly goods to God.

God doesn't need our houses.

God doesn't need our lands.

God doesn't need our money.

God doesn't need our automobiles.

No earthly goods will please Him.

What shall I give then, for the sin of my soul?

What shall I give when I come before the God of Heaven and earth?

What does God require of me, when I come into His presence?

How do I receive the blessings of the Lord?

I have no gold to bring.

I have no frankincense to bring.

I have no myrrh to give.

He hath showed thee, O man, what is good, and what God requires of thee.

Do justly.

Render justice to all men.

Be a just person in all your dealings with man.

Render justice for injustice.

Love mercy.

Be merciful.

Be merciful to your fellowman.

Show some mercy to your enemies.

Walk humbly with thy God.

Humble yourself before God.

Get on your knees, bow your head before Him, humble yourself before Him.

Say unto Him, O God, I am nothing.

O, God I have sinned.

O, God I am, but clay.

Lord, I have no gift to bring, but here is my dirty soul, save me O, Lord, by thy mercy and grace.

This prayer will move the glory world.

This prayer will put the angels into action.

This prayer will stir the Heavenly world.

This prayer will move the heart of God.

The blessing will come down and fill your soul.

God will bless you in happiness.

God will bless you in strength.

God will bless you in body.

God will bless you in your down-sitting.

God will bless you in your uprising.

God will bless you in your labor.

God will bless you in all your endeavors.

God will bless you among your family.

God will bless you even among your enemies.

Not only this, but live with a humble attitude.

Suffer to be wronged.

Suffer to be called dirty names.

Suffer to be called a Christian.

Great is your blessing.

Great is your reward in Heaven.

The greatest gifts we can bring before God for the sin of our soul is:

Justice.

Mercy.

Humbleness.

These three gifts are actions of the heart.

God looks on the heart of man, not on the outward appearance.

Jesus Christ died on Calvary, as the sacrifice for the whole human race.

He offered up Himself to God to satisfy the demands of justice and cover the sins of the whole world.

To honor Him, to glorify His Name, to pray to Him, to live for Him, this is the greatest blessing, given to man.

Lord, I'm here for the Blessing!

Lord, I'm here because of Calvary!

Lord, I'm here because of the blood you shed for my sins.

Lord, I'm here because of your Holy Spirit.

Lord, I'm here because of your love.

Lord, I'm here because of your grace.

Lord, I'm here because of your mercy.

Lord, I'm here because of your Word.
Lord, I'm here because of your sacrifice.
Lord, I'm here because of your obedience.
Lord, I'm here because of your salvation.
Lord, I'm here because of life eternal.
Lord, I'm here for your Name's sake.
I want a Blessing.
I want the Love of God.
I want the Grace of God.
I want the Mercy of God.
I want the Spirit of God.
Here I am Lord, fill me with the blessings of Heaven.
I've tried everything else and failed.
I've tried alcohol and it failed me.
I've tried tobacco and it failed me.
I've tried drugs and it failed me.
I've tried gambling and it failed me.
I've tried stealing and it failed me.
I've tried robbing and it failed me.
I've tried murder and it failed me.
I've tried rape and it failed me.
Oh, the sins of my soul!
Oh, the shame in my heart!
Oh, the burden of shame and guilt!
Set my soul free, Lord.
The greatest gift to you, is my heart.
I'm Here For The Blessing!

Let's sing that old song, "I need thee every hour"

I Need Thee Every Hour

1. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice, like Thine can peace afford.

Cho. I need Thee, O, I need Thee; ev-'ry hour, I need Thee!
O, Bless me now, My Saviour,
I come to Thee.

2. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, stay Thou nearby;
Temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh.

3. I need Thee ev-'ry hour, in joy or pain, come quickly and abide, or life is vain.

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Garden Valley, Texas

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Open the Door to Your Miracle

Acts 12:11-17 And when Peter had come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews. And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together, praying. And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda. And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate. And they said unto her, Thou art mad, but she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, it is his angel. But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

King Herod killed James, the brother of John, with a sword. Possibly cut his head off.

Because this pleased the Jews, he decided to go after Peter, the ring leader of the Apostles.

The Jews would not accept the Apostolic preachers of the Acts 2:38 doctrine on the Day of Pentecost.

They were offended by Peter's sermon on that historic day.

Many people, today, are offended by the Acts 2:38 doctrine.

The Jews had enough influence with King Herod, that he cast Peter in prison and put him on death row.

No charge required.

No lawyer available.

No trial conducted.

No justice served.

An innocent preacher on death row.

Many are in prison, today, who are innocent of the crimes brought against them.

Peter was baptized in Jesus Name.

Peter was filled with the Holy Ghost.

Peter was a child of God.

He was God's anointed servant.

The world needs to keep their hands off of God's anointed, Holy people.

You touch God's people, you are touching God's prize, God's Saints.

There Peter sat, on death row, in prison.

Four quaternions of soldiers were there to guard Peter and to ensure he did not escape.

Since we are not given the names of these sixteen soldiers, let us name them for the sake of this event.

We will name one private bondage.

We will name one private captivity.

We will name one private failure.

We will name one private hindrance.

We will name one corporal grief.

We will name one corporal sorrow.

We will name one corporal corruption.

We will name one corporal sickness.

We will name one sergeant fear.

We will name one sergeant worry.

We will name one sergeant unbelief.

We will name one sergeant discouragement.

We will name one lieutenant hypocrisy.

We will name one captain witchcraft.

We will name one major idolatry.

The last one, we will name colonel rebellion.

There Peter was, in prison, on death row, bound to bondage and captivity with discouragement and hindrance, guarding the door, along with all the other misfits of Herod, walking about.

What was needed, now, was a miracle.

The Devil loves to put us in bondage, captivity, discouragement, and hindrance.

He loves to keep us in fear, grief, and sickness.

He loves to compass us about with idolatry, witchcraft, and hypocrisy.

He wants us to have unbelief and worry, have sorrow, and be a failure.

He wants us to experience rebellion and corruption.

But, Jesus came to set the captives free.

Innocent.

In prison.

Guarded by 16 soldiers.

By order of the King.

Just killed James.

Serious situation.

No small thing.

All this sounds like words of defeat.

King Herod was waiting after the holiday, "Easter," to try him and kill him.

The Church, on hearing the awful news of Peter, began an all-night prayer meeting.

They did not flee.

They did not give up.

They did not blame God.

They did not renounce the truth.

They were praying without ceasing.

The Church needs some all-night prayer meetings today.

We do not need fashion shows.

We do not need a musical concert.

We do not need a coffee social.

We need prayer meetings!

We need a miracle!

We need a deliverance!

We need a divine intervention!

"Oh, God give us a miracle."

God wants the Church to have a miracle, today.

God wants you to have a miracle today.
He wants to see how bad you want it.
You think your miracle won't come?
You think the Devil has held your miracle hostage?
You need healing? Pray without ceasing.
You need salvation? Pray without ceasing.
You need a miracle? Pray without ceasing.
Pray and trust God, He is working on your miracle.
Prison is the end.
Death row is final.
Mission impossible.
But, God deals with impossibilities.
With God all things are possible.
Trust, obey, pray, and believe.
God hears your prayer, Church.
God hears your prayer, sinner.
God hears your prayer, prisoner.
Your miracle is on the way.
God works in prisons.
Bars do not hold Him.
Iron gates do not contain Him.
Soldiers do not sway Him.
Peter fell asleep on death row, chained to two soldiers, bondage, and captivity.
A soldier on his left and a soldier on his right.
No miracle can happen here.
No great escape can happen here.
No hope is in here.
The other two soldiers kept the door to the prison, discouragement, and hindrance on duty. The others were on guard duty.
Peter was chained, bound, secured, and guarded.
Mission impossible.

About midnight, God dispatched an angel to the prison
The angel did not need a visitors pass.
The angel did not check in at the registration desk.
The angel was not stripped searched.
The angel did not go through a metal detector.
God went beyond the restrictions of man.
An angel on special assignment.
An angel on a mission.
An angel on death row.
An angel of deliverance.
A light of deliverance.
A light in the prison.
Many prisoners need the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Glory in the prison.
The angel smote Peter on the side and said, "Get up."
Peter arose.
"Gird thyself."
His chains fell off.
He put on his clothes.
He put on his shoes.
He put on his coat.
God does not want you to be naked, he wants to clothe you in His righteousness.
He was about to be released.
He was about to be set free.
No parole board was needed.
No key was needed.
No hacksaw was needed.
An angel was his pass to freedom.
The angel said to Peter, "Follow me."
Follow God and all things are possible.
Follow God and you will be set free from bondage and captivity.

Follow God, prisoner and your deliverance is on the way.
It's not a day dream.
It's not a vision.
It's the possible!
Passing the first and second ward, they came to the iron gate.
Peter made it out of the ward.
He made it out of the holding cell.
He made it off of death row.
But, what about the fence?
What about the iron gate?
The iron gate, your last obstacle to freedom.
There stood the iron gate of confinement.
There stood the iron gate of impossibility.
There stood the iron gate of discouragement.
No iron gate can stop your miracle.
No iron gate can stop your deliverance.
If God can deal with sleeping soldiers -
If God can deal with chains -
He can deal with an iron gate.
No iron gates of King Herod can stop the iron hand of God.
The iron gate became his gate to freedom; the gate opened on its own accord.
Peter didn't kick it.
No hacksaw was needed.
No combination was used.
No bolt cutters were available.
No iron gate of bondage can stop a child of God.
No iron gate can stop your miracle.
The angel left Peter when his mission was complete.
Falling chains.
Swinging gates.
Sounds like a miracle to me.

Peter became a walking miracle.

Where do walking miracles go? To the house of prayer.

Miracles and prayer go together.

Peter went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, where the Church was praying for a miracle.

“Oh, God, deliver Peter.”

“We need a miracle, Oh, God.”

Peter began knocking at the door of the gate.

As he knocked, people prayed.

He knocked again, people prayed.

A girl, named Rhoda, heard the knocking and came to the door.

Rhoda means, “rose.”

Isn't it strange; God sent Peter a rose, after his deliverance.

Miss Rose came to the door and heard Peter's voice.

“It's me, Peter, open the door.”

Rhoda became so filled with joy, she forgot about opening the door and ran to tell the praying Church, it was Peter, at the gate.

She heard the voice, but opened not the door.

Many people, today, hear God's voice, but open not the door of their hearts to Him.

Jesus said, “Behold I stand at the door and knock.”

Jesus is knocking on the doors of hearts, today.

Your miracle is knocking at your door.

Open the Door to your Miracle.

The latch is on the inside of your heart.

God does the knocking, you do the opening.

Open up and let God have His way.

Rhoda burst into the prayer meeting saying, Peter was at the gate.

Can't you see, girl, we are praying for his release.

Peter is in prison and we are desperately praying for his release.

We don't need an interruption now.

Rhoda kept insisting it was Peter.

They said, "You are mad."
Have you gone crazy, girl?
It can't be.
It's impossible.
They said, it is his angel.
They killed him, just as we feared.
His ghost has come to haunt us.
Peter kept knocking at the door.
How long does God have to knock, sinner, before God gets your attention?
How long must God knock Church in order for you to Open The Door To Your
Miracle?
Open the door and be saved.
Open the door and be delivered.
Open the Door to Your Miracle.
When they opened the door and saw Peter, they were amazed.
They couldn't believe their eyes.
They finally Opened The Door To Their Miracle!
Revival came, when they opened the door.
Assurance came, when they opened the door.
Gladness came, when they opened the door.
King Herod means nothing to God.
Prison means nothing to God.
Soldiers mean nothing to God.
Wards mean nothing to God.
Iron gates mean nothing To God.
Prayer does, it is music to His ears.
As the morning broke upon the prison, the soldiers woke up.
Peter was gone.
Fallen chains on the floor.
An iron gate, wide open.
Where did this guy go?

Where is this Apostolic preacher?

How did he get away from us?

How can this be?

How could this guy pull off this prison break?

Where is this Houdini?

Houdini, himself, could not have made an escape, such as this.

The great escape

The soldiers were scared.

The prison was on lockdown.

Cells were searched.

Questions were asked.

Knees were knocking.

Lives were pending.

Excitement was in the air.

No prayer, here.

No faith, here.

No revival, here.

Gloom and doom come on in.

King Herod sent for Peter.

He could not be found.

He could not be accounted for.

Just gone in the night.

The soldiers were brought in.

Inquiry had begun.

Excuses were given.

I slept.

I snored.

I woke.

Prisoner gone.

Saw open gate.

No excuse.

I didn't hear anything.

I didn't see anything.

I'm innocent.

King Herod was mad.

He commanded the soldiers to be put to death.

Away with private bondage.

Away with private captivity.

Away with private failure.

Away with private hindrance.

Away with corporal grief.

Away with corporal sorrow.

Away with corporal corruption.

Away with corporal sickness.

Away with sergeant fear.

Away with sergeant worry.

Away with sergeant unbelief.

Away with sergeant discouragement.

Away with lieutenant hypocrisy.

Away with captain witchcraft.

Away with major idolatry.

Away with colonel rebellion.

Kill the soldiers, it's their fault.

I'll show them who is King around here, I'm King Herod.

God had one, yet to destroy, his name was King pride.

One day, as King Herod sat upon his throne in royal robes, he gave a great speech to the Jews.

The people said, it was a voice of a God and not a man.

King Herod beamed with pride.

King Herod beamed with arrogance.

Death was at his door.

The same angel who delivered Peter, smote King Herod, while he sat on his throne.

He was eaten by worms.
The soldiers died.
King Herod died.
Peter was set free.
The Church had their miracle.
The Word of God grew and multiplied.
The Gospel was preached everywhere.
No King Herod to hinder.
No soldiers to hinder.
No prison to hinder.
No iron gate to hinder.
Prayer, revival, and miracles multiplied.
All this because the Church prayed and Opened the Door to Their Miracle.
The world can't stop a praying Church.
The world can't stop a Holy Ghost revival.
The world can't stop a mighty move of God.
The world can't stop miracles and deliverances.
God will kill anything that comes against you, if you put Him first in your life.
Many prisoners of sin are bound by the Devil, today.
The Devil has bound them with chains of despair.
What they need, is a miracle of deliverance.
What they need is a delivering angel of the Lord.
What they need is some prayer in their life.
Pray, believe, trust God and all things are possible.
God can open the iron gates in your life and set your soul free of bondage.
The Devil can't stop you when You Open The Door To Your Miracle.
Let us stand, today, saints, and sing that old song, "Don't Turn Him Away."

Don't Turn Him Away

1. Patiently, tenderly pleading, Jesus is standing today;

At your heart's door, He knocks as before,
Oh, yield to His wonderful way.

Cho: Don't Turn Him Away, Don't Turn Him Away.
He has come back to your heart again,
although you've gone astray,
Oh, how you'll need Him to plead your cause on that Eternal Day!
Don't turn the Saviour away from your heart,
Don't Turn Him Away.

2. Gracious, compassionate mercy, bro't Him from mansions above;
Caused Him to wait, just outside your gate,
Oh, yield to His wonderful love.

3. Can you not hear Him calling?
Do not ill-treat, such a Friend;
Give up your sin, Oh, let Him come in,
Lo! He will be true to the end.

4. Now is the time to receive Him, grant Him admission today;
Grieve Him, no more, but Open Your Door, and turn Him, no longer away.

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Reading the Back of the Book

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne, a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.

Revelation 5:1

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Several years ago, when I was in grade school, I checked out a book and went immediately to the last chapter and began to read.

The teacher was amazed that I didn't start on the first chapter, like all other students and proceed throughout the book.

I told her, I wanted to read the back of the book first, and see how things turned out.

Well, here I am several years later, preaching on the subject of Reading the Back Of the Book.

The greatest book of all, is the Holy Bible.

The greatest book that contains the history of the world, as well as its future, is the Bible.

The greatest book that talks about Satan and the glory world, is the Bible.

The greatest book that talks about salvation, is the Bible.

The greatest science book of all, is the Bible.

As I pick up the Holy Bible, I read about God's Alpha glory, in Creating the Heaven and the earth.

I read about the Creation of the sun, moon, and the stars.

I read about the Creation of all the animals.

I read about the Creation of Adam and Eve.

I read about Satan and the temptation.

I read about the fall and the curse on the human race.

I also read about the promise of a coming deliverer.

I read about the flood and destruction of humanity

I read about the Tower of Babel and the confusion of the languages.

I read about the Covenant promises given to Abraham.

I read about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

I read about the sacrifice of Isaac.

I read about the wrestling match between Jacob and the angel.

I read about Joseph down in Egypt.

I flip through the pages of Exodus and read about Moses in Egypt and the crossing of the Red Sea.

I read about the Law being given on Mt. Sinai.

I read about the building of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness.

As I flip through the pages of Leviticus, I read about the offerings required by God.

I read about the Levitical Laws and personal Laws given to Moses.

As I flip through the pages of Numbers, I read about the people being numbered and accounted for.

I read about the numbering of the Tribes of Israel.

I read about quails being given for food to Israel.

I read about the ten spies and Joshua and Caleb.

I read about the great man of God, called Aaron.

As I flip through the pages of Deuteronomy, I read about the Laws given to Moses.

I read about the Passover, Laws of the tithes and Laws for worship.

I read about the death of Moses.

As I flip through the pages of Joshua, I read about Joshua fighting the Battle of Jericho.

I read about the dividing of the land of Canaan.

I read about the death of Joshua.

As I flip through the pages of Judges, I read about Deborah and the song of Deborah.

I read about Gideon and his mighty exploits.

I read about Jephthah's vow and his sacrifice of his daughter.

I read about Samson and Delilah.

I flip through the pages of Ruth and read about Ruth, Boaz, and Naomi.

I flip through the pages of 1st and 2nd Samuel and read about the calling of Samuel.

I read about King Saul and his mighty battles.

I read about David and Goliath in the Valley of Elah.

I read about the death of King Saul on Mt. Gilboah.

I read about the crowning of King David.

I flip through the pages of 1st and 2nd Kings and read about King Solomon in all his wisdom.

I read about the Queen of Sheba.

I read about Elijah challenging the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel.

I read about King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel.

I read about Elisha and his mighty miracles.

I read about Nebuchadnezzar and his plunder of Jerusalem.

As I flip through the pages of 1st and 2nd Chronicles, I read about the genealogical lines.

I read about David and the Philistines.

I read about the crowning of King Solomon.

I read about the building and dedication of the Temple.

I read about the prayer of Hezekiah.

As I flip through the pages of Ezra, I read about the Temple being rebuilt.

I read about the humility and prayers of Ezra.

As I flip through the pages of Nehemiah, I read about the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.

I read about the appointments of the Priests and Levites.

As I flip through the pages of Esther, I read about King Ahasuerus and his Queen, Vashti.

I read about the diabolical plan of Haman.

I read about Esther and her petition to the King.

I read about the fame of Mordecai.

As I flip through the pages of Job, I read about his prosperity and his affliction brought on by Satan.

I read about his friends and his ultimate victory over Satan.

As I flip through the pages of Psalms, I read about the songs of the sweet singer of Israel, King David.

I read about David's Psalms and prayers to God.

I read about the Songs of Degrees.

As I flip through the pages of Proverbs, I read about the Proverbs and wisdom of King Solomon.

I read about wisdom's warnings and rewards.

As I flip through the pages of Ecclesiastes, the Preacher, I read about everything being done under the sun.

I read about the vanities of sin.

As I flip through the pages of the Song of Solomon, I read about the Shulamite woman.

I read about gardens, spices, and love.

As I flip through the pages of Isaiah, I read about the visions of Isaiah.

I read about the prophecies of a coming Saviour.

I read about the fall of Lucifer.

I read about the redemption of Israel.

I read about the blessings upon Zion.

As I flip through the pages of Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, I read about the call to repentance.

I read about a basket of figs.

I read about the captivity and the promised return to Jerusalem.

I read about Jeremiah in the dungeon.

I read about the judgments against Babylon.

As I flip through the pages of Lamentations, I read about the destruction of Zion.

I read about the lamentations of Zion.

As I flip through the pages of Ezekiel, I read about his visions of the Cherubims and the wheels.

I read about the call to prophecy and the Lord's judgments.

I read about the watchman on the walls of Jerusalem.

I read about the valley of the dry bones.

I read about Gog and Magog.

I read about the measurement of the Temple.

As I flip through the pages of Daniel, I read about Daniel and his friends in Babylon.

I read about the feast of Belshazzar and his ultimate death.

I read about Daniel in the lion's den.

I read about Daniel and his end-time visions.

As I flip through the pages of Hosea, I read about God's warnings to Israel.

I read about an empty vine.

I read about God's call to repentance.

As I flip through the pages of Joel, I read about the great Day of the Lord.

I read about the outpouring of God's Spirit in the last days.

As I flip through the pages of Amos, the herdsman, I read about the transgressions of Moab.

I read about the basket of summer fruit.

I read about the prophecy of Israel being restored.

As I flip through the pages of Obadiah, I read about the judgment of Edom.

As I flip through the pages of Jonah, I read about the wickedness of Nineveh.

I read about Jonah's submarine ride in the belly of the whale.

As I flip through the pages of Micah, I read about God's judgment in the last days.

I read about God's mountain being exalted among all mountains.

As I flip through the pages of Nahum, I read about the desolation of Nineveh.

As I flip through the pages of Habakkuk, I read about the visions made plain upon tables.

I read about the prayer of Habakkuk and the coming glory of the Lord.

As I flip through the pages of Zephaniah, I read about the doom of the nations.

I read about God turning to the people, a pure language.

I read about God making Jerusalem a praise among all nations.

As I flip through the pages of Haggai, I read about God's house being laid waste.

I read about God shaking the Heavens and shaking the earth.

As I flip through the pages of Zechariah, I read about a measuring line and a flying roll.

I read about God destroying all nations that come against Jerusalem.

I read about God establishing His Kingdom in Jerusalem.

As I flip through the pages of Malachi, I read about the wickedness of the Priests.

I read about the promise of a messenger coming before the Day of the Lord.

I read about the people robbing God.

I read about the coming of Elijah in the last days.

As I flip through the Gospels of Matthew, Mark Luke and John, I read about the coming of John the Baptist.

I read about the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.

I read about the baptism of Jesus.

I read about the dead being raised and the lame walk again.

I read about the Last Supper.

I read about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

As I flip through the pages of Acts, I read about what happened on the Day of Pentecost.

I read about St. Peter and the conversion of Saul.

I read about the death of Stephen.

I read about the conversion of Cornelius, the first Gentile to receive salvation.

I read about St. Paul and his shipwreck.

I read about St. Paul's imprisonment and impending death, in Rome.

As I flip through the pages of the Epistles, I read about the judgments of God upon backbiters and haters of God.

I read about the gifts of the Spirit.

I read about letters of correction to the Churches.

I read about Paul's instructions to Timothy.

I read about the heroes of faith, listed in the pages of Hebrews.

I read about the faith and works of James.

I read about the meek Spirit and humbleness of Peter.

I read about the love of John.

I read about John banished to the Isle of Patmos for the Word of God.
I read about the letters to the 7 Churches of Asia Minor.
I read about the catching away of the saints.
I read about the Anti-Christ and the 7-year tribulation period.
I've read about the results of sin and disobedience to God's Word.
I've read about the death and destruction upon the human race.
I've read about salvation through Jesus Christ.
I've read about the pain and suffering Satan caused upon the human race.
I've read the history from Adam to Christ.
I've read the history from Christ to our present day.
I've read about fallen angels and demons.
I've read about giants and dwarfs.
I've read about the deaths of great men of old.
I've read about killings and hangings.
I've read about suicides and poisonings.
I've read about rapes and incest.
I've read about seduction and prostitution.
I've read about temptresses and temptation.
I've read about rebellion and witchcraft.
I've read about fornication and adulterers.
I've read about lies and stealings.
I've read about gambling and lots cast.
I've read about captivities and wars.
I've read about idolatry and graven images.
I've read about fire gods and false prophets.
I've read about corruption and hypocrisy.
I've read about revelers and rebellion.
I've read about beauty pageants and crownings.
I've read about earthquakes and violent winds.
I've read about great hail and rain.
I've read about floods and burning palaces.

I've read about famines and pestilences.
I've read about drought and lack of rain.
I've read about leprosy and other diseases.
I've read about census and taxation.
I've read about Sodom and sodomites.
I've read about a talking ass and a crowing cock.
I've read about war and warriors.
I've read about prison and prison breaks and prison conversions.
I've read about the distress of the nations.
I've read about the allurements of sin and the fruits of sin.
I've read about stoning's and beatings.
I've read about fools and felons.
I've read about gluttons and gladiators.
I've read about blood, guts, and glory.
I've read about swords, shields, and arrows.
I've read about stinging scorpions and flying locusts.
I've read about the crippled and the lame.
I've read about fear, faith, and failures.
I've read about Kings, Queens, and Rings.
I've read about lakes, snakes, and cakes.
I've read about spears, queers, and tears.
I've read about takers, shakers, and bakers.
I've read about prophecies, prophesying' and preachers.
I've read about the history of sin.
I've read about the history of Satan.
Sin and Satan do not present a pretty picture.
My heart is filled with grief and sorrow, as I read the Word of God.
I asked, why Lord?
Is this all there is to life?
Is this all the history of man?
Is there something better than all this?

But then, I Read The Back Of The Book.

I read the final chapter of history.

I read about the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

I read about the saints arrayed in robes of white.

I read about Jesus Christ coming back to the earth again in the clouds of glory at Armageddon.

I read about blood flowing to the horses bridles.

I read about the Supper of The Great God.

I read about Jesus standing on the Mt. of Olives, in Jerusalem.

I read about the binding of Satan in the Bottomless Pit for 1,000 years.

I read about the Great White Throne judgment.

I read about the final destruction of death, Hell, and the grave.

I went to the back of The Book and read about the final destruction of Satan in the Lake of Fire.

I saw what was written on the Backside Of The Book in the hand of Jesus Christ.

All that shall happen through the vast futurities of individuals, families, nations, and worlds, is mapped out on the pages of this book.

What no man in Heaven and earth could do, Christ has done, by His death, burial, and resurrection; He has prevailed to open the sealed book.

It is the book of redemption.

I saw what is yet to come on the backside of history.

I saw what is yet to come on the backside of this world.

I read about a new Heaven and a new earth.

On the backside of the book, Satan is no more.

On the backside of the book, sin and death are no more.

On the backside of the book, there is life everlasting.

On the backside of the book, there is a golden city, that lies foursquare.

On the backside of the book, there are gates of pearl.

On the backside of the book, I see streets of gold.

On the backside of the book, I see trees of life.

On the backside of the book, I see rivers of pure water.

On the backside of the book, I see angels of glory.

On the backside of the book, I see mansions.

On the backside of the book, I see Jesus Christ sitting as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

I'm not discouraged anymore, I've Read The Last Chapter Of The Book.

I see the dwelling place of the saints of God on the backside of the book.

On the backside of the book, the lame and crippled will walk again.

On the backside of the book, all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

I've Read the Final Chapter of the Book.

With sin gone, with death gone, with Satan gone, I'll dwell on the backside of the book.

I'll dwell with Jesus Christ in His Omega glory.

Jesus is wrapping it all up and will close the last chapter upon sin, death, Hell, and the grave.

Cheer up saints!

Cheer up Church!

I've Read the Back Of the Book.

All will be well.

All will be glory.

All will be everlasting.

Goodbye sin!

Goodbye Devil!

Goodbye death!

Hello Heaven!

Hello Eternity!

Thank God, I have made it to the back of the book.

Thank God I have a new life in a glorified body.

Please Close The Book, Eternity has begun.

Sermon compiled and preached by:

Rev. D. R. Vestal, Ph. D.

Apostolic Temple

Garden Valley, Texas

February 2006

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Rebels without a Cause

Isaiah 14:12-17 “How art thou fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds: I will be like the most High. Yet, thou shalt be brought down to Hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee, shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake Kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of the prisoners?”

Let us take note of the, I wills of Lucifer, he was more interested in his will, than the will of God. He was the highest angel in power, that God Created, perfect in beauty and talents. Because of this, he was lifted up in pride and rebellion. His, “I wills”, led him to be the first rebel of God’s Creation. He rebelled against the will of God. We have alot of people, today, who rebel against the will of God, they have had a good example. Lucifer was not satisfied in his rebellion, until he influenced other angels to rebel with him. There was war, in Heaven, long before the earth was Created. Lucifer became the first rebel and the first sinner. His wicked angels fought against the good angels of God and he and his wicked angels were cast out of Heaven.

It’s the same in Churches, today. People today, rebel against the Pastor and the Church. They are not satisfied in leaving the Church, they want to see how many people they can take out of the Church with them. Satan’s influence today, goes far beyond the angels of Heaven, it reaches to the souls of men and women, today. People are following Satan, the rebel against God, the father of rebellion. Like Satan, many people, today, want to do their own will.

Many are saying:

I will not go to Church.

I will not obey God's Word.
I will not repent.
I will not get baptized in Jesus Name.
I will not get the Holy Ghost.
I will be the master of my own life.

God recognizes everyone, as free moral agents and lies at our doorstep, the awful responsibility of choosing our own destiny. We choose whether we want to go to Heaven or Hell. God does not send us to Hell, we make that decision, by our own free-will. Jesus went to the cross to save the whole world, but he cannot go beyond the will of man. The roadblock to Hell, is the cross of Christ. If we go to Hell, we go there against the will of God. Hell was not made for man, it was made for the Devil and his angels. People will go to Hell, because they follow Satan, in his rebellion against God. People today, are sending their soul to Hell by their own stubborn wills.

One day, they will wake up in Hell, as the rich man did and cry for mercy. Their cry will go unheeded. There will be no atheists in Hell, all will be believers in Hell, but they waited one day, too late.

The people in the days of Noah, rebelled against preaching and God, but the moment it started raining, they all became believers and ran to the Ark to be saved' it was too late, God had shut the door. One moment, they were unbelievers, the next moment, they became believers. They waited one moment too late. God's Spirit will not always deal with man. Their stubborn wills caused them to perish and land in Hell. God wanted to save them and tried to save them, through Noah.

What a shame!
What a waste!
What a stupid decision!
What an awful way to lose their soul.
Their rebellion sent them to Hell.
Many will pray in Hell.
Many will cry in Hell.
Many will curse in Hell.
Many will nash their teeth in Hell.

Many will pray for water in Hell.

Many will say, "I waited one day, too late!"

People in Hell will see Satan and say, "Is this the man?"

Is this the man that I followed?

Is this the man that caused me to sin?

Is this the man that caused death upon the human race?

Is this the man that caused all sickness and disease on the earth?

Is this the man that caused people to murder, rape, and molest children?

Is this the man that caused world wars?

WW I, WW II, Korean war, Vietnam war.

Is this the man that caused divorce and broken homes?

Is this the man that caused me to reject Jesus Christ?

Is this the man that caused me not to repent?

Is this the man that caused me to curse God in everything?

Is this the man that caused me not to get the Holy Ghost?

Is this the man that caused me to lose my soul in Hell?

You mean I followed this guy?

You mean I worshipped this nut?

You mean that I was hoodwinked by this deceiver?

You mean all my life of rebellion was controlled by this fellow?

What a waste.

What a fool I was.

What caused me to follow this man?

Rebels Without A Cause.

Hell is fools Paradise.

Followers of the Devil.

Losers in the game of life.

Rejecters of the Word of God.

Despisers of those that did good.

No achievers in Hell.

No Oscars in Hell.

No Tony awards in Hell.
No Heisman Trophy in Hell.
No alcohol in Hell.
No Coors Light in Hell.
No Jack Daniels in Hell.
No gambling in Hell.
No poker tables in Hell.
No slot machines in Hell.
No tarot cards in Hell.
No dice in Hell.
No pool halls in Hell.
No barstools in Hell.
No 8 balls in Hell.
No pool cues in Hell.
No smoking in Hell.
No ashtrays in Hell.
No Bull Durham in Hell.
No Copenhagen in Hell.
No cigars in Hell.
No music in Hell.
No rap music in Hell.
No rock and roll music in Hell.
No jazz in Hell.
No pleasure in Hell.
No cruise vacations in Hell.
No Hawaiian getaways in Hell.
No mountain retreats in Hell.
No snow in Hell.
No Winter Olympics in Hell.
No ice skating in Hell.
No bob-sledding in Hell.

No triple axels in Hell.
No ski slopes in Hell.
No sports in Hell.
No touchdowns in Hell.
No field goals in Hell.
No two-minute warnings in Hell.
No time-outs in Hell.
No three-pointers in Hell.
No horse racing in Hell.
No cock fights in Hell.
No heavyweight fights in Hell.
No homeruns in Hell.
No golf clubs in Hell.
No hole in one in Hell.
No bowling balls in Hell.
No skates in Hell.
No hockey pucks in Hell.
No surfboards in Hell.
No tennis balls in Hell.
No Indy 500's in Hell.
No beauty contests in Hell.
No Miss America in Hell.
No Miss World in Hell.
No Miss Universe in Hell.
No technology in Hell.
No telephones in Hell.
No televisions in Hell.
No cell phones in Hell.
No radios in Hell.
No computers in Hell.
No automobiles in Hell.

No airplanes in Hell.

No air-conditioners in Hell.

Satan has caused many to land in prison, today, because they followed him in their sinful ways. Is it worth it, prisoner? Is it worth it, sitting there on death row?

Is it worth, life without parole?

Is it worth it, in all the pain and suffering?

Is it worth it, losing your dignity, your honor, and your family?

Is it worth it, losing your sanity?

You gambled in the game of life and lost. You became a loser in the game of life.

You followed a man, who lead you to prison.

You followed a man, who had no interest in your personal ambitions.

You followed a man, who deceived you and lied to you.

You followed the greatest rebel, of all time.

You were duped and doped by a man that had no interest in your eternal soul.

You followed a man, that did not loose the bands of the prisoner.

You followed a man, that gave you no hope, no way out, and no faith.

You are where you are, because you were deceived by the master deceiver, of all time.

You swallowed Satan's lies, hook, line and sinker.

You played right into his hands.

You became his puppet, as he controlled the strings of your life.

Is it worth it? Is life fair? Was living for Satan, the thing to do?

You became his sucker, by sharing in his rebellion.

Satan is dragging your soul to Hell, and he does not give a Hell about you!

Don't become a Rebel Without A Cause.

There is still hope for you through Jesus Christ, who died for you on the cross. You may be confined and bound in prison, but Jesus can set your soul free. Your eternal soul is more important than your natural body. Your body may be subject to the Laws of the State, but your soul does not. Your soul is eternal. Don't give that which is eternal to the Devil. Satan comes to bring bondage, he comes to bring sin and death.

Jesus Christ comes to bring life and life eternal.

Jesus came to set the captives free.

Jesus came to set the prisoners free.

Jesus came to save those bound by Satan.

Repent of your sins, prisoner. Get down on your knees and tell God to forgive you of all your sins. Find a preacher, who will baptize you in water in the Name of Jesus Christ, according to Acts 2:38. Raise your hands and give God the glory, praise, and exalt Him, until you begin to receive the precious Holy Ghost, speaking in tongues as the Spirit give you the utterance.

The Devil will flee from you.

He will no longer bind your soul.

He will no longer torment you.

He will no longer have dominion over your life.

Let Jesus be the master of your life, instead of Satan.

Let Jesus take you to Heaven, where there is life forever.

Let Jesus control your will, as you submit to Him.

Don't be a Rebel Without A Cause.

Jesus came to earth, not to do His own will, but the will of the Father. Your own will send you to Hell, if it is not doing the will of God.

Jesus submitted His will to God, in the Garden. Jesus submitted to die for your sins.

The Church of Jesus Christ, today, has repented of their sins. We have been baptized in Jesus Name. We have received the Holy Ghost, speaking in tongues, as the Spirit gave the utterance.

We have rejected Satan.

We have despised the Devil.

We have not walked in his wicked ways.

We have received the victory over him in the Name of Jesus Christ.

We have resisted his advances.

We have rebuked him, in Jesus Name.

We have obeyed God and His Word.

We will inherit life eternal.

We will escape the damnation of Hell.

We have not become Rebels Without A Cause.

Thank you God, for salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Sermon preached and prepared by

Rev. D. R. Vestal, Ph.D.

Garden Valley, Texas

January 20

Taking Hold of the Supernatural

“Then the same day, at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

(John 20:19-20)

Let us notice several things in these verses of Scripture.

The Apostles were gathered in fear.

They were gathered behind closed doors, no one could enter in.

The public was not invited.

They were not assembled for worship.

They did not sing any songs.

They did not have a prayer meeting.

They were not there for the preaching of the Word.

They were having a “Pity Party.”

“They killed Jesus, and we are next.”

A fear gathering!

Faith was not among them.

A lot of Churches are like this today.

Christ is not among them.

No preaching of the Word.

No singing.

No shouting.

No praying.

No worshipping.

Operating in the carnal.

You can't have Church without Christ!

No Spirit.

No move of God.

No revival.

What we need today is to Take Hold Of The Supernatural.

Look at these disciples.

"Hardness of heart."

"Unbelief."

"Sorrow and pity."

They should have been rejoicing.

Jesus was conquering death, Hell, and the grave while they were behind closed doors.

Jesus was setting the captives free!

Jesus was paying the ransom for all mankind!

Jesus was fulfilling all the Old Testament Prophecies of Himself.

All the disciples failed to be eye witnesses of the greatest event in history, only John was there at the cross.

Things changed when Jesus stepped into the room.

The disciples thought they had seen a ghost.

If Jesus came to some Churches today, people would think they saw a ghost.

The Word came!

Faith came!

Worship began!

Rejoicing began!

Revival began!

It's Jesus!

When Jesus came, fear vanished.

When Jesus came, hearts were healed.

When Jesus came, revival began.

When Jesus came, revelation was given.

“My Lord and My God.”

Thomas felt the Word.

Thomas got a hold of the Supernatural.

The supernatural changed everything.

We want revival, Church, let us leave the carnal and Take Hold Of The Supernatural.

Get a hold of the Word of God!

Don't be afraid to worship God!

Don't be afraid to gather together in His Name!

Don't be afraid to shout a little bit!

Don't be afraid to feel after the Spirit!

Don't be afraid to preach the Word!

“Oh, I want to put my finger into the nail scarred hands of Jesus Christ.”

“I want to put my hand into his side.”

“I want to feel the pierced Word of God.”

“I missed the focal point of all history.”

“I wasn't there when Jesus was beaten with 39 stripes.”

“I didn't see the scarlet purple robe He wore.”

“I didn't see the crown of thorns on His head.”

“I wasn't there when they dragged Him to Calvary.”

“I wasn't there when Jesus said, Daughters of Jerusalem weep not for me.”

“I wasn't there to see the miracles of the cross.”

“I wasn't there when they crucified my Lord.”

“I wasn't there when they nailed Him to the cross.”

“I didn't see the old rugged cross.”

“I didn't see the blood that stained the old rugged cross.”

“I didn't see the crimson stream of blood.”

“I wasn't there when they gambled over His robe.”

“I wasn't there when Jesus said, Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”

“I wasn't there to read the title written in three languages.”

"I wasn't there when Jesus committed His mother to John and the women stood weeping afar off."

"I wasn't there when Jesus said, I thirst."

"I wasn't there when the thief asked for pardon."

"I wasn't there when Jesus said, Today you shall be with Me in Paradise,"

"I wasn't there when Jesus said, *eli eli lama sabach thani.*"

"I wasn't there when Jesus said, Father, into Thy hands I commit My Spirit."

"I wasn't there when Jesus cried, It is finished."

"I wasn't there when the sun was darkened."

"I wasn't there when the ground began to shake."

"I wasn't there when the rocks split asunder."

"I wasn't there when the graves were opened."

"I wasn't there when the Veil was split from top to bottom."

"I wasn't there when the soldier pierced His side."

"I wasn't there when the Centurion cried, Surely, this was the Son of God."

"I wasn't there when they laid Him in the tomb."

"I wasn't there when the stone was sealed."

"I wasn't there when the watch was set."

"I missed the burial of Jesus Christ."

"I wasn't there when the angel descended from Heaven on the third day."

"I wasn't there when the stone was rolled away."

"I wasn't there when Jesus ascended on high."

"I was behind closed doors."

"But now, I'm here."

"I want the Supernatural."

"I want to touch God for myself."

"I want my revival now."

"I want my blessing now."

"I want my healing now."

Come on Thomas' of the world!

Come on Thomas' of the Church!

Let's feel after God!
Just one touch of the Master's hand!
The supernatural is here!
Reach for it, child of God!
He is here for your blessing!
Jesus is in the room!
Jesus is in the building!
Jesus is in the sanctuary!
Jesus is in the house!
Touch Him, feel Him!
My Lord and My God!
My Lord and My God!
Reach out and touch the Lord, today!
Reach out and Take Hold of The Supernatural!
Your life will change forever!
Get into the Supernatural!
This is My time, this is your time!
This is your opportunity!
This is your blessing!
The Supernatural is here!
He knows your heart!
He knows your thoughts!
He knows your name!
Reach out for the blessing!
Let your faith go!
Mine eyes hath seen the Glory!
Mine eyes hath seen the Victory!
I'm reaching and touching Jesus, today!
My fear has vanished!
My doubts have vanished!
My miracle is here, today!

I've seen His Glory!
I've felt the Glory!
My life has changed forever!
My eyes hath seen the Glory of the coming of the Lord!

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The Battle For Jerusalem & Armageddon

Zechariah 14:1-3 Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle.

Matthew 24:32-34 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So, likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily, I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

Revelation 19:11-14 And I saw Heaven opened, and behold, a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called, Faithful and True, and in righteousness, He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture, dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in Heaven followed Him, upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

We are living, today, on the threshold of the most climatic event in world history. This event has been foretold by many Old Testament prophets and Jesus Himself, as well as St. John, on the Isle of Patmos.

In summary, this event is the coming of Jesus Christ in the clouds back to this earth, at Armageddon, to destroy the armies of the nations that come against His people, Israel.

Make no doubt about it, God made this world and all the galaxies, as well as the Heavens of Heavens. This earth is His and His alone, even though the earth, at this moment, has rejected Him and is in the Spirit of rebellion with the Devil.

The prophets of old wrote about the political events that would be happening around Jerusalem and Israel, prior to Jesus Christ, coming in the clouds of Heaven.

1. What are these political events?
2. What are the events to happen, prior to Jesus returning to earth?
3. When will Jesus come again?

As ancient history and the Bible records, like it or not, the God of the Jews and Israel, their Messiah, is Jesus Christ.

God smote nations and countries, in the past, who dealt wrong to the Jewish people. The Jews have a weapon more powerful than all the other Arab nations combined.

They have a living God.

Most other nations have gods of stone and metal.

God defended Israel in the past, and He will defend her again, in these last days of our generation.

That we are living in the last days, there is no doubt.

This generation of 2006 A.D., is the last generation that will see Jesus Christ, coming again in the clouds of Heaven back to this earth in great power and glory.

God made the earth in 6 days and rested on the 7th day. Six days or six-thousand years is given to man, the last day or 1,000 years, is God's day.

It has been 4,000 years from Adam to Jesus Christ's death, in 33 A.D., in Jerusalem.

It has been 2,000 years from the death of Christ, to our day.

The days of mankind are almost over, and God is soon to have His day on earth.

God is soon to set up His 1,000 years of peace.

God gave conditions and signs to our generation that would witness His return to the earth at Armageddon around Jerusalem.

The utmost sign that Jesus gave to this earth, in regard to His return, was the sign of Jerusalem and Israel.

1. Let us look at what the Old Testament prophets said about Jerusalem and Israel.

2. Let us talk about the current world affairs.

3. Let us talk about what is to come in the next few months or years.

1. We know from Old Testament Scripture that God defended Israel many times in the past from Syria, Babylon, Egypt, and other nations.

We also learn from II Chronicles 12:13, and II Chronicles 33:7, that God put His Name on the city of Jerusalem.

If God made the world, which he did, then the world belongs to Him and Him alone.

God chose the land of Canaan over all other spots on the earth as His possession and even put His Name on the city of Jerusalem.

If you put your name on something it belongs to you.

It shows absolute ownership.

Jerusalem, therefore, belongs to God.

Canaan and Palestine belongs to God.

God also promised this land to Abraham, as mentioned in Genesis 13:14-17.

Look at the map sections in the back of any Bible and note the land that was given to the 12 Tribes of Israel.

Israel, today, does not possess this land, as shown on these maps of the ancient 12 Tribes of Israel.

Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt would have to give up land masses, in order to complete or repeat this today.

As a matter of record, God went further and gave more specific boundaries to Abraham, as indicated in Deuteronomy 11:24 and Genesis 15:18. God drew

the boundary of the land given to Abraham from the river of Egypt (Nile river) to the river, Euphrates in Iraq.

This takes in large areas of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Jordan.

We have no doubt, according to the Bible, that God, the sole owner of this land, gave it to Israel, as an everlasting inheritance.

Now that we have settled this fact, according to Scriptures just given, this land does not belong to anyone else.

We further note, according to Scriptures and history, that 10 Tribes of Israel rebelled against the other 2 tribes, and split off to the north.

The 10 tribes were called, "The House of Israel," and the 2 tribes were called, "The House of Judah."

The 10 tribes were scattered throughout the Caucasus Mountain areas and were eventually lost, however, they were not lost to God.

The 2 southern tribes were eventually carried off into Babylonian captivity, and later returned to Jerusalem.

The Jews lost their homeland, given to them by God, around 70 A.D., to the Romans, and their land was inhabited by Arabs and other heathen peoples.

The Jews were scattered all over Europe and the rest of the world.

God never forgot His Covenant promise to Abraham and the Jewish nation.

Many Scriptures spoke of the return of Gods people, back to their homeland, in the last days.

In 1948, Israel became a sovereign na-

tion, back in their own homeland, given by God, however, they do not possess all of their inheritance today.

This event was alluded to, by Jesus, in Matthew, chapter 24.

Israel became the cursed fig tree, along the wayside of history, because of their rejection of Jesus Christ.

However, the fig tree (Israel) was to bud again (Matthew 24:32-34) in their own land they held many years previously.

Let us now look at what the Old Testament prophets wrote and foretold about the city of Jerusalem.

Zechariah, chapter 12, mentions that Jerusalem will be a cup of trembling to all nations and God will destroy the armies of the nations that come against her. (verse 9).

Zechariah, chapter 14, also says, that God will gather all nations against Jerusalem in the last days, just before His return to this earth.

We now see what the Old Testament prophets, Zechariah and others said, concerning Jerusalem.

Now let us look at some current events in 2006.

Look at these facts first:

God owns the world.

God owns Jerusalem.

God chose the Jews as His chosen people

God gave the land of Canaan to the Jews

The Jews were scattered.

God said He would bring them back to their own land.

God said He would bring all nations against Jerusalem to battle.

God said He would come and defend Jerusalem and His people at Armageddon

2. In 1948, Israel returned again, back to their homeland, this fulfilled portions of Scriptures, as Israel began to bud as the fig tree, mentioned by Jesus, in Matthew, chapter 24.

Jesus said the generation that saw the return (fig leaves of Israel) would not pass (die) until all things were fulfilled.

Now, a generation, is approximately 37 to 65 years, according to many Bible scholars.

Jesus died around 33 A.D.

Jerusalem was destroyed, just as He predicted in 70 A.D.

This was 37 years of that generation of His day, that saw the destruction of Jerusalem.

Israel returned and became a nation again in 1948.

We are now in the year, 2011.

That leaves 63 years, since Israel (fig tree) became a nation, again.

63 years from Israel, becoming a nation in 1948, to 65 years, in a generation, would leave about 2 years left.

I do not know the day or hour of Jesus' return to this earth, however, I can show the generation, according to Scriptures and current world events.

This makes us believe that we are the last generation to see the establishment of Israel as a nation (1948) and also, the Battle of Jerusalem, with Jesus coming back at Armageddon.

The late, Yassar Arafat, was pushing for control of Jerusalem along with a Palestinian State, being side by side with Israel and half of Jerusalem, as his capital.

He had United Nations support, for this idea along with support from the United States and England.

The Bible does not support a concept of a two-state solution.

Iran, Syria, and other Arab countries are calling for a Holy War, against Israel.

They say, that the land is their land, and that Israel is occupying their land, illegally.

This is not so, the land belongs to God, not the Arab people or their Muslim god. Yassar Arafat has died now, to date, we have the Hamas party in power, a terrorist party, that calls for the destruction of the State of Israel.

They do not want a two-state solution of living side by side with Israel in peace.

They want to destroy Israel and take over the entire land that God promised to the Jews.

Ariel Sharon gave up land in Gaza for peace, now this was to no avail. Since Hamas took over power, they are closer to Israel for their militant ambitions.

President Bush and the United States gave millions to the Palestinians, now we are supporting their cause, unless this aid is cut-off, immediately.

The pieces of the puzzle of end-time prophecy, are now coming together, in our generation.

What should the United States and the rest of the nations do? Are we to make peace with Hamas? I don't think so!

Here is what the Bible says in Joel 3:9, "Proclaim this among the Gentiles, prepare war."

Some nations are doing just that, North Korea, China, Iran, Syria, etc. I suggest one read the whole chapter of Joel, chapter three.

President Bush cannot bring peace to the Middle East.

The United Nations cannot bring peace to the Middle East.

Only God will bring peace to the Middle East. Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.

In our present state and world conditions, the world is sitting on a powder keg, which is about to explode.

Jerusalem will be the match that will ignite the whole mess.

God said, it many, many, years ago through the prophets of old.

Jesus said it, in Matthew, chapter 24.

I am not much on politics, however, I do know what the Bible says about the land, the Jews, Jerusalem, and the return of Jesus Christ at Armageddon.

Iran, North Korea, China, Syria, and other nations are supporting the complete destruction of Israel.

Soon all the nations of the world will come against Israel to battle for the control of Jerusalem.

The Bible predicted this in the Old Testament in the Scriptures I used for my text.

God said, that He would be the force behind this to bring it to pass. Why? God has a plan to bring the nations against Israel and Jerusalem so He can come back to this earth at Armageddon and show the world, that the land is His, the Jews are His, and Jerusalem is His.

God is going to setup His Kingdom and rule the world, through Jesus Christ. Anyone who opposes His rule, will be destroyed.

God will show the heathen Arabs, that Jesus Christ is the True God and not Mohammad or Allah.

Anyone who tries to stop this, is like a flea trying to stop a Mack truck.

3. Now to the future of the Middle East and the nations who come against Israel.

The 19th chapter of Revelation deals with the future of the nations that come against Israel, Jerusalem, and the Battle of Armageddon.

Here is the solution to the whole problem of the Middle East. God does not support a two-state solution; He supports Israel in control of the whole land and will destroy all those who try to stop Him.

One flick of His finger and the Mosque of Omar will crumble in dust.

Jesus is coming from the skies, with His army of angels and Saints, to destroy the armies of the world that come against Israel. Again, the land is His, Israel is His, and Jerusalem is His.

Like it or not, here it comes upon our unbelieving generation; we are going to see it happen.

Jesus Christ will rule from Jerusalem over the rest of the world as He sits up His earthly Kingdom. Those who will help Him carry this out are Israel and the redeemed Saints of God.

Even so, Come Lord Jesus!

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Garden Valley, Texas

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The Bread of Life

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which came down from Heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread, which came down from Heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give, is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” John 6:47-51

We have all heard about the account in Scripture about Moses leading the children of Israel across the Red Sea.

The Israelites were slaves in Egypt. They prayed to God for a deliverer.

God answered their prayers and sent His man, Moses to fulfill the task.

The opening up of the Red Sea and the drowning of Pharaoh’s horses and cha-riots is one of the most astounding miracles of the Old Testament.

After this great event, recorded in the Old Testament, we find the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sin.

It is doubtful that God brought these people to this place on purpose.

They were brought to this wilderness because of their complaining and murmuring against God.

Even after the miracle of healing the waters, so they could have water to drink, they still murmured and complained.

When people murmur and complain against God, they will find themselves in the wilderness of sin.

They blame God for everything.

They blame God for their poverty.

There the children of Israel murmured against Moses because they had no bread to eat.

They wished they were back in Egypt eating Egyptian food.

They told Moses, "You brought us here to die."
Instead of trusting the God of miracles, they longed for the bread of Egypt.
Moses prayed to God and God told Moses, He would supply them bread to eat.

That evening, thousands of quail began falling from Heaven to the ground.
The people went around gathering up quail like crazy.
They had quail soup and quail sandwiches for the kids.
What a miracle!
I've been quail hunting before, and I promise you, that killing quail is not an easy task.

You have to be ready, fast, and accurate.
God just dropped the quail from the sky.
The greatest quail hunt in all history, happened here.
No one fired a shot, they just gathered it up by the thousands.
How's that for food?
The children of Israel went to bed that night with their stomachs full of quail.
No one went to bed hungry.

As the children of Israel woke up in the morning, the kids were crying for breakfast.

God did not disappoint them.
If God can feed them supper, He can feed them breakfast.
Early in the morning, there lay upon the ground, a small round thing.
It came with the dew of Heaven.
It was white and had a delicious flavor. It had to be ground up.
They went to gather it up and said, "What is it?"
The word manna, therefore, means, "What is it?"
Moses told them it was bread from Heaven.
Get up kids, we are having breakfast. What's for breakfast?
We're having, what is it?
I can just imagine the menu that morning.
What is it sandwiches.

What is it cereal.

What is it pancakes.

What is it over easy.

What is it soup.

For dessert, they probably had a what is it drink.

What is it ice cream.

It tasted so sweet.

They had to leave Egypt to get to where what is it was served.

What is it was not served in Egypt.

What is it was not served in a bottle.

What is it was not served in a can.

It was served, by God, to His chosen people.

For 40 years, the children of Israel had manna to eat.

God gave them food from His table.

If God can feed the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field, He can certainly feed His people.

All the people that finally entered Canaan were raised on what is it, except for Joshua and Caleb.

Moses also died and God buried him.

Certainly the children of Israel knew about manna, as they had it for 40 years.

They also took an omer of the manna, put it in a pot, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for future generations.

It was laid before the Testimony, to be kept, before the Word of the Lord.

The pot of manna was later put in the Ark, after the Tabernacle was built.

Being in the Ark, that was behind the Veil in the Tabernacle, it was hid from view of the people.

It was, therefore, "Hidden manna."

Also, in the Ark, were placed the tables of stone of the Law (The Ten Commandments), and Aaron's rod, that budded.

Remember this, inside the Ark, was placed a golden pot of manna, the tables of the Law, and Aaron's rod.

This is important, because we will learn later, that the Ark was a type of Jesus Christ.

Let us fast forward hundreds of years, now, and look at the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.

Why was Jesus Christ born in Bethlehem?

Well, I have a pretty good idea.

The word, Bethlehem means, "House of Bread."

Jesus said, He was the Bread of Life.

The Bread of Life, therefore was born in the house of bread.

Trust God, people, He knows what He is doing.

Jesus went about His ministry, healing people and performing many miracles.

In the 6th chapter of St. John, Jesus took 5 loaves and 2 fishes and fed 5,000 people.

As long as Jesus was feeding the people, many flocked to Him.

Jesus told them, they followed Him only for the loaves and fishes and not for the Spiritual food, that He was willing to give.

The people brought up the subject of manna that their forefathers did eat in the wilderness many years ago.

They told Jesus by what sign He showed that they might believe Him.

They saw the miracles of the 5 loaves and the 2 fishes and did not believe Christ, as the Messiah.

What they really meant was, yes, you fed 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fishes, but what is that in comparison of what Moses did in the desert, who for 40 years fed more than a million persons with bread from Heaven?

Do something like this and then we will believe Thee, as we have believed Moses.

Jesus refuted their argument, by proving that it was not Moses, but God who gave the manna.

Jesus indicated, that this bread was not the true bread, but was merely a type of it.

Jesus indicated, that God had given them, now, a bread infinitely more excellent.

That He, Himself, is that Heavenly nourishment of which He spake.

The people said, "Lord, evermore give us this bread."

In other words, Lord, let this miracle of the manna be renewed and continue among us, forever.

Let that bread of which you speak, be our constant nourishment.

Jesus told them, "I am the Bread of Life."

Jesus said, "This is that bread which came down from Heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread, shall live forever."

The Jews murmured at Jesus because He said, that He was the Bread of Life.

From that time, many people left following after Jesus, because He claimed to be the Bread of Life.

They were so close to eternal life, but would not accept Jesus as the Bread of Life.

Jesus is the Bread, which gives life and preserves from death.

Jesus was greater than Moses.

The manna their forefathers ate in the wilderness could not preserve their bodies alive nor entitled them to life eternal.

The Jews failed to comprehend, that Jesus Christ fulfilled the types of the Old Testament.

They failed to see, that Jesus was the Ark of God.

They failed to see, that in Jesus Christ, was the hidden pot of manna.

They failed to see, that in Jesus Christ, was the Lawgiver.

They failed to see, that in Jesus Christ, was their King and ruler of the world.

His salvation is Bread of Life, indeed.

Jesus is the Bread from Heaven.

He is our Spiritual manna, which came down from Heaven.

Jesus is the food of our faith.

Jesus is the food of our love.

Jesus is the food of our obedience.

Jesus is the food of our peace.

Jesus is the food of our joy.

Jesus is the food of our hope.

Jesus is the food of our salvation.

Jesus is the food of our doctrine.

Christ's doctrines are Bread to the intellect.

His fellowship is Bread to the heart.

His Spirit is Bread to the whole life.

His flesh is life to the world.

Eating His flesh and drinking His blood means "partaking of" and "sharing in"
His death and resurrection.

The Jews rejected the manna of life eternal.

They ate the dust of death.

God told the serpent, in Genesis 3:14, that he would eat dust all the days of
his life.

The serpent was cursed, by God, to eat dust.

The serpent, of course, was the type of the Devil.

Dust shall be the serpents meat.

The Devil eats dust, he does not eat manna.

People today, who are followers of the Devil, are eating his dust.

There is no joy in eating dust.

There is no hope in eating dust.

There is no health in eating dust.

There is no faith in eating dust.

There is no life in eating dust.

What you eat, you are.

What you eat, you become.

It is the same thing for the Spiritual.
What a man's soul feeds on is very important.
Many people, today, feed their souls on hate, the dust of sin.
They feed on murder, the dust of sin.
They feed on rape, the dust of sin.
Sinner, you are eating the dust of sin for the inner man.
Prisoner, you are eating the dust of sin, provided by the Devil.
Look where this dust of sin has led you.
You have eaten the serpents dust.
Eating the dust of sin will destroy your body and send your soul to Hell.
I've seen small dust storms in West Texas, some people called them, "dust devils."
There are alot of people, today, who could be called, "dust devils."
There are alot of jails and prisons, who are filled with "dust devils."
They, like the Jews, have rejected the Bread of Life, through Jesus Christ.
Jesus, is indeed, the true Bread of Life.
Jesus spoke to the Church in Revelation 2:17, and said, "To him that overcometh, will I give to eat of the hidden manna."
God has hidden manna for the Church to eat.
The Spirit filled Church does not feed on the dust of sin.
The Church has been purchased with the blood of Jesus Christ.
We are feasting on the hidden manna.
We are feasting on the Bread of Life.
We are feasting on what is this?
What is this, that puts joy in my soul?
What is this, that puts a song in my heart?
What is this, that makes me worship God?
What is this, that makes me love everybody?
What is this, that makes me want to go to Church?
What is this, that makes me want to go to Heaven?
I have manna in my soul!

Jesus is the Rod, the Testimony, and the manna.

I have repented of my sins, been baptized in Jesus Name, and received the Holy Ghost.

I am feasting on the hidden manna from Heaven.

He, who is partaker of His grace, has all these things in their Spiritual meaning and perfections.

Let me close this sermon today, and tell all those who are feeding on the dust of sin, that there is a true Bread of Life.

There is Jesus Christ, who gives life eternal.

Why perish in the wilderness of sin?

Why perish feeding on the dust of sin?

Come unto Jesus Christ and live forever.

Let's stand, Church, and sing the old song, "Come and Dine."

Come and Dine

1. Jesus has a table spread where the saints of God are fed,
He invites His chosen people, "Come and Dine."
With His manna He doeth feed and supplies our every need;
O tis sweet to sup with Jesus all the time!

Chorus: Come and Dine, the Master calleth, Come and Dine,
You may feast at Jesus' table all the time;
He who fed the multitude, turned the water into wine,
To the hungry calleth now, Come and Dine.

2. The disciples came to land, thus obeying Christ's command:
For the Master called to them, "Now Come and Dine."
There they found their heart's desire, bread and fish upon the fire; thus,
He satisfies the hungry all the time.

3. Soon the Lamb will take His bride to be ever at His side,
All the hosts of Heaven will assembled be;
O t'will be a glorious sight, all the Saints in spotless white;
And with Jesus they will feast eternally.

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Garden Valley, Texas

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The Greatest Mistake of The Jews

“Now the next day, that followed the day of preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate. Saying, we remember that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, after three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulcher be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it sure as ye can. So, they went, and made the sepulcher sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.” (Matthew 27:62-66).

The biggest mistake in Jewish history was made by the chief priests and the Pharisees rewarding their treatment of Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to the Jews to be their Messiah, and yet the Jews would not accept Him. The greatest miracles in all history of man was performed by Jesus in the land of Israel among His people.

Jesus Himself was born a miracle in Bethlehem. Throughout His ministry Jesus performed many outstanding miracles.

He opened the eyes of the blind.

He healed the lepers.

He turned the water into wine.

He unstopped the ears of the deaf.

He healed a demonic man.

He healed a woman with a spirit of infirmity.

He fed the 5,000 people with loaves and fishes.

He walked on the water.

He rebuked the wind and the waves.

He raised Lazarus from the dead.

Every miracle Jesus performed irritated the chief priest and the Pharisees.

The chief priests and the Pharisees developed a great hatred of Jesus, especially when He rebuked them sternly for their hypocrisy.

The last straw of hatred against Jesus came when He overturned the tables of the money changers in the Temple. The chief priests were determined from then on to kill Him, but Jesus always escaped to the mountains with His disciples.

The high priests and the Pharisees were furious when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday with the cheers and loud Hosannas from the crowd. From then on, they were looking for an opportunity to kill Him.

Their opportunity came when Judas offered to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Then came that historic night in the Garden of Gethsemane when the chief priests servants came to arrest Jesus.

This was their first mistake.

Their second mistake was arresting Jesus at night with no charges whatsoever.

From then on, the errors of the Jews began to multiply and grow greater and astounding.

Their third mistake, they accused Jesus of blasphemy because He claimed to be the Son of God.

Their fourth mistake was when they brought false witnesses against Him.

Their fifth mistake was when they spit in His face. He came to redeem them from the world, and they spat in His face.

Their sixth mistake, they smote Him with their hands. The very idea striking the Son of the Living God.

Their seventh mistake, they made mockery of Jesus.

Their eighth mistake, they conspired together to kill Him.

Their ninth mistake, they bound Jesus and delivered Him over to Pilate.

Their tenth mistake, they cried for the release of Barabbas when Pilate offered to release Jesus.

Their eleventh mistake, they cried, "Let His blood be upon us and our children." They sealed their own doom with this request.

Their twelfth mistake, they all called for His death.

Their thirteenth mistake, they mocked Jesus while He was on the cross. "If you be the Son of God, come down from the cross and we will believe you."

They challenged His deity.

After six hours on the cross, there was darkness over the land, the earth shook, the rocks rent, and the graves were opened. The Veil in the Temple was rent from top to bottom.

None of these things moved the Jews to repentance, but the Roman soldiers cried, "Truly this was the Son of God."

It took the Gentile dogs to recognize this fact, not the elect Jews.

Joseph of Arimathaea put Jesus in his own tomb, rolled a great stone over the door and left. He did all he could for Jesus.

Meanwhile, the Jews spent a sleepless night thinking about the terrible events of the previous day.

Wham! All of a sudden it hit them like a bolt of lightning out of the blue.

They now remembered what Jesus said while He was still alive. "Destroy this Temple, and in three days I will rise again."

They thought they had covered all their errors of the previous day, but they forgot the greatest prophecy of all history, "I will rise again."

"I will rise again," "I will rise again," "I will rise again," kept ringing in their mind. They should have listened to Jesus while He was alive instead of waiting until He was in the grave to remember His words.

The next day the chief priests and Pharisees hurried to Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, after three days I will rise again. Command therefore, that the sepulcher be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first."

The Jews finally realized their first error in calling for the death of Jesus, and having Him nailed to the cross by the Romans.

If His disciples came by night and stole His body and spread the story that He rose from the dead, this would be a great error. This story would affirm that He was indeed, the Messiah of our nation.

We have to stop this from happening.

We made a great mistake, let's not have another mistake overtake our first mistake, let's cover our bases.

Please, Pilate give us a guard and seal the stone lest this horrible episode gets out of control.

Pilate said, "You have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as you can." The chief priests and Pharisees hurried to the Roman soldiers.

Hey, soldiers I need some volunteers!

One would say, "what's the mission?"

I need a stone sealed at a grave site and a guard posted to keep a dead man from rising again.

The soldiers would say, "Ha. Ha. Ha."

Oh, please soldiers, this is very important to us and our nation.

A soldier would say, "O.K., guarding a rock is a piece of cake."

They had the stone sealed and the watch was set.

Jesus won't be performing anymore miracles now.

Soldiers, you stay awake now, don't let anyone come and steal this body out of this tomb.

This is a great honor of guarding this tomb.

I've heard of soldiers guarding soldiers guarding weapons of war.

I've heard of soldiers guarding stored dynamite.

I've heard of soldiers guarding nuclear energy.

But guarding a rock?

The soldiers didn't realize what they were guarding.

They were guarding the greatest power in the world.

They were guarding the Word made flesh.

They were guarding the Great I AM.

They were guarding the Son of God.

They were guarding Life Eternal.

They were guarding the Messiah of Israel.

They were guarding the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

This was the most important guarded rock in the world, sealed and guarded to stop the resurrection of a dead man.

RESURRECTION IMPOSSIBLE! RESURRECTION IMPOSSIBLE! The Jews had just planted the greatest seed in the world, the Gospel Seed.

The Roman guard were stomping and swearing around the tomb for three days, laughing and sneering.

On the third day, an angel descended from heaven, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

The Roman guard fainted like water lilies.

Soldiers laying all on the ground, passed out.

Jesus came out of that tomb in a glorified body!

Our salvation came out of that tomb!

Our healing came out of that tomb!

Our life eternal came out of that tomb!

Our living Word came out of that tomb!

Our King of Kings came out of that tomb!

The Jews couldn't stop it!

The Romans couldn't believe it!

The devil couldn't believe it!

Jesus conquered death, hell, and the grave!

Their last error was worse than the first!

Their last error was calling Jesus a deceiver, sealing the stone, and setting the watch.

From here on, they continued to make mistakes.

The Jews bribed the soldiers with money to say that the disciples came by night and stole the body.

They made up the biggest lie in the universe!

That big lie is still believed by the majority of the Jews today.

The Jews lost their pride.

The Jews lost their King.

The Jews lost their glory.

The Jews lost their priesthood.

The Jews lost their Temple.

The Jews lost their nation.

By their errors and mistakes, we have salvation today.

We have healing by the stripes put on His back.

We have songs of praise and worship.

We have the Lord's Supper.

We have the Holy Spirit.

We have the Name of Jesus Christ.

We have life eternal.

No power on earth can stop Jesus Christ as He reigns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords forevermore.

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The Payday of Life

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Page | 103

Romans 6:23

We all work for wages.

On the job, we expect to be paid, we expect a payday.

We put in an honest 40-hour week of work and the business pays us our wages.

That is how it works.

We need the wages for food, clothing, rent, and the other necessities of life.

Alot of people work overtime and receive extra wages.

Some work is hard and some work is fairly easy.

The wages we receive from our employer helps us to keep on going, it is a means of sustaining life.

Alot of employers have good benefits, such as: vacation plans, retirement plans, and good life insurance plans.

Whether we want to acknowledge it or not, we are either, working for the Devil or working for God.

The world is our work, our toil, our field of labor.

Every human on earth is employed in the labor of life.

We either, have Satan as our employer or Jesus Christ as our employer.

Whether we work and live for Satan or God is up to us, we have the free choice.

Both, God and Satan are employers.

Let us take a look at the benefits and the consequences of working for the Devil.

Bad health.
Foul Spirit.
Sickness and poverty.
Lost soul.
At the end of your life, you expect to get paid.
You expect to collect your wages.
Satan steps forward and pays you with death.
Doesn't seem fair, does it?
You sinned all of your life, for death.
You served Satan, for death?
You sold your eternal soul to Satan for a death check?
Who, in their right mind, would volunteer to work all their life for death?
This is not much of a retirement plan.
Many people, today, are volunteering to work for death.
Satan's currency for sin, is death.
He is an evil paymaster.
Satan doesn't play by the rules.
He is not fair.
Look at the pay checks of the Devil.
Pay to John Doe, the sum of death.
Pay to Mary Smith, the sum of death.
The currency of sin.
Look at Judas in the New Testament, he worked for the currency of sin.
He received 30 pieces of silver, the re-
ward for betraying Jesus Christ.
Was it worth it, Judas?
Was Jesus Christ worth the wages of sin?
Judas said, that he had betrayed innocent blood.
The priests and elders didn't care about his soul or his money.
Judas did the dirty work and now his payday was earned, the paycheck of
death.

The Devil didn't care about his confession.
The Devil didn't care about his soul.
Satan paid Judas' death and Hell for his betrayal of Christ.
Judas received his just wages.
Judas could tell many people, today, about the currency of sin.
He got his payday, both physically and Spiritually.
There are many Judas' today, who sell out Christ, for the wages of sin.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to lose their eternal soul.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to commit murder.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to commit robbery.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to commit rape.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to use drugs.
The wages of sin has caused many a person to land in prison on death row.
Every sin has its wages and the Devil is the paymaster.
Satan does not promise death, he promises:
Riches of the world.
Pleasures of this world.
Satisfactions of this world.
But, the end result, is that he pays you off in death.
People today, need to know who their employer is.
Know who you are working for.
Don't work overtime for the Devil.
The wages of sin are shown by your shattered health.
The wages of sin are shown by your imprisonment.
If sin is your commander, you will have "death" to eat as your payday.
The sins of the body will bring the judgments of God.
Sin is a violation of God's will, which is a man does with his eyes wide-open.
The Devil is a hard taskmaster.
His benefits are not very good.
Look at the results of sin:
Rejecters of the Light of God.

Rejecters of the Grace of God.
Rejecters of the Love of God.
Bad temper.
Pride.
Unkindness.
Rejecters of the truth.
Slothfulness.
Lustfulness.
Uncleanness.
Covetousness.
Idolatry.
Witchcraft.
Rebellion.
Mockers.
Drunkards.
Skepticism.
No usefulness.
Wine bibbers.
Adulterers.
Fornicators
Abusers.
Gluttony.
Proud.
High-minded.
Un-thankfulness.
Un-Holy.
Satan's workshop is the world.
Satan has full employment for all.
He accepts all ages and races.
Satan is an equal opportunity employer.
The Devil has hard work and bad pay.

Death is sins reward, and it must be paid.
The sin that hires you, must pay you.
The misery of the misery of sin, is that it is earned.
Sin is the folly of follies.
The Devil employs:
Kings, Presidents, Statesmen, and paupers.
Satan says, "get rich fast."
Man does everything to do it.
He robs.
He kills.
He steals.
He gambles.
Satan says, "drink."
Man does it.
The bars are full.
The dance halls are over-crowded.
Liquor sales are up.
Death rates are high.
Satan says, "Use drugs."
People do it.
Lives are lost.
Many are in prison.
Satan says, "get pleasure."
Many are doing it.
Rape, adultery, and fornication are on the increase.
Child molestation and prostitution are on the increase.
The service of sin, is at first, promising.
Its demands are easy.
The world is attractive.
It begins well.
But, the end result, is death.

The wages of sin are earned, you have power of choice, your own responsibility will be paid-in-full.

Your sin is killing you by inches.

All day long, they are sowing in you, the seeds of disease and death.

Your body, mind, and Spirit are being destroyed by the Devil, your taskmaster.

Every sin you commit helps kill one of these and sometimes all of these, at once.

You think you are working for pleasure, honor, and gold?

No, you are working for death, if Satan is your taskmaster.

There are no vacations from sin.

Satan does not have an insurance policy that guarantees you good health and life forever.

Sin plays the bait of a little contemptible, silly pleasure or profit; but, it hides that fatal hook, by which, that great catcher of souls shall drag them down to his eternal execution.

Satan's hook of death is baited by the wages of sin.

Many people, today, are being hooked by the Devil, as he drags your soul to Hell.

Sin is the transgression of the Law of God.

Behind every law, is the lawgiver.

God is the Lawgiver of the universe.

He set the galaxies in order and gave them laws.

He Created the sun, moon, and stars and gave them laws.

He Created the earth and gave it laws.

Everything God Created, runs and operates by the Law and Order of God.

Mankind is the transgressors of the Law of God.

In God's great field of life, you have to make a choice whether you want to work for God or work for the Devil.

The choice is yours.

The wages of sin, is death, so stated by the Scriptures.

The gift of God, is eternal life.

God refuses to sell salvation, it has already been paid for, by the blood of Jesus Christ.

The poor lost sinners, of this world, may have life eternal through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The moment you realize that you are working for the wrong employer who will pay you off, in death, you should repent of your sins, be baptized in Jesus Name, and let God fill you with His Holy Spirit.

You need to change employers.

God has a better payday than the Devil.

God gives eternal life.

That is life, without ever dying.

God has an insurance policy that will guarantee you to live forever.

His written Word, is that insurance policy.

Jesus Christ went to the cross of Calvary and shed His blood to pay the price for your salvation.

You don't have to work for the Devil.

You don't have to receive the paycheck of death.

You don't have to be like Judas.

You don't have to swallow Satan's hook of sin.

Jesus Christ is here, today, to set your soul free from the clutches of Satan.

You make the choice.

You make the decision.

It's your field of life.

Jesus will give you rest and peace, if you will come unto Him, in repentance.

He will give you the greatest gift in your life, the gift of eternal life.

My prayer is, that you will reject Satan and accept Jesus Christ, as your paymaster in your labor of life.

Let us stand, Saints, and sing, "The Old Account Was Settled Long Ago."

The Old Account Was Settled Long Ago

1. There was a time on earth, when in the book of Heav'n, an old account was standing for sins, yet unforgiv'n;

My name was at the top, and many things below, I went unto the keeper, and settled long ago.

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Cho: Long ago, yes, the old account was settled long ago;
And the record's clear today, for He washed my sins away,
When the old account was settled long ago.

2. The old account was large, and growing ev'ry day, for I was always sinning, and never tried to pay;
But, when I looked ahead, and saw such pain and woe, I said that I would settle, I settled long ago.

3. When at the judgment bar, I stand before my King, and He, the book will open, He cannot find a thing;
Then will my heart be glad, while tears of joy will flow, because I had it settled, and settled long ago.

4. When in that happy home, my Saviour's home above, I'll sing redemption's story, and praise Him for His love; I'll not forget that book, with pages white as snow, because I came and settled, and settled long ago.

5. O sinner, seek the Lord, repent of all your sins, for thus, hath He commanded, if you would enter in;

And then if you should live a hundred years below, up there you'll not regret it, you settled long ago.

Sermon prepared and preached by:

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Apostolic Temple

Garden Valley, Texas

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Putting On the Yoke of Christ

Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

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Matthew 11:29-30

In a Sunday school class one day, the teacher ask that the children bring something to class that could be supported by Scripture.

One girl brought a salt shaker, the teacher said it was good, because the Scriptures said, that we are the salt of the earth.

One girl brought a flashlight, the teacher said it was good, because the Scripture said, that Jesus is the Light of the World.

A boy brought an egg and smashed it on top of the head of a girl.

The teacher asked what Scripture that represented.

The boy replied, "Jesus said, take my yoke upon you."

In Deuteronomy 22:10, the Scripture says, "Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together."

The yoke was for two.

The yoke passed across the shoulders of two animals, and they bore the yoke together, and so the yoke was easier and lighter for each.

The step of an ox and an ass are different, they could not pull together equally.

The ass could not keep pace with the ox; and therefore, dragged the plough.

Jesus and Satan cannot work together.

Jesus is the ox and Satan is the ass.

Satan destroys, Jesus makes alive.

Alot of people today are yoked to Satan.

They have the yoke of sin smashed on their head.
They have the heavy yoke of sin across their neck and shoulders.
The yoke of sin will destroy you, sinner.
You are yoked to poverty.
You are yoked to sickness.
You are yoked to shame.
You are yoked to murder.
You are yoked to ungodliness.
You are yoked to slavery.
You are yoked to bondage.
You are yoked to someone who will not
help you pull the burden.
Satan will drag you to Hell, being yoked to him.
Being yoked to Satan is like being yoked to an ass.
Don't try plowing your life being yoked to an ass.
The world is the field.
Our life is the field.
We are plowing our life.
It is being done by being yoked to Satan or Jesus Christ.
Is your life a mess?
Is your life destroyed?
Is your life a wreck?
Is your life turned upside down?
Is your life a failure?
Are you tired of lying and stealing?
Are you tired of nights in the county jail?
Are you tired of fighting with your wife?
Are you tired of slapping your kids everyday?
If you are, you are plowing with the devil.
You are trying to plow with an ass.

You are where you are today, prisoner, because you spent your years plowing with an ass.

You are where you are today, sinner, because you plowed with an ass.

Drunkard, you cannot find peace in your soul, plowing with an ass.

Rapist, you need to quit plowing with an ass.

Don't blame God for your troubles.

Don't blame God for your sad life.

You are yoked to the Devil by your own choice.

We reap what we sow.

In our earlier years of life, we plant seeds of disobedience against God and in our later years, we reap the awful harvest of sin.

Look back on your rows of life, see how crooked they are.

This is because you plowed with an ass, you plowed with the Devil.

You tried to do good, tried to stay straight, but the Devil kept dragging the plough.

The Devil will keep dragging you down and messing up your life, until you break the yoke of sin.

The Devil is no fun to plow with.

The Devil is no fun being yoked to.

Not only will he drag you to prison and to the grave, he will drag your soul to Hell.

Break the yoke, sinner!

Break the yoke, prisoner!

Break the yoke that binds you to him!

I, too, was yoked to the Devil, once.

I know what it is like, being yoked to an ass.

The Devil had me so burdened down with guilt and sin.

My life was a mess!

My life was pure Hell!

I felt so miserable.

I felt so sick.

What a fool I was.
Why did I have to feel this way?
Why did the weight of my sins seem so heavy to bear?
I went down to an altar of repentance one day.
I got baptized in water in Jesus Name.
I put off the old heavy yoke of the Devil.
I quit trying to plow my life with an ass.
I laid down the old yoke of sin and Put On The Yoke Of Christ.
I broke the yoke that had me bound to the ass.
I broke the yoke that had me bound to Satan.
Now, I have no more hangovers in the morning.
Now, I have no more smoke filled lungs.
Now, I no longer warm the bar stools.
Now, I no longer use God's Name in vain.
I now have joy in my life.
I now have a clear conscience.
I now have healing for my body.
I now have peace in my soul.
I now have fellowship with the Church.
I now have life eternal with Jesus Christ.
It's easier to live for God than to sin with the Devil.
Jesus bore the yoke of sin, once.
He took up the yoke of the cross for the whole human race.
He bore the yoke of suffering.
He bore the yoke of bondage.
He bore the yoke of affliction.
He bore the yoke of persecution.
He bore the yoke of denial.
He bore the yoke of betrayal.
Now, He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
Jesus wants us, today, to take His yoke upon us and learn of Him.

The yoke of Christ's service is easier to bear.
He wants us to take the vacant place beside Him, and share with Him.
The burdens and cares of this life are easier to bear, if you are yoked to Christ.

His burdens are easy and His burdens are light.

Put on the yoke of Christ's profession.

Put on the yoke of Christ's precepts.

Put on the yoke of Christ's dispensations.

Put on the yoke of Christ's purity.

Put on the yoke of Christ's love.

Put on the yoke of Christ's industry.

Put on the yoke of Christ's self-denial.

Bear the yoke of submission to the mind of Christ.

Be resigned to do the will of God in your life.

You will find rest for your soul.

You will have peace of mind.

You will have rest from legal servitude.

You will have rest from wrathful apprehensions.

You will have rest from carnal pursuits.

You will have rest from earthly anxiety.

You will have rest from terrific forebodings.

The Apostle Paul said in Galatians 5:1, "Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

Jesus can break the yoke of bondage in your life and set you free.

You can be yoked with Christ and enjoy a new life with Him.

The Apostle Paul was yoked with Christ and considered the Church his yoke-fellows. (Phil. 4:3).

Putting On The Yoke Of Christ, and learning of Him, is the best thing you can do in your life.

Life is much easier plowing with Christ.

Life is easier plowing with an ox.

The rows of life seem, as nothing, being yoked to One who walks beside me, and helps me in every burden.

Oh, that men everywhere, today, would take upon them, the yoke of Christ and learn of Him.

Oh, that men and women, today, would only see, that living for Jesus Christ, is much easier in this life, than living for the Devil.

Oh, that men and women, today, would quit trying to plow with an ass.

Who are you yoked to today?

I give you the yoke of Jesus Christ, the pathway to Heaven, the pathway to glory.

Let's stand and sing the song, Saints:

Come Unto Me

1. Hear the blessed Saviour calling the oppressed, "O ye heavy laden, come to Me and rest; Come, no longer tarry, I your load will bear, Bring Me every burden, bring Me every care."

Cho: Come unto Me; I will give you rest; Take My yoke upon you, Hear Me and be blessed; I am meek and lowly, Come and trust My might; Come My yoke is easy, and My burden's light.

2. Are you disappointed, wand'ring here and there, Dragging chains of doubt and loaded down with care? Do unholy feelings struggle in your breast? Bring your case to Jesus, He will give you rest.

3. Stumbling on the mountains, dark with
with sin and shame, Stumbling toward the pit of Hell's consuming flame, By the pow'rs of sin, deluded and oppressed, Hear the tender Shepherd, "Com to Me and rest."

4. Have you, by temptation, often conquered been, Has a sense of weakness brought distress within? Christ will sanctify you, if you'll claim His best, In the Holy Spirit, He will give you rest.

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To Hell and Back

Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before, spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in Hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

Acts 2:30-31

Many, many years ago before I came to the Lord, I saw a movie called, "To Hell And Back," starring Audie Murphy.

Audie Murphy was a hero of World War II and won the Medal of Honor for his heroic deeds.

He had fought bravely during this terrible war.

He had seen many men die.

He had seen many men suffer.

He had seen many men blown apart.

He had seen alot of guts and glory.

He had been through Hell, so to speak, and came back from the war, an American hero.

He became a decorated hero.

I also served in the United States Armed Forces in the branch of the Air Force under Strategic Air Command.

I served in the time of peace and not in time of war as Audie Murphy.

I have not seen men blown apart with their guts scattered across the battlefield.

I have not seen men suffer in agony as they gasp for their last breath.

I have not seen the guts and glory as Audie Murphy did.

I cannot say that I went To Hell and Back.

I have not earned the Medal of Honor.

I do not bear in my body any battle scars of war.

I do have medals that I am proud of while serving our great country.

I have read the stories of some of the greatest battles in history.

I've read about the battles of King Saul.

I've read about the battles that King David fought.

I've read about Pharaoh with his chariots of iron that passed through the Red Sea.

I've read about Napoleon and his great military conquests.

I've read about Alexander the Great and his army of hundreds, as he marched throughout the Grecian Empire.

I've read about Hitler during World War II, as his goose-stepping soldiers stomped across Europe.

Many soldiers have fought and died in the snows of Europe, the jungles of Vietnam, and the deserts of Iraq.

I've read about General McArthur and all the exploits he and his men performed on the battlefields.

I've read about General Patton and his great armored divisions as they swept through France.

I've read about the Battle of the Bulge where many American men lost their lives fighting the Germans in Holland.

I've read about the Battle of Pork Chop Hill.

I've read about the Battle of Normandy where many soldiers bled and died by the thousands on the northern coast of France.

I've read about the Battle of the Coral Sea where many sailors and airmen lost their lives.

I've read about the Battle of Britain where so many brave men, especially of the Royal Air Force, who defended their country with high honor.

I've read about the Battle of Iwo Jima.

I've read about the Battle of Berlin.

I've read about the Battle of Tripoli.

I've read about the Battle of Montezuma.

I've read about the Battle of Pearl Harbor.

I've read about the Battle of the South China Sea

I've read about the Battle for the Philippines.

I've read about the bomb raids over Tokyo.

Many brave soldiers have bled and died in these historic battles.

Many soldiers have become heroes, both in life and death.

Many medals have been given to these heroes of battle.

Many men have been left with battle scars and wounds that will last a lifetime.

Many men have gone through Hell in these terrible wars.

You can talk about the Battle of Montezuma.

You can talk about the Battle of Britain.

You can talk about the Battle of Pearl Harbor.

You can talk about the Battle of Normandy.

You can talk about your heroes and tactics of war.

The greatest battle that was ever fought was fought just outside Jerusalem on a wooden cross.

One man fought a battle that no one else in history could fight and win.

Captain Jesus Christ fought a battle that affected the whole human race.

He is the Captain of our salvation.

He fought a battle over the control of the souls of men.

He fought a battle against Satan and all the demons of Hell.

Jesus fought the battle over death, Hell, and the grave.

He was captured, at night, in a garden just on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

Jesus was betrayed and fell into a trap.

Jesus was surrounded by Roman soldiers.

He was outnumbered, but He held His ground.

He did not retreat, He did not try to hide,

He stood His ground.

He stood like a good soldier should.

His buddies fled and hid themselves and left Him all alone.
Outnumbered, Jesus stood there, cool, calm, and collective.
He gave an order and swords were sheathed, as Peter put up his sword.
He was bound by the Roman soldiers and held captive.
He was denied by His best friend.

Jesus was brought before a false court for a night trial.
Many false witnesses were brought in and testified against Him.
Jesus was questioned and interrogated, again and again.
Soldiers spit in His face.

Soldiers smote Him with their hands.

Jesus was buffeted.

Jesus was stripped of His clothes, stood there in shame, and was beaten and whipped by the Roman soldiers.

His back was torn to shreds by the Roman whip and blood was oozing from His wounds.

A scarlet robe of mockery was put upon Him.

The soldiers forcibly placed a crown of thorns upon His head.

He never received a crown of jewels.

He never received a royal crown.

He never received an imperial crown.

Instead, a crown of mockery.

Blood came down Jesus' brow and into His eyes.

The soldiers put a reed in His right hand, and smote Him on the head with the reed.

Lumps began to form on His head as he received blow after blow from the reed.

Captain Jesus was poorly saluted by the soldiers in mockery.

The soldiers bowed their knee to Him and laughed and gave Him a form of false worship and reverence.

“Hail, King of the Jews.” Ha. Ha. Ha.

Jesus was whisked off from one place to another, each man questioning Him and making mockery of Him.

Like a good soldier, Jesus held His peace, He held His tongue.

He did not try to resist, He did not recant, He took the punishment, like a man.

He was held and beaten, as a prisoner of war.

His peers and countrymen rejected Him and called for His death.

A heavy cross was laid upon Him, as He was forced to make a death march to Calvary.

Captain Jesus, weak in body, blood-soaked and swollen, staggered out of line, as He made the death march.

There, at Calvary, He was thrown down to the ground.

His hands were nailed to the cross.

His feet were nailed to the cross.

The cross was lifted up and dropped into the hole that had been dug out for the cross.

The jolt tore Jesus' hands and jarred Him, tremendously.

His crime and death sentence was written over His head in three languages for all the world to see.

THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Soldiers tore His garments into four pieces.

The soldiers sat and gambled over His robe.

There, Jesus was, on the cross, baking in the hot sun for 6 hours.

The soldiers give Him vinegar mixed with gall to drink.

Jesus tasted it and would not drink it.

Jesus was tempted on the cross. "If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross." Ha. Ha. Ha.

"If you are the King of Israel, come down from the cross." Ha. Ha. Ha.

"You saved others, now save yourself." Ha. Ha. Ha.

"You trusted in God, let Him now deliver you, if He will have you." Ha. Ha. Ha.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

Who ever heard of such a soldier forgiving his enemies of the torture they are receiving?

Jesus said, "I thirst."

Cannot a dying soldier, at least, have a drink of water?

No!, they tried to give Him vinegar to drink.

Captain Jesus hanging between two thieves for all the world to see.

No soldier in history has ever received such punishment.

Soldiers mocked Him.

The crowd jeered Him.

His company on the cross was the outcasts of Israel

A dying thief turned to see the only Bible he ever knew, the sign which read, "This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." He cried out, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into Thy Kingdom."

Jesus said to the thief, "Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

Jesus rescued a wounded soldier, while on the cross.

The sky grew dark, the sun was darkened.

People became fearful and amazed.

Jesus said, "It is finished." He bowed His head and gave up the ghost.

The veil in the Temple immediately split apart, scaring the Jewish priests half to death.

The earth began to tremble greatly.

The rocks began to split apart.

The graves of the dead were opened.

The Roman Centurion and his executioner buddies became fearful and cried out, "Truly, this was the Son of God."

Jesus completed His mission.

Mission accomplished!

"It is finished."

The battle cry of the cross.

At the battle of the cross, a thief was converted.

At the battle of the cross, Satan was defeated.

At the battle of the cross, the Veil was rent asunder.

At the battle of the cross, sins were nailed to the cross.

The battle cry of victory.

His mission on earth was finished.

The Law of Moses was finished.

The prophecies of Christ were fulfilled.

The debt of sin was cancelled and man's atonement was made.

Jesus spoiled principalities and powers on the cross.

He satisfied the demands of God's justice.

He fulfilled God's battle plan of redemption.

Jesus accomplished all that was written in the prophets, and suffered the utmost malice of His enemies; and now the way to the Holy of Holies was made manifest, through His blood.

A soldier picked up a spear and thrust it into the side of Jesus to make sure He was dead.

Out came blood and water.

Blood and water flowed down the cross, God's battlefield.

Jesus was wounded greatly.

He bled and died like no other soldier in history.

Captain Jesus died in the battle of redemption.

He won the battle.

Give Him the Purple Heart Medal, He bled and died and carries wounds in His body.

Give Him the Medal of Honor, He demonstrated more honor than any soldier in human history, and died with full honor.

Give Him the Medal of Victory, He became victor over death, Hell, and the grave.

Give Him the Good Conduct Medal, He had good conduct in the three-and-one-half-years of His ministry.

Give Him the Distinguished Service Cross Medal, He performed His greatest distinguished service on the cross.

Give Him the Silver Star Medal, He showed gallantry in action against the forces of the enemy.

Give Him the Legion of Merit Medal, He performed an outstanding service for all the world.

Give Him the Soldiers Medal of Heroism, He was the greatest Hero of all times.

Give Him the Bronze Star Medal, He performed heroic and meritorious achievements in His life and in His death.

Give Him the Commendation Medal, He performed Heroism with His meritorious service.

Give Him the Achievement Medal, He achieved more than any soldier in history.

Give Him the Prisoner of War Medal, He was held, as prisoner of war by the Roman soldiers.

Give Him the Volunteer Outstanding Service Medal, He volunteered to lay down His life, freely, in the service of God.

Give Him the Liberation Medal, He liberated those who were in Paradise, in His resurrection.

Give Him the Combat Action Medal, He experienced more combat than any soldier in history, and did it totally unarmed.

Give Him the Meritorious Service Medal, He performed a great meritorious service to God and the whole human race.

Give Him the Humanitarian Service Award, He died for all humanity.

Jesus bears, in His body, the battle scars of redemption.

The soldiers gave Jesus, death wounds, yet, His body saw no fester or corruption.

He was pierced, but He was not in a state of putrefaction.

He was butchered, but not blemished.

His body was never stained by sin or sickness, and His death wounds only opened, a passage for His Spirit.

His Temple was destroyed without dislocation of any body part.

The Lord's body was taken from the cross and given to Joseph of Arimathea for burial.

Joseph wrapped Jesus' body in a clean linen cloth and put Him in His own newly hewn tomb in the rock, rolled a great stone to the door of the grave and left.

There was no 30-day mourning for Jesus.

There was no 21-gun salute for this battlefield warrior.

He was never buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Jesus never had a flag-draped casket.

No eternal flame burns in His honor.

The Spirit of Jesus went to Hell.

Jesus went to Hell to get the keys of death, Hell, and the grave from Satan.

I suppose the Devil and his demons were having a party in Hell.

Jesus was knocking at the door.

Satan opened the door and there stood Jesus.

Satan stood there shaking, as his demons screamed in fear.

"I'm here to get the keys, old boy, fork them over!"

Satan had to reluctantly give them to Jesus.

Satan could not stop Him.

Hell could not hold Him.

The grave could not contain Him.

Hell could not hold His soul.

His soul was the soul of the Messiah, the soul of the Redeemer.

He was to rise for others' justification.

Satan could not leave His soul in separation from His body.

This would be the triumph of the Devil.

Jesus left Hell and entered His body, lying in the grave, and resurrected on the third day.

He arose possessing the keys to death, Hell, and the grave.
He became the Victor of the greatest battle ever fought.
Audie Murphy never went to Hell and back.
Only Jesus went To Hell And Back.
Only Jesus went To Hell And Back and is coming back again someday.
This Soldier of the cross, this Hero of the cross, who uttered the greatest
battle cry of all history, is coming back again.
Jesus arose from the dead, as a mighty Conqueror.
His body saw no corruption.
Worms did not eat His body.
Napoleon is still in Hell.
Hitler is still in Hell.
Stalin is still in Hell.
But, Jesus was not left in Hell.
Napoleon could not defeat Satan.
Hitler could not conquer Hell.
McArthur could not conquer the grave.
Jesus did!
Jesus didn't die to save Himself, but He died to save the human race.
All who obey His Word and are born again of the water and the Spirit, are
enlisted in His army.
I have re-enlisted in the army of the Lord.
I have volunteered to join the army of white, with Jesus Christ, as my
Commander-in-Chief.
Jesus is seeking volunteers, today.
I am now singing:
"Now I Belong To Jesus."
"My Burdens Rolled Away."
"God Is Great In My Soul."
Jesus is now marshaling the greatest army, ever to be seen, by man.
I ask you to join me, today, as we fight the greatest battle of life.

Our battle is a Spiritual battle.

We are continuing the battle against Satan, his demons, and all the evil forces of this world.

We are on the winning side.

You can achieve the Good Conduct Medal, by being a good soldier of the cross.

You can achieve the Liberation Medal, by being liberated from Satan and the world.

You can achieve the Medal of Freedom, by being freed from sin, death, Hell, and the grave.

You can achieve the Combat Ready Medal, by combating Satan in all his evil devices.

You can achieve the Victory Medal, by becoming a victor over sin.

You can achieve the Medal of Honor, by honoring God in everything you that you do.

You can sing about the Halls of Montezuma and the Shores of Tripoli, our songs are:

“At Calvary.”

“At The Cross.”

“The Old Rugged Cross.”

“He Was Nailed To The Cross.”

“Nothing But The Blood.”

“Thank God For The Blood.”

“There Is Power In The Blood.”

“The Blood That Stained The Old Rugged Cross.”

“Christ Arose.”

“Rise Again.”

“Blessed Redeemer.”

“Jesus Paid It All.”

“Because He Lives.”

This resurrected Hero has now claimed entrance into the realms of glory.

This Soldier of the cross who went To Hell And Back is soon to fight another battle.

Jesus is coming back again, riding upon a white horse with all the armies of Heaven behind Him.

Let us sing, children:

“He’s Coming Soon.”

“Our Lord Is Coming Back To Earth, Again.”

“Jesus Is Coming Again.”

“In The Great Triumphant Morning.”

“There’s A Great Day Coming.”

“We Shall See The King.”

“When Our Lord Shall Come Again.”

“When The Redeemed Are Gathering In.”

Jesus is coming, leading a Calvary of white soldiers.

Captain Jesus has now been promoted to Commander-in-Chief of all Heavenly forces.

Jesus has an army of white.

His eyes are as a flame of fire.

He still has the battle scars of redemption on His body.

There are nail prints in His hands and a hole in His side.

He is coming with a vesture, dipped in blood.

On His head are many crowns.

The crown of redemption.

The crown of the conquest of sin.

The crown of the conquest of Hell.

The crown of the conquest of Satan.

The crown of victory.

The bridegroom crown.

The crown of honor.

The crown of Heaven.

His weapons are weapons of mass destruction.

Jesus' voice will shake the Heavens and the earth.

He touches the mountains and they smoke.

Jesus takes the lightning bolts of Heaven and will hurl them on the earth.

Fire and brimstone are in His arsenal.

Great smoke and great hail are with Him.

Great earthquakes happen before Him.

He takes the meteorites of space and hurls them to the earth in a mighty vengeance.

Jesus, the Commander-in-Chief, will pour out His wrath and fury upon the nations of the world.

He sets foot upon the Mt. of Olives in Jerusalem.

The Mt. of Olives will split in half and form a river that will flow down to the Dead Sea and heal the waters.

Jesus will destroy the armies of the nations that come against His people, Israel, in the Valley of Megiddo.

This great battle is known as the Battle of Armageddon.

Jesus will seize the nations of the world, set up His Kingdom, and rule by His army of white.

He will put down all sin and rebellion.

This Commander-in-Chief will now become the world ruler.

Jesus will take Satan and cast him in the Bottomless Pit for 1,000 years.

The One who fought the battle of the cross, died and went To Hell And Back, will now rule the world, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The United Nations will not be able to stop Him.

The Arab League will not be able to stop Him.

The NATO will not be able to stop Him.

The European Union will not be able to stop Him.

The only One who went To Hell and Back, is now, sole ruler of the whole earth.

All wars will now cease.

All military units will be abolished.

The King of Peace, is now in charge, and His saints are in charge, with Him.
Thank God, for our soon coming King!

Sing again, child of God:

“In The City Where The Lamb Is The Light.”

“Won’t It Be Wonderful There?”

“How Beautiful Heaven Must Be.”

“In The New Jerusalem.”

Let us stand, today, and sing that old song, “Onward Christian Soldiers.”

Onward Christian Soldiers

1. Onward Christian soldiers! Marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus,
going on before;

Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe;

Forward into battle, see His banners go!

Cho: Onward Christian soldiers!

Marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus, going on before.

2. Like a mighty army moves the Church of God;

Brothers, we are treading where the saints have trod;

We are not divided, all One body we;

One, in hope and doctrine, One in charity.

3. Crowns and thrones may perish,

Kingdoms rise and wane;

But, the Church of Jesus, constant will

remain;

Gates of Hell can never gainst that Church prevail;

We have Christ’s own promise, which can never fail.

4. Onward, then, ye people! Join our happy throng;
Blend with ours, your voices in the triumph song;
Glory, laud, and honor, unto Christ the King;
This thro' countless ages, men and angels sing.

Sermon compiled and preached by:
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Garden Valley, Texas
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Trusting In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow

“And he spake a parable unto them

saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: and he thought within himself, saying, what shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, this will I do:

I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat and drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee:”

Luke 12:16-20

In looking at this parable set forth by Jesus concerning the rich man, I find many points of interest.

First of all the rich man seemed to gain the world’s goods by his own hands. There is no indication, in these verses, that he gave God the glory for the fruit of his labors. This sin is one of the greatest sins in the Bible, it goes all the way back to Cain and Abel. Abel brought the “first-fruits” of the flock, but Cain did not bring the “firstfruits” of the ground to God.

The rich man had plenty. His first question in being prosperous was, “What shall I do?”

Alot of people, today, do not know what to do with the riches of this world. Instead of giving to God and praising Him for their fortune, they sit back and ask, “What shall I do?”

We need to count our blessings and name them one by one.

The rich man was so blessed with fruits, he had no more room to put them. He had abundant supplies. Feeding the poor was no option to him. No time for that. It's mine and I will do what I want with it.

He had a plan, a plan to solve his problems.

Tomorrow, he would tear down his old barns and build new ones. It would take some time, take some labors, but it could be accomplished.

He thought that tomorrow would solve all his problems.

He Trusted In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

No one knows what tomorrow may bring forth.

Big plans for tomorrow!

Big plans for the future!

Tomorrow will solve my problems of today!

Tomorrow all will be well!

I am trusting in tomorrow!

The rich man thought it would be easy tomorrow.

There are a lot of people, today, Trusting In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

Instead of being concerned about his soul, he was concerned about his crops.

Material possessions has been the downfall of many a good man.

We do not live in tomorrow, we live in today.

Tomorrow may never come.

We may have seen our last sunset.

We may have ate our last supper.

We may have seen our family for the last time.

The rich man was so concerned for tomorrow, he forgot about the present.

He forgot about his soul.

He forgot God.

God said to the rich man, "Thou fool, this night, thy soul shall be required of thee."

People are fools, who Trust In the Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

Hell is fool's Paradise.

The rich man, who had big plans for tomorrow, never lived to achieve them.
All his hopes and dreams for tomorrow never came.

He died that very night, one day short of his dreams and plans.

So much waste, what a fool he was!

Friends, Never Trust In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

Today is the day of salvation.

Get salvation today.

Repent of your sins today.

Get baptized in Jesus Name, today.

Get the Holy Ghost, today.

Let me now present to you a true story that happened while I was pastor of Pearl of Faith Assembly in Garden Valley, Texas about 16 years ago.

Our home missions Church began with a few family friends meeting in my home. From there, we moved into a double car garage and fixed it up with carpet and pews.

We had a family there that had a son, named Ray.

Ray was about 15 years old, at that time.

He scoffed at our little group meeting in a garage.

He thought we were a bit odd.

His mother made him attend our services.

Ray would come with his sister and sit on the back seats with his head down.

He really didn't want to be there.

He was in high school and ran with the rough crowd, some drinking, and knock-

ing down mail boxes in the country.

He had met a young girl at school and they seemed to be in love.

Many times when his parents were not at home, Ray would bring his girlfriend home and sleep with her.

As time went on, Ray began to skip services.

Ray finally graduated from high school and he and his girlfriend began to make some plans to get married.

Ray was now about 18 years old, a graduate of high school and making plans to marry his high school sweetheart.

He also had aspirations to attend college to further his education.

Here was a young man with a lot of potential.

A young man with his whole life ahead of him.

Ray had big plans for the future, but he didn't have time for God.

Ray's parents left my Church one day on a bad note and moved to Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ray was still in Van, Texas and making plans for his future marriage.

He already had a mobile home in place on a piece of land, and soon a nice young lady to share it with.

Ray's mother wanted him to come to Las Vegas for some college classes there and then he could transfer back to Van, Texas.

Ray flew to Las Vegas, leaving his sweet-heart behind, he would be back soon for her.

After a short time in Las Vegas, Ray was ready to return to Van, Texas to marry his sweetheart.

He had already bought a plane ticket to Texas and had it in his back pocket.

Tomorrow he would be back in Texas.

Tomorrow he would be a married man.

Tomorrow he would fulfill his life long dreams.

Tomorrow all would be well!

A young girl in Las Vegas had a crush on Ray and knew that he was prepared to leave the next morning for Texas to get married.

She didn't want Ray to leave Las Vegas.

The young girl told her daddy that Ray had gotten her pregnant, and he was leaving for Texas in the morning.

Of course, this was not true!

Her dad became outraged at his daughter's statement. He went to where Ray was residing and forced him into his automobile and drove Ray to the Airport.

All of a sudden a gun was flashed, and two shots rang out in the night.

Ray lay dead, instantly.

Ray had no idea that he would die that very night.

He had no idea that he would never return to Texas and marry his sweetheart.

Ray had no idea that he would be blasted into eternity that very night.

Two shots to the forehead ended the hopes and dreams of a young boy, named Ray.

Just one more day and Ray would have been gone to Texas.

Living in tomorrow never came for Ray.

Ray had eaten his last supper.

Ray had seen his last sunset.

Ray had seen his parents for the last time.

Ray had Trusted In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

I still remember the day Ray's parents drove up into my driveway in Texas and told me that Ray had been killed.

My heart sank.

I tried fighting back the tears.

I tried to console the parents, but they seemed to reject my condolences.

Ray's body was flown back to Van, Texas for his funeral.

I went that day to the funeral home in Van, Texas out of respect for the family and as their former pastor.

The funeral home was packed to the limits.

Seemed the whole school was there to see the remains of Ray, their friend in school.

Ray's sweetheart was there by Ray's open casket, weeping constantly.

The officiating minister preached Ray straight into Heaven and calling him a good Christian boy who loved God.

I sat on the last pew and after the service, I was the last one to pass by Ray's casket.

I stood there for a few seconds and saw the job well done in covering up Ray's injuries to his forehead.

Tears came to my eyes as I gazed upon the remains of Ray.

I thought of what could have been for this young man.

I saw Ray for the last time on this earth.

Ray was just like the rich man in our text, he had dreams and plans for tomorrow, but tomorrow never came.

Oh, The Insecurity Of Tomorrow!

Saints, Don't Trust In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

Sinner, Don't Trust In The Insecurity Of Tomorrow.

Today is the day of salvation.

As we stand tonight, let us sing that old song, "Oh, why not tonight?"

"Oh, Why not Tonight?"

Tomorrow's sun may never rise,
To bless thy long alluded sight,
This is the time, Oh, then be wise,
Then why not tonight?

Cho:

Oh, why not tonight?
Oh, why not tonight?
Wilt thou be saved?
Oh, why not tonight?

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