

Bible Prophecy Update –January 17th, 2021

Big Tech / Bigger God

JD Farag

Alright, good morning, and welcome to our first service, live-streamed. It's our Bible Prophecy Update, and as I think you'll see here in a moment, we're going to get right to it. I want to talk with you today about big tech giants as it were and how the censoring is actually playing into the hands of our infinitely bigger God. So doubtless, you know that last week's Prophecy Update titled "Decision Time" was censored and removed by YouTube, citing a violation of the terms of service with what they labeled "Medical Misinformation." And this after the video had reached over 300,000 views in 4-days by late Wednesday evening. For those wishing to view that video, we have provided a link below to our Prophecy Website at JDFarag.org. Don't tell anybody. Don't tell YouTube. We've received testimonies of no less than three people who came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as a result of watching that video from last week before it was pulled down. And that's just the ones we know about.

Thankfully, we are still on YouTube. However, after 12-years, well-nigh 2,000 teaching videos, and a quarter of a million subscribers, two more strikes, and we're out. They terminate the channel. It was for this very reason that in anticipation of this, we sensed that the Lord would have us launch JDFarag.org last year. Proverbs 22:3 says, "The prudent see evil ahead and take refuge, but the naive continue on and suffer the consequences." Simply put, we saw this evil coming, which is why we hit the ground running with the website, in order for it to be the "go-to" for all of the prophecy updates - and more - uncensored.

Now our plan is to develop this site in phases, and we're currently only in Phase 1. So, we very much appreciate your patience with us and certainly your prayer for us. Lord willing, we'll soon be implementing additional non-big tech hosting resources, supporting the live-stream directly from JDFarag.org, while at the same time remaining on YouTube and other platforms for as long as we can. In the meantime, our posture is that of being shrewd as serpents but harmless as doves as we move forward. While we are neither surprised nor shaken by this again, we do covet your prayers for discernment as to how the Lord would have us to navigate through this.

Suffice it to say, it does seem that this is only the beginning of "Big Tech Giants" power, control, and censorship. But God. But God. The "Big Tech Giants" mean this for evil. "But God" works it for good as only He can, in order to bring it about as it is this day, the salvation of many as Joseph said to his brothers in Genesis 50, verse 20, as only God can. What you're doing? Oh, it's evil! It's evil. But God, as only He can, is going to take that evil that you intended, and he's going to orchestrate it, work it, choreograph it, and mean it for good to bring about the salvation of multitudes this day.

I want to say it's Psalm 72. After Thursday night, I've got to be careful if it's not in my notes. I'm calling apostles, epistles... No, I'm not. It's not that bad. But I want to say it's Psalm 72 where the psalmist writes that God makes the wrath of man to praise Him as only, He can. He can take the wrath of man and make it glorify Him. Praise Him, bring people to Him, and that's what God is doing. And that's what I want to talk about today if you'll kindly allow me to. I want to talk specifically as it relates to God, not only delivering giants into our hands but using those very giants to accomplish it. Actually, this is interesting, as the Lord would have it.

Our second service today, which will be live, streamed at 11:15 a.m. Hawaii time, we'd encourage you to join with us. We're in 2 Timothy, and Chapter 3, verses 10 through 13 is our text. Now I know why last week we were only to get through to verse 9 because beginning in verse 10, the Apostle Paul tells Timothy that those who want to live godly lives in Christ Jesus in the last days will be persecuted. So, we're going to talk about that today.

If you kindly indulge me, I want to share with you what the Lord ministered to me a few weeks ago when I was taking some time off and spending time with my family and more time with Lord. He directed my heart to one of my absolute favorite passages in all of the Bible, 1 Samuel, Chapter 17. Oh, you know it well. It's the account of a very young David slaying a very big giant. When I say very

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young, I mean young. It is believed, we don't know exactly how old he was, but from Scripture, we can surmise that he was somewhere between the ages of 16 to 19 years old.

Oh, by the way, I'm never going to refer to "his name." You know his name; don't say it. I'm not going to even speak it. Do you know why? Two reasons: Number 1. David never mentions or utters from his lips, "the name." Secondly, here's why: Because of what the name means. It means champion. No, not champion; not even a giant, actually. Oh, you might be big, but my God is bigger and, oh, by the way, you defied my infinitely bigger God, you ugly, big, uncircumcised Philistine! I added that. That's not what he called him, but no, he did...

I'm getting ahead of myself here. Just bear with me. But I spent a few days, actually, in first Samuel 17. I've read it so many times. I've taught through it twice. But this time, and now I know why again, the Lord was ministering to me for such a time as this - on this day to share with you from this passage. It's my hope that we'll all be filled anew with hope and encouragement from this. It speaks to the battle against the giants in our lives. Do you have some giants you're up against? I know you do. We all have one very big giant. I won't mention "its name" for what I think would be deemed obvious reasons. But it's a message of hope, and victory, and encouragement in this the last hour of human history.

Before we jump into this, I want to briefly provide you with the back story first, and then after that, I want us to look at 7-life changing truths and from that 12-take away's from those truths by way of application.

It all started when the Philistines were actually occupying land belonging to Israel. It doesn't seem like a lot has changed over the years, right? For those of you that have been to Israel with us, you know, this is the valley of Elah. You've been there. You've got two hills on each side with the valley in between. We're told that the Philistines encamped on one side, and in battle array against the Israelites, and the Israelites in response encamped on the other side with the valley in between. We're told that this giant, this Philistine giant, was there screaming. I'm going to use the word screaming at the Israelites. Terrifying them, paralyzing them in fear as he blasphemed their God and defied the armies of Israel and the living God. And this goes on for 40 days and 40 nights.

Meanwhile, Dad (Jesse) says to David, son, come here. Take this bread, take this cheese, go to the battlefield, and have the sheep that you're tending to someone else in your absence. I want you to take this to them and bring back word as to how your brothers are doing. He had three brothers that were there. By the way, one of the reasons why we know David was probably, couldn't be at least 20 years of age is because, at age 20, you're there in the battle. That's when you serve, according to Scripture, at the age of 20. I think we see that in the book of Leviticus.

We know that he was under the age of 19, but his three oldest brothers were over the age of 20, and they're on the battlefield, and Dad wants to know how they're doing, so he sends David. David comes on the scene, and as soon as he gets there, he hears this uncircumcised Philistine blaspheme his God and the armies of the living God - one time! And it's not okay. He runs to these guys, and he says, what's going on? They say, oh, did you hear what the king will do for the one who will slay this giant? He's going to give him a tax exemption for life and not only that, at no extra charge, if you'll forgive the silliness with which I explain this, he's also going to give his daughter in marriage to the man who will slay this giant.

Do you know what David's response is? What? What's going to be done for the man who slays this giant? He completely disregards the king's daughter in marriage. He completely disregards the tax exemption for life. He only refers to one thing, and do you know what that one thing was? What will be done for the man who removes this defiant reproach against the armies of Israel and the living God? I don't care about that. I'm going to shut him up. I'm going to shut that big, ugly mouth.

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Oh, by the way, it's not in the narrative; you'll forgive me but, you guys have been listening to this for 40 days and 40 nights? Shame on you! What's the matter with you? We're told, in interesting detail, that every time the Philistine would do this, 40 days and 40 nights, all day, every day, all night, every night? That the Israelites would run away. They'd run away in fear, totally paralyzed in fear. David's like this is not okay.

So, then he goes from them, and who does he come upon but his brothers, chief of whom is his oldest brother, Eliab. Do you know what happens? His oldest brother, Eliab, looks at his youngest brother, David, and he says, what are you doing here? This is a battleground for men! Go home and tend to your few sheep; you little twerp. Again, I'm adding, I mean, it's actually worse than that. It's so condescending. And this is from his older brother. And David... I love it. Depending on which translation you have, David says to his oldest brother...

You have to understand the cultural dynamics at that time. It's similar to what it is today, but he just looks at his older brother and says, now what have I done? I mean, just something a little brother would say to an older brother. But David turns it right back to the matter at hand, and it's a serious matter. What is going on? What is happening? Did you hear what he said? Yeah, we heard what he said. Go home now. No! Let me at him! No need to fear; David is here!

So, they take him to Saul. Just picture it. You know, God's given us an intellect and imagination. I want you in your mind's eye to see this because you've got to understand. Here's this very handsome and ruddy 17-year-old. I mean, maybe he's got his driver's license by now. I don't know. And he goes to King Saul, who we know is tall in stature, and they bring in David.

David says to Saul, excuse me. With all due respect, king, I'm not okay with this. I'm going to take care of this. And what does Saul do? He tries to talk him out of it. What does David do? Talks him into that which he's trying to talk David out of doing. And then what does Saul do? He does what I guess anybody would do, and he puts his armor on David. Then here's David with Saul's armor, and we're told he can't even walk.

And he's looking at King Saul again, with all due respect, king. It's not my size and doesn't fit. It's not going to work. He takes it off. Then he is sent out into the battlefield, and this giant, this ugly giant, is incensed. We're told he despised David. He's like, is this a joke? Wait, where are the cameras? Am I being punked? What are you doing here? Oh, am I a dog? Are we going to play fetch? That's basically what he was asking and saying.

It's like David says, apparently, there has been a huge misunderstanding here, you ugly giant. Because you think this is between you and me. It's not. You come against me with your sword and your armor. I come against you in the name of the Lord, my God, whom you defied. And here's what I'm going to do, you big, ugly giant. I'm going to kill you! Yeah! And then after I kill you, I'm going to take your head off, and I'm going to hold that big, ugly head up for everybody to see, and then everybody will know that my God is the true and living God! And you defied him! How about that? Okay, I need to calm down a little bit here, but this is a sanctified... Yeah!

I mean, at first, when David walks out, could you imagine! Even the army of the Israelites; Forget the Philistines at this point. Here comes this little teenage kid. He doesn't have any armor on. He doesn't even have a sword. He just has a slingshot and five smooth stones. Your first reaction is, oh, no, I can't watch it. No. You feel so sorry for him Then after David speaks, you go from feeling sorry for David to feeling sorry for this big, ugly giant because God's going to have the final word, and He does.

All right, let's start with the first one. I'll put the Scripture reference there. Granted, this first one will seem like a firm grasp of the obvious, but this is a spiritual battle we're in. And there's some interesting detail in verses 4 through 7 of 1 Samuel 17. We're told that the giant was 6 cubits and a

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span, his iron spearhead weighed 600 shekels, and he had 6 pieces of armor. Can you connect those dots? Can you do that math? It's not the first time we see the typology of 666.

We see it again in the book of Daniel with the image. The 666: 6 instruments are played, and they bowed down to this, 660 with 6 instruments image - a type of, a picture of, the Antichrist. By the way, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego - a picture of Israel. They go into the 7-times hotter, fiery furnace and are saved in the midst of the 7-times hotter, fiery furnace. A picture of Israel who will be saved in the middle of the 7-year tribulation.

But where's Daniel? He's not there. Where is he? Oh, I'm so glad you asked. He was taken up and exalted to a high position pre-furnace, a picture of the Church of Jesus Christ and the pre-tribulation rapture of the Church of Jesus Christ. This is not a coincidence. This is a detail recorded in Scripture for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

It points to this being a battle not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual entities that Paul lists in Ephesians, Chapter 6. Oh, also interesting to note, the armor, the spiritual armor that we're given? We also have 6 pieces of armor with which to stand and even extinguish the fiery arrows of the evil one. This is our 1st Take Away. We're quick and good about recognizing... Okay, I get it. It's a spiritual battle. We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers of darkness, these entities in the realm of the spirit. But in so doing, we also are very prone to forget that it's still a battle.

Let me explain. Yeah, I know the battle belongs to the Lord. I know it's a spiritual battle, but sometimes I think we forget that it's still a battle. Especially now in this world that we're living in. It's not a playground. It's a battleground. We are at war! This is no time to be playing church, playing Christianity. It's getting serious. Life and death are at stake, and I'm not just talking about life and death. I'm talking about eternity! Eternal life and eternal death are at stake.

Number 2. Oh, wait, there's one more thing here. Oh, I've got to mention this. The sheer size of this giant, who it's believed was one of the Anakim left in Gath, lends itself to this notion of impossible to defeat. You've heard the expression, "too big to fail, too big to fall, too big to defeat." Why do I mention this? Because outwardly, the big tech giants or whatever that giant is in your life, you fill in the blank. Outwardly, it appears to be impossible. But with God, all things are possible.

And that's our 2nd Take Away. Often times, God may allow the situation to become impossible for you - so it's possible for Him. Sometimes if it's still possible for us, it's hands off to God because in our own strength, in our flesh that is in and of ourselves, we tend to... hey, I can do this. It's still possible, and God will never force Himself on us. He'll just wait patiently until we come to that place where we throw up our arms, and we say, oh God, this is impossible.

Oh, music to God's ears. Wait, did you just say it's impossible? Finally, it's about time. It's impossible, right? Watch me now. Because God is the God of the impossible, and there's a reason for it. It's so that He alone gets the glory for it. He allows it to come to that place where it is absolutely impossible for us so that he can do the impossible, and He alone gets the glory.

Okay, this is number 2, and this is interesting. Attacks often times come from within. I find it interesting that David has to first battle with his own brother, who falsely accuses him of that which he himself is guilty of pride. I'm of the belief that Eliab was not only jealous of but bitter towards his brother David because he was the heir apparent - if you will.

When Samuel goes to the house of Jesse to anoint the next king of Israel when it had been taken from Saul, Eliab, the firstborn son, is the obvious one. But when Samuel goes through all of David's brothers, David is not even there. Where is he? Oh, attending to the sheep. How appropriate. In fact, he starts with Eliab, and Samuel is like, huh? It's not Eliab. Could you imagine, Eliab, his heart would sink in disbelief. Well, surely, it's not going to be any of my other brothers.

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Then he goes through all of the other brothers, counting Eliab, 7 brothers, David the 8th. None of them, and then Samuel is flabbergasted. He asks Jesse, do you have any more sons? Because I'm sorry, none of these are anointed the next king of Israel. Dad's like, well, I actually do but come on. And Samuel says, go get him. Nobody does anything until you get him right here, right now. They go get David, they bring him, and he's anointed.

And Samuel, in his inquiry of the Lord, asks the Lord, what? And the Lord says man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart. So, this happened before this, and Eliab knew it. Now Eliab sees his little brother there. He's bitter towards him, jealous of him.

That's our 3rd Take Away: Don't be surprised when brothers in Christ, riddled with jealousy and filled with pride, falsely accuse you and attack you. By the way, parenthetically, let me say, and I think I've referenced before. I've seen this increase in just the last several months in ways that I could have never imagined - online. What's happening within the body of Christ. I think about what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians. He said, you guys better be careful. You keep biting and devouring and gossiping and slandering each other. You're going to destroy each other - from within.

One can't help but think that had David taken Eliab's false accusations to heart that he may have reacted in the flesh. This is actually why I think we have this detail recorded for us. It's not for us to see how bitter Eliab was. It's for us to see how humble David was.

Think this through with me. Had David taken this to heart, it would have been evidence of his pride being insulted by his older brother. It's kind of interesting because his older brother accuses him of being proud and full of himself and conceited. Who do you think you are? Go back home. And he himself is the one who possesses that which he's accusing his little brother of, and his little brother is not that.

In fact, he's the antithesis of that. He's a humble young man after God's own humble heart, and it was because of his humility that he didn't react. He didn't let it get to him. If he was full of even a little bit of pride, it's kind of like, what did you say to me? That's pride. Pride is what fuels. Pride is the fuel in the tank of conflict and arguments and wars.

Ask James about that. What causes fights and quarrels amongst you? Pride. Pride. But when you're humble and somebody accuses you falsely? You're like, hey, the Lord knows my heart. Reminds me of a true story about a pastor. He's with Lord now, a great pastor, a great teacher of God's word. After one of his sermons, somebody in the church came up to him and said, pastor, you're so full of pride.

Thank you for not saying that to me because I don't know how well I would do in response. I would probably look at you... Never mind. I'm not going to take that any further. But I love what he said. He said, oh, my friend, you don't know the half of it. That's humility!

And with the humility comes the victory, and that's the key here to David because David remained humble in his humility with a godly strength - he had already won. And that big, ugly giant? He's already a dead man. He just doesn't know it yet.

Here's Take Away Number 4. I want to say it specifically this way for a reason. Humility is the soil from which faith germinates, sprouts, and grows the fruit of the Holy Spirit - in the power of the Holy Spirit. In our study, through Proverbs, we repeatedly saw how it's humility that is the beginning of wisdom. Humility is the beginning of wisdom. You can flip that around too, and the Proverbs are replete with this is well on the other side of that table. If wisdom comes from humility, then that means folly comes from pride, and it does. It does, and pride always precedes the fall - No exceptions.

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Take Away Number 3. We're going to talk about this a little bit in 2 Timothy for the 2nd service. Again, I realize this might sound like a firm grasp of the obvious, but I'm hoping you'll hear me out on this. The Lord will deliver you!

Now, the dialogue that's recorded in the narrative between King Saul and David is interesting for a number of reasons, not the least of which, as we already mentioned, Saul is trying to talk him out of it. He's saying things to him like David, listen, you're adorable, but this giant's been fighting and eating kids like you for lunch longer than you've been alive. You don't stand a chance.

Here's David looking at Saul through the lens of the Spirit, in the power of the Spirit, and instead of Saul talking David out of it, David talks Saul into it. I mean, I want you to think about the contrast here and the irony. Saul acquiesces to a persistent and tenacious David, who boldly declares that the Lord delivered him from bears and lions.

It's like he's saying, Saul, you don't get it. Let me try this again, so you understand. There were many times as I was protecting the sheep that there would come a bear or a lion. By the way, the text doesn't specifically say that it was just one bear, one lion. I would argue that there were several bears, several lions, not to mention wolves, and David says to Saul that the Lord delivered them into my hands.

So, here's the thing, Saul, if God's going to deliver the bear and the lion into my hands, this uncircumcised Philistine is just going to be a lunch break for me. I love the specificity of the narrative because Saul is like, oh, my goodness! Go! What are you going to say to that? Go!

Here's Take Away Number 5. I think we do err greatly when we somehow think we can do anything in our own strength. It is the Lord who delivers us. It's in the power of His might, in His strength. You have to understand, speaking of the contrast, that Saul and the Israelite army with him are all viewing this giant in their own strength, which is why they're so paralyzed and fair - but not David. There's a holy boldness, a sanctified strength, and confidence. I want to talk about that more in a moment.

What's striking in all of this is that David has to even talk Saul into that which Saul is trying to talk him out of. And it's not so much that David does it, though that's striking. What's even more striking is how David does it. He does it by recalling what God did for him in the past. Do you know where I'm going with this?

It's Take Away Number 6. We would do well to remember what God has done in our lives in the past, for when we face those giants in the present and in the future. After our daughter Noelle died, my wife and I, I'll never forget this. It seems like it was just yesterday. We're sitting there having coffee in the morning, our time together. She just looks over at me and says, you know, if God can get us through this, is there anything that God can't get us through?

And God knows my heart when I say this, I stand before you today as one who had recalled all of those times in the past when God delivered me when I thought this is how it ends. It's over. There's no way. There's no way, God, I'm going to get through this. The pain is too much. There's no way. But God, He got me through. He got me through.

Again, there's a sanctified strength in this, keyword sanctified, because it's kind of like this. God got me through that lion, that bear, that trial, that situation, that impossibility! This uncircumcised Philistine? Bring it on! Bring it on! And that's what David basically says. Not quite like that. But he says that because God did that with the bear and the lion, this uncircumcised Philistine is not going to be a problem, my king. And that's when Saul just says, okay, go. Here you go. By the way, take my armor. No, not yet.

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Something else here, I want to point out. I think I'd be grossly remiss were I not to, and it has to do with preparation. God, preparing David for that which he was preparing for David. I think about Joseph - 17 years. You don't just put somebody in the position of being the most powerful man in the known world, save Pharaoh, without preparing him first. To do so would be to set him up for a fall and a fall. So Joseph had to go through all of that to be prepared for that which God had prepared for him.

Same with David - that was all preparation. I think sometimes we despise that process in our impatience. God, what are you doing? Why are you doing this? Oh, just wait, you'll see. Yeah, but God, this is hard! I know. Watch what I'm going to do. Yeah, but God...

First of all, if I could be so candid when it comes to Joseph (and David with him too), it was a number of years after this, (with David as well), preparing him for the throne to be king. I don't like that number 17 associated with years in the preparation process. 17 years? Yeah. I've got to prepare you. Is there any other way? No. I've got to prepare you for that, which I'm preparing for you. And if you only knew what I was going to do. Wow!

All the lions, all the bears, God has delivered you from over the years? Preparation. What are you saying? There's a giant coming? Oh, yeah, it's already here. It's already here. I'm not going to mention its name. But it's a giant of a problem. And that's part of the process to prepare us.

Number 4. It may be unconventional. Stay with me on this. This is where Saul puts his armor on David. When he tries to walk and can't, and he says to Saul, I can't wear this. And then he says, "it's not been tested," which carries with it the idea of, I'm not accustomed to it. Now again, stay with me.

What he's saying is, I'm not accustomed to that which you deem to be conventional. I'm not accustomed to this. In fact, I'm going to do this in the power of His might in an unconventional way. This is conventional. This is what everybody does. This is the way of the world; The weaponry of the world.

The Apostle Paul, writing of the Corinthians, says, our weaponry is not carnal but spiritual. I'm not accustomed to this conventional carnality if you will. That's Take Away Number 9. Wait! That's not take away Number 9; that's Take Away Number 8. It advanced my notes. It's trying to hurry me up. I know I don't have much time. Don't do that.

Take Away Number 8. It's to our own peril that we become accustomed to the ways of conventional carnality wearing and using the world's weaponry. Our weaponry is spiritual in nature. We're up against these giants. We don't fight them in a conventional way. Our weaponry is not carnal in nature. It's spiritual in nature. It's a spiritual battle.

I think about Peter when he cuts off the ear of Malchus when they're arresting Jesus. You've got to love Peter. I mean, the courage, the boldness, how brave is that? He takes on the entire Roman army, and he cuts off the ear of Malchus. And Jesus so graciously, as if to say to Peter, Peter, Peter, put your sword away. This is not a physical battle. It's a spiritual battle.

I'm almost 100% certain Malchus is going to be in heaven because after Jesus takes and puts his ear back on? I'd have gotten saved right there, just like right that. Yeah. Here, one of his disciples cuts it off, and Jesus is like, I'm so sorry, sir. I'm saved. I'm getting saved right there. Peter was trying to fight a spiritually battle with carnal weaponry, and we do err greatly to our own peril when we do that.

Take Away Number 5. It's all of grace. It's only by God's grace. It seems that God deemed it necessary to include this detail of five smooth stones. Have you ever asked yourself, when you're in a place in God's word, why did God deem it necessary to include a detail? Why do we need to know that there were five?

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There's a reason, you know. Five is the number of grace. I believe that this speaks to David's plan militarily and God's plan prophetically. First, this was a brilliant military strategy in the sense that David was prepared for the possibility of the Philistines starting to attack him. Some commentators suggest there were 5 because Goliath... Oh, I said his name. Grrr! The uncircumcised Philistine had 4 brothers, and they had 5 cities, and this uncircumcised Philistine was the one in Gath, one of the 5 cities - possibly.

Here's Take Away Number 9. This is important. Please listen to this. Just because we're trusting in the Lord to deliver us, and he will! Just because the battle is the Lord's, and it is! This does not mean that we're not to be shrewd and strategic. I think about again what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians: Don't be ignorant. Don't be so naive.

I love the King James, the wiles of the devil. I love the sound of that. Don't be deceived or ignorant about the wiles of the devil. Okay, I just had to say it one more time, the wiles of the devil. Satan is very strategic, you know. He studies you strategically, militarily, like a military strategist. You know those old war photos of these strategists surrounding the table with the map in the middle of strategizing.

I hope this doesn't mess you up, but Satan's got a map of your life on his table. Have a nice afternoon, and he's strategizing on how to destroy you. And that's what Paul is saying. And that's what David is doing. Just as this was shrewd strategically, so too was this, God's grace prophetically, by virtue of the typology.

Again, with number 5 being the number of grace. Do you know the 10 Commandments? The 5th commandment is the only one with grace. All the other 9 commandments, thou shalt not. In the day that thou do it, thou shalt be killed. That's it. When you get to the fifth commandment, my mother and father made me memorize this, "Honor thy father and thy mother so that the days upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee may be long." The number five commandment, the only one with grace.

Here's another one, all through Scripture, you see this. The 5th letter, grace, was placed in the 5th place in Abraham and Sarah's name, changing their name and their nature. No longer Sarai, but Sarah. No longer Abram but Ibrahim, the 5th letter in the 5th spot of their name changed everything. Grace changes everything.

Ephesians 2:8-9, you know it well. We're saved by grace through faith. Ah! We kind of skip over and read past and fast that part by grace through faith, which is what we're going to see here in a moment. I'm going to get ahead of myself, and I can't, so here's the Take Away. The only way we're able to defeat the giants in our lives is by way of the grace of God. There's no other way. It's all of grace.

Take Away Number 6. Run toward it; not from it. To me, this answers the question I was just going to ask you: Do you want to know why David was so confident that God was going to deliver this uncircumcised Philistine into his hands? Because here we're told in verse 48 that David ran toward the giant.

I would venture to say this was the first time this giant had ever had anyone run toward him and not away from him. Oh, this is new. What's he doing? He ran toward him. That is unflinching fearlessness.

Take Away 11. When we put feet to our faith, stepping out in faith, we're saved by grace through faith. Without faith, it's impossible to please Him, which means that with faith, we're very pleasing to Him. So much so that when He sees us step out in faith? Ho! Faith! What's faith? The substance of things hoped for, the evidence, strong word, forensic evidence, of that which is yet unseen. This is a done deal. I have forensic evidence. I don't see it, but I believe it by faith.

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You know how people say, well, seeing is believing. No, it's not! Believing is seeing. When you believe by faith, you will see what God will do. It's kind of, you know, in the Gospels with Jesus? I mean, He stopped everything when He saw faith, and He brought attention to it. He was, I guess you could say in some way, impressed by it. I've never seen such faith as this. Oh, when there was faith, it was like there's nothing I will not do.

You know, when he goes to his hometown of Nazareth and all of the people there are looking at Him going, I remember you when you were in diapers. Don't you hate that when you're as a young person, and somebody says I remember you when you were... Whatever. But He could do very little miracles there. Can I say it this way? He could slay very few giants there because a prophet is without honor in his own hometown because they don't see Him that way, and so they don't believe.

The ones who believe will see. You believe God to do something, in fact, do you know what? I think this is the Holy Spirit. Just hang in there with me. What comes to mind when I ask you this question? Is there something in your life today that you are wanting God to do that is so over the top? Do you believe that God can do it? If it's His will, why wouldn't he? If it's for your good and His glory, why would he not do that? Well, why hasn't it happened? Well, maybe it's like that man who said to Jesus, I believe, but help my unbelief. My unbelief!

Here's Take Away 11. Again, when we put feet to our faith, put our faith where our mouth is, we'll see what God's going to do.

Number 7. Lastly and again, I know, a firm grasp of the obvious. The enemy is a defeated foe. Here we're told that David slung the stone, striking the giant in his forehead. Then we're told in the narrative that there was no sword in David's hand; of course not.

There was a slingshot and now four smooth stones because the one stone not only hit the only place it could possibly hit that wasn't armored. Because they had to see, they had this metal (probably weighed who knows how much), and there was just this little area right here and, boom, right in the exact spot. And we're even provided this detail that stone sunk into his head. Again, depending on the translation, we're told that it killed him on the spot,

and down he went.

Now, David doesn't have a sword, so what's he going to do? Oh, we're told what he's going to do. Well, there's one right there. I'll use his sword. Could you imagine, let's call him a 17-year-old David, picking up a 150-pound sword, probably - supernaturally. And he picks up this ugly head for all to see, by the way, and cuts it off. Why? He's already dead. Why would you need to do that? Oh, remember what he told him before he killed him with the stone?

By the way, that rock is a type of Christ defeating the enemy. He's a defeated foe. But why take it to this level? Because David told him when I'm done with you and I cut off your head, there is going to be no doubt, unmistakably, decisively.

Because if you think about it and for those of you that have been to the valley of Elah and Israel, you might be at a far distance. You're looking down in the valley, and all you see is the giant going down, for all you know, he could just be knocked unconscious. You don't know if he is dead. Oh, what's he going to do now? He's going... I can't look! He cut off the head of our, not going to mention his name, champion. And he's holding it up. Oh, that's so gross.

No question now. Yeah. Why? So that they will know who my God is! And let me take it a step further if you don't mind - you don't defy my God - like that! That was pretty good, actually. Okay, we're running out of time. Calm down.

This would not be the first time that God would use the weaponry of the enemy to their own defeat. Think of Haman, Haman in the book of Esther. The very gallows that he had prepared to impale

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Mordecai on were the very gallows that he, himself, would be impaled on. I'm going somewhere with this, so just hang in there with me.

This is the last take away; Take away Number 12. The means by which our giants in life seek to destroy us will, in the end, be that which God chooses and uses to judge them, and they'll be judged. Their time is coming. Oh, now it looks like this is impossible. Do you see what we're up against? No, you'll see. Just wait. Yeah, but seeing is believing. No believing is seeing.

You wouldn't believe it! Even if I told you what I was going to do, you wouldn't believe it. But those who will believe will see what I'm going to do. Oh, they look big. They do. They have a lot of power. Yes, they do. They have a lot of control. Yes, they do. Click of the mouse! You're gone. Yeah, they can. But God. Isn't it interesting? When it comes to social media what the enemy has meant for evil, God has used their own weaponry to bring multitudes to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Come on! ...

All right, let me bring it to an end. We are at the end, and this is evidence of it. We were foretold prophetically about it. The enemy is a defeated foe, and he knows he has, but a short time which is why what's happening is happening now. He knows he doesn't have much time. Would to God that more Christians knew that we didn't have much time. God's going to judge, and God is going to destroy Satan and cast him into the lake of fire.

By the way, there was a huge misunderstanding, and I am so sorry about this. I made the comment that I want to have a front-row seat for this, and people thought I was talking about watching people being thrown into hell - absolutely not! I'm talking about that I want a front-row seat for when Satan is... I want to see that. By the way, there's a reference in the book of Revelation when we see him that we're going to go, that's who deceived the nations! Are you kidding me?

And then conversely, when we see Jesus, we're going to wince because we're going to behold Him as the Lamb that was slain. And here's this creature, creation, this adversary, this enemy, and we're going to look at him, very beautiful, by the way. And we're just going to be shocked.

First of all, we're going to be shocked that he doesn't wear red tights and has a pitchfork, I guess. I don't know. Again, I'm sorry for the silly reference, but we have a problem here, and I just want to address it very quickly here. Just hang in there. I'm almost done. The problem is that the enemy seeks to steal, kill, and destroy as many lives as he possibly can, knowing that he has but a short time.

Again, forgive me for repeating it. That explains why we are seeing what we are seeing happen today. It's all in this spiritual realm, and the time is at hand. It is decision time. I just miss my update from last week. It's decision time, and this decision has eternity hanging in the balance.

This is why we do these prophecy updates every week. This is why we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ every week. This is why we go through the ABCs of Salvation as a child-like explanation of salvation every week.

What's the gospel? The gospel is the good news. What's the good news? The good news is that Jesus came, and He was crucified to die for you in your place, and He was buried. But on the third day, he rose again, defeating death, and He's coming back again one day to take us out of this world to that place that He's prepared for us in His Father's house.

That's the good news. The ABCs of Salvation is just a way, a simple way, a template, if you will, to share with someone the child-like simplicity of trusting in Christ for the forgiveness of sins and salvation.

The A is for: Admit or acknowledge that you've sinned. You're a sinner; that you need the Savior. Romans 3, verse 10, says, "There is no one righteous, not even one." And Romans 3:23 tells us why. It's because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 6:23 says that the wages of sin is death. This is the death penalty. We were all born sinners, which is why we must be born again to

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enter the Kingdom of Heaven. How are you born again? By way of the gift of God, which is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

That's the A. Here's the B, very simply: Believe. Believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. That's Romans 10, 9-10, it says, "If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved." Then the C, lastly, is for: Call upon the name of the Lord.

Or as Romans 10:9-10 also says, "If you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. And here's why, "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." And then lastly, Romans 10:13 says, "All who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." All who call - that simple. That's simple.

Can I just real quick share with you a couple more testimonies? This one is from an online member in Utah by the name of Bryan. He says, "Hello, Pastor J.D., My wife and I have been watching your prophecy updates for several months now. We look forward to them every week. We're so grateful for your online ministry. You remind us both of my late father-in-law, whom my wife and I both dearly loved.

When you mentioned the billboards a while back, I felt led to put some up here in Utah. I love the simplicity of the ABCs of Salvation you talk about at the end of your prophecy updates. We found some design ideas on The Forum on the JDFarag website, which was a great resource. There are now five of these billboards in high traffic areas between Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. Wow, what a great place to have some. I'm just going to leave that right there. They will rotate every four weeks, meaning the message will be moved to new locations to help reach more people. They will be up throughout most of 2021.

We also received a 1-month digital billboard ad for free. We picked a location along the freeway near Ogden. When we went to check it out, we noticed it was positioned right above the parking lot at the state liquor store. Oh, this is good. Because of the restrictions, it gets better. They only allow a certain number of people in the store at a time. They line them up outside the store directly facing this billboard, so they get to see the ABCs of Salvation while they wait their turn to go into the liquor store. Only God only! I hope to meet you in heaven someday! You will, very soon, I believe. God bless you and your ministry! Your brother in Christ, Bryan.

This one comes from Jesse Keesler. I hope it's Keesler and not Kessler, who posted this on our Facebook page saying, "Love your sign, Pastor J.D.! This is in a rural town in Nebraska! Nebraska!

Okay, one last thing. This is the last, last thing. I want to give a shout-out to the online members. Just a second, I am sorry. I think it's the Lenhart's. Yeah, Lenhart's, right? Yeah, precious family. Did you notice my shirt? Do you like my shirt? It's my color, yeah? It was a Christmas gift from online members, the Lenhart's.

I don't know if you can see it, but it has the ABCs of Salvation on it. I just wanted to give them a shout out because they wrote that "now I can be a walking billboard!" There you go! Not ashamed of the gospel! Why don't you all stand, and we'll pray?

Thank you for your patience, by the way. Lord, thank you so much. God, you are so good. I think of that song: God, you're so good to me. You've always been so good to me, praises through eternity. Go ahead and come on up. I don't want to do this for you or instead of you. In fact, you could join in if you want. Do you guys know this song? Can we sing it? Do you know the song? God, you're so good to me. You've always been so good to me. Help me out. Sing it through eternity. God, you're so good. God, you're so beautiful. You've always been so beautiful. Your blessings are so bountiful. God, you're so good. I want to sing your praise.

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Help me out. Come on, you guys. You're killing me here! Okay, I'm just going to do it by myself. Maybe it's healthy that you laugh at me and with me. I don't know. I don't care. We're going to sing His praise throughout eternity. God is so good.

Thank you, Lord. God bless you. Do you guys still want to after that? I don't know. What do you want to do? Is that it? We're good, yeah? I just completely ruined the whole...

God bless you. Have a blessed week. If you're going to stay for the 2nd service, we'd certainly encourage you to do so. Online - God bless you! We'll see you, Lord willing. Alright, that's it. Wow!