

Bible Prophecy Update – November 7, 2021

Update Links

-Hymn, "Take the world, but give me Jesus"

<https://wordwisehymns.com/2011/12/16/take-the-world-but-give-me-jesus-2/>

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Let It Go

JD Farag

Good morning and welcome to our first service on Sunday morning. We have two services, the first of which is devoted to Bible prophecy, where we do our weekly Bible Prophecy Update.

And the Second Service is the sermon where we're going through the Bible, book-by-book, and chapter-by-chapter, verse-by-verse, line-upon-line. We're currently in the Book of Hebrews.

And today we are going to look at - I've been so looking forward to this teaching today in Hebrews. We're going to look at just how dramatically our Christian lives can change if we would but mix our faith with action.

We're going to go to Jericho at 11:15 a.m. Hawaii time. It'll be live-streamed. We certainly encourage you to join with us at that time.

Also for those of you that are watching by way of YouTube or Facebook, we want to maybe invite you at this time to go directly to JDFarag.org for the uninterrupted, uncensored entirety of the update. It will be available there only.

So with that, let's get started, and I'm going to have to ask you to once again just bear with me. Hang in there with me. Today is going to be one of those from-the-heart updates, and I want to share with you something that God has been impressing upon my heart.

And it's that of just letting go of this world. Not just letting go of this world, but the things of this world, this world is not our home. This world is a place that we have long ago overstayed our welcome.

Would you agree? Actually, it's Bible prophecy that can have the much-needed effect of loosening our ever-tightening grip on our lives in this fallen world, and that's what I want to talk to you about today.

The Apostle John in his first epistle, the second chapter, beginning in verse 15, said it this way, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

And here's why.

"For all [verse 16] that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world, and the world is passing away [It's dying] and the lust of it. But he who does the will of God, abides forever."

Matthew's Gospel Chapter 6, if I could draw your attention to verses 19-21. The Savior's speaking, actually preaching, this well-known sermon.

And He says, verse 19, this, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal."

And here's the reason.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Notice he doesn't say where your heart is there will your treasure be also. No, where your treasure is there your heart will be also. Where's your treasure? That's where your heart is.

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If my treasurer is here, my investment is here. I've laid up for myself treasurers here. Then my heart is here. And if my heart is here, my heart is not up there. It's either/or, it cannot be both.

He would go on to say, "You cannot serve two masters." He doesn't say you should not. He says, you cannot. It is an impossibility.

It's either one or the other. I'm either living my life for this world, or I'm living my life for Jesus. It cannot be both.

And my treasures; if I'm laying up my treasures here on Earth, then not only is that where my heart is, that's where my devotion is, and that's where all my attention is. And I will do everything and stop at nothing to keep my life here because my treasures are here, and my heart is here also.

Matthew 16: I want to begin reading in verse 24. Now, let me kind of set the stage for a little bit. Jesus has just got done telling the disciples that He's going to go to his death, and He's going to be buried, and He's going to rise from the dead on the third day.

And they're having a really hard time with this, especially Peter. This is where Peter says to Jesus, and this is a very loose paraphrase after Jesus says, I'm going to die and rise again from the dead.

And basically, Peter says, over my dead body. No, you're not. You ain't going anywhere. And then, of course, this is where Jesus responds to Peter and says, "Get thee behind Me, Satan." Not that Peter is Satan.

But He says to him, You don't have the mind of the things of God. You're not heavenly minded. You've got an earthly minded view. I have to; get thee behind Me. I have to go to My death. I have to be buried. I have to rise again from the dead on the third day.

And then after He says that He says this beginning in verse 24 Matthew, 16, "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves, and take up their cross, and follow Me.

For whoever wants to [listen] save their life will lose it but whoever loses their life for Me will find it.

What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with His angels and then He will reward each person according to what they have done."

This is what I like to refer to as the paradox of paradoxes, and I'll explain what I mean by that. Our faith, our belief, our trust in Christ is a paradox.

If you think about it, the way up is the way down. You want to gain? Lose. You want to live? Die. You want to follow Me? Pick up your cross.

Oh, you want to save your life? You're going to lose it. Are you willing to lose your life? You're going to keep it. You're going to save it. You're going to find it.

That's the paradox of the Christian faith. Doubtless you've heard that well-known hymn by Fannie Crosby titled 'Take the World But Give Me Jesus.'

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What's not so well-known is the story behind it. Many of Fannie Crosby's gospel songs were inspired by things that happened to her, conversations that she had during her long life.

Biographer Bernard Ruffin quotes from Crosby's book, 'Memories of 80 Years' concerning one such story. Fanny was talking to one of her neighbors who complained bitterly of his poverty. If I had wealth, I would be able to do just what I wish to do, and I would be able to make an appearance, i.e. an impression in the world.

Fanny replied, Well, take the world but give me Jesus. She later turned that comment into the present song, which also seems to draw upon the penetrating words of the Lord Jesus.

What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? The value of our treasures depends on who does the counting, and what kind of a measuring instrument is used. Take the world but give me Jesus.

Why?

Because the pleasures and treasures of this world are soon going to pass away, but His love abides forever. One is reminded of the oft quoted words of missionary Jim Elliott. "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

What follows are some of the words to this timeless hymn. I'll do my best to do it justice.

"Take the world but give me Jesus.

All its joys are but a name.

But His love abideth ever through eternal years the same.

Oh, the height and depth of mercy.

Oh, the length and breadth of love.

Oh, the fullness of redemption.

Pledge of endless life above.

Take the world but give me Jesus.

Let me view His constant smile.

Then throughout my pilgrim journey, light will cheer me all the while."

There's another stanza where she writes about seeing Jesus face-to-face. And what's interesting about that is that she was blind. And for her to pen these words, 'let me view His constant smile,' it's almost as if the blind see that which those who are not blind do not see.

You can have it. You can have this world. Just give me Jesus.

As a student and teacher of Bible prophecy, as is my privilege to be, I made a number of observations over the years, but none as important as this. I'm just, again, sharing with you my heart.

I've seen this in my own life over the years. One's understanding of Bible prophecy is germane to losing one's life in this world for Christ's sake, as we live in anticipation of Christ's return.

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Let me say the same thing in a different way. It's Bible prophecy that has this effect of losing your life in this world. I mean, why would I want to invest in this world? It's dying. That's not a good investment. Why would I lay up treasures in this world that's passing away?

That's not wisdom. That's foolish. See, when I understand Bible prophecy and that Jesus is coming, and He is coming, it has this effect of now I'm keeping a light touch on this world because I'm not going to be here that long.

I lose my life in this world for Christ's sake because of Christ's return. And as such, what oftentimes ensues is that we become so heavenly minded we're of most earthly good.

Now I know I've jammed some gears. I'm sorry for that metaphor. I've crashed some hard drives, for you younger people. You have to reboot your device. How's that one? I don't know, whatever. Whatever, you just take your pick.

Because you've heard it said the other way around. You're so heavenly minded, you're of no earthly good. I disagree respectfully, sometimes not so respectfully.

The opposite is true. It's the ones who are so heavenly minded that are the ones that do the most earthly good.

Why?

Because our mind is set on things above. Isaiah the prophet would say it like this.

"He will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee."

My mind, heavenly minded, not earthly minded. And by the way, if where my treasure is there will my heart be also wouldn't it stand to reason that my mind would be there too?

You know, there is a very tight relationship, if I can say it like that between the heart and the mind. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

So maybe the question is, and I ask it of myself, am I heavenly minded, or am I earthly minded? If I'm heavenly minded, then what comes packaged with that is this anticipation that Jesus could come at any time.

If my mind is stayed on Him, my treasures are up there with Him, and so too is my heart up there with Him.

This is why Bible prophecy is of paramount importance. Hear me out.

If you really think about it, the common denominator with all of Bible prophecy is this: Don't get too comfortable. Think about it.

Bible prophecy: "Behold, I go to prepare a place for you." Jesus is talking to the disciples about the rapture, by the way.

"In My Father's house are plenty of rooms [mansions, dwelling places]. If it were not so, I would not have told you that I go to prepare a place for you, so that where I am there, you may be also."

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In other words, I'm taking you to this place, and I'm preparing for you as a bridegroom, talking to His bride. I'm going to come back as a thief in the night, and I'm going to snatch you away.

Nobody knows the day or the hour, but I'm going to take you back to this place that I prepared for you. And we're going to celebrate and consummate our marriage together. If it were not so, I would not have told you.

Well, now that's kind of a game-changer. Well, number one, if You're going to prepare a place and You're going to come back, I better be ready. Exactly.

If You're going to prepare a place for me and You're going to come back and take me to where You are so that I also am, sounds like I don't need to get too comfortable down here.

Maybe I shouldn't dig the foundation of my earthly life too deep into the temporal soil of this world if You're going to be taking me out of this world. Here's the truth.

All of our eternal destinies are predicated upon the foundation on which we build our lives in this world. You know where I'm going with this, so I'll just get to it.

Matthew 7, Jesus is speaking, verse 24.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, and it did not fall."

Why did it not fall? Oh, "it was founded on the rock."

"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat on that house and it fell."

And not only did it fall, Jesus says, "And great was its fall."
Interesting.

Two builders, two houses, two foundations. These guys had a lot in common. They even went to the same church, it seems. What do you mean?

Well, they both heard the words of Christ, but that's where the similarities end because the difference between these two builders was one of them put into practice, took heed, and did that which God said in His Word to do.

And when, not if, the storms came, that house stood. The winds came; the house stands. The floods came; the house stands.

Why?

Because the foundation is on the rock, and the rock is Christ.

But this other guy; he decides to build his house on the sand. Big mistake. And the reason he foolishly did this is because he did not take heed to the Word of God.

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Oh, he heard the Word, but he did not apply the Word. He did not do what the Word said. He was a hearer, James says, of the Word, but he was not a doer of the Word.

Okay, pastor, help me out here.

I'll try.

I just got done reading the Word of God, and the Word of God is, You want to follow me? Die. You want to live for me? Pick up your cross, die to yourself, and follow Me, and you'll live. You want to live; you want to keep your life? Lose your life. That's the Word.

Now, am I going to do it? Am I going to do it? Because if I do, then I'll be like the one who built his house on that solid rock.

So that, again, when, not if, and that's important that you hear what I just said because said storm has already hit.

Would you agree? And yours' and my life had better be on the rock or else we're going down.

Here's the bottom line. Jesus is the only foundation. Jesus is the only door. Jesus is the only truth. Jesus is the only way. Jesus is the only life.

And Jesus is our only hope. And the sooner we let go of this world, putting our hope in this world, and put our hope in Him and not this world, the better. One need look no further than to everything that's happening in the world to see that the only hope for the world is Jesus and His imminent return for His church in the rapture.

It's not just the blessed hope; it's our only hope. Now for those who are wondering why Bible prophecy is so important and the rapture's so imminent, I want to answer that at this time.

But in order to do that, we're going to go ahead at this time and end the livestream and redirect you to JDFarag.org.

Again, you'll forgive me for repeating myself, but I'm just wanting to share with you my heart, very openly, very candidly. I, like many of you I'm sure, have really sought to understand, I mean, try to make some sense about all that's happening.

And I'm trying to understand, and the Lord knows my heart, why it is, that some, not all, but why some take the jab. One of the conclusions I've come to is that it's what we just talked about. They're trying to save their lives, maybe better said, their livelihood. They're trying to keep their lives, get their lives back, as they were told.

That's the only explanation I can come up with, given all of the information that is coming out now about what's in this thing.

I realize that this has the propensity to be misunderstood, but I have to say it nonetheless. This so-called vaccine, it's not a vaccine, is a demonic deception. And those who know and understand Bible prophecy are the ones that are discerning this pharmaceutical deception, and I say it that way for a reason.

And the reason is in the Book of Revelation, we're told in the 7-year tribulation that Babylon will fall because of a pharmaceutical deception of every nation. Every nation on Earth will be deceived by some pharmaceutical deception.

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This is Revelation 18:23. Please stay with me.

"The light of a lamp shall not shine in you any more [speaking of Babylon] and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore."

And here's why. Listen very carefully. "For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery [hang on to that word] by your sorcery, all the nations were deceived."

Did you hear that?

This word "sorcery" in the original language of the Greek New Testament is the Greek word "pharmakeia," where we get our English word for "pharmacy" or "pharmaceutical."

So let's reread this, please, if you don't mind. There's going to come a time at the time of the end during the 7-year tribulation when every nation on earth will be deceived, somehow, some way, by way of this sorcery/pharmaceutical.

Okay, let me say it this way. We're hugging about two years now. Back in March of 2020 at the very beginning, I said that which I truly believe with all my heart, and now today, almost two years later, am more convinced of than I ever have been in my life.

This is this. This is why this is how it ends because it's already beginning. Every nation on Earth is being deceived by this, this so-called vaccine.

And it's now beginning to be forced on everyone great and small - I wonder if the "small" means 5-to-11-year-olds, just saying. It's a deception.

Now, hang in there. We need to talk about a couple of things. The first of which is this often-asked question that we receive about those who have already perhaps unwittingly taken the jab.

Okay, please, please, please hear me when I say this, okay? If you are born-again, taking the jab cannot make you unborn again, okay? Once you're truly saved, you cannot lose your salvation because if you could lose your salvation, that means that you have to do something to earn and keep your salvation. And that's not grace, that's works.

Okay, Pastor, what about those of us who are saved and have already been jabbed?

Okay, please again, just would you hear my heart on this? I would really encourage you to pray and ask God to supernaturally heal your body. And I would implore you not to take any more of these things.

With each passing day now, it seems that more and more, I mean, horrifying information is coming about, coming out about what's in these things. It's absolutely terrifying.

You know, I spend a considerable amount of time during the week in preparation for these Prophecy Updates doing a lot of research. And I'll tell you, it's so heartbreaking sometimes. I have to walk away. When I'm watching the video of this young mom can't care for kids anymore.

Just this morning, I heard of a guy, not here, who took the jab unwittingly to keep his job, and now he knows something's not right in

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his body. You know, he's got, you know, these weird things going on and he regrets so much that he took this thing.

Well, Pastor, with all due respect, I took the jab and I'm doing great. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord. Can I just say to you that God has been gracious to you and merciful to you. That's the grace and mercy of God, and I would just praise God and thank Him that nothing's happened.

I would still continue to pray for supernatural healing of your body because of whatever is in your body because of this thing.

For those who are faced with and even forced into accepting the jab in order to keep your job, I am pleading with you, and again, sorry for repeating myself, but just please hear my heart.

My heart goes out to you. I'm pleading with you. Trust the Lord. Just trust the Lord.

Yeah, but Pastor, you're not the one that's being faced with termination if you don't do this.

Well, wait a minute now. Oh, by the way, you might want to stick around for Second Service. We're gonna talk about this very thing: Putting feet to your faith and watching the miracles that God will do.

Don't follow the crowd, follow the Lord, and trust the Lord. I promise you. I promise you. I can testify; put me on the witness stand, I'll testify that God will provide for you in ways that you would have never imagined if you would but trust Him.

Yeah, but I'm going to lose my job.

You're going to keep it. You lose it. You keep it.

I'm going to lose my livelihood.

Wait, wait, stop. Do you belong to Him?

Yes.

Has He provided for you?

Yes.

Is He going to stop now?

No.

One so aptly said it like this: It is far better to follow the Creator than the crowd. You know what happens when you follow the - oh, you've heard these advertising campaigns - there is a science to it and effectiveness because of it, a very successful campaign.

It's the idea of, you know, 50,000 people can't be wrong. Oh yes, they can. Well, wait a minute, hey, there's 100 people, and I'm the only one?

Wait, wait, wait. So you're sitting there, and everybody says two plus two equals five.

You're going, No, it doesn't. And you're the only one, and you've got to raise your hand now. And sheepishly, I say that affectionately, by the way.

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Nothing wrong with being a sheep - by the way, I opened up that can; I got to deal with this. This just bugs me. Bear with me.

Well, you're just a sheep.

I better be because He's the shepherd. I want to be a sheep. Since when did being a sheep become a bad thing?

Yeah, you're such a sheep.

I know. Praise the Lord because Jesus is my shepherd. He's the Good Shepherd.

Well, you going to go along with the crowd? Or are you going to stand alone?

Though none go with me still I will follow.

Why?

Because I have decided to follow Jesus, not the crowd.

I want to draw your attention to, again, Matthew 7. Two verses: verse 13 and 14. You know this, but I want to bring it into the context of what we're talking about today. This is how it ends for the crowd.

Jesus said, "Enter by the narrow gate for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it."

That's what following the crowd does. That's where you end up.

Verse 14, "Because narrow is the gate"

And I don't like to hear this, let alone read this, let alone teach this, but Jesus said it. Wait for it.

"Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

You know what that's saying? That's saying that there's only a few of the many that are going to enter the gate that's narrow because it's difficult.

It is difficult. I'll just confess to you how difficult, and I'm not soliciting sympathy here; I am covering prayer by the way.

I know many of you pray for me, and I cannot even begin to tell you how much that means to me. But I'll tell you, it is so difficult to be in the few because I get blasted every week.

Well, so-and-so says this is a gift from God. In fact, so-and-so's opening up their church as a vaccination center. Who are you? And you're saying the exact opposite.

It's difficult. But it's the truth. Don't follow the crowd. Follow the Lord.

I have to follow Jesus. I cannot not. I mean, I know that's not proper sentence structure, but I have to follow Jesus. If you'll kindly allow me to, I want to share with you another quote that I think is so apropos.

It goes like this: Fortunately, some are born with spiritual immune systems that sooner or later give rejection to the illusory worldview grafted upon them from birth through social conditioning.

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Oh my goodness! That says it all right there.

They [speaking of the few] begin sensing that something is amiss. And they start looking for answers. Inner knowledge and anomalous outer experiences show them a side of reality others are oblivious to.

And so begins their journey of awakening. Each step of the journey is made by following their heart, [I'll add following the Lord instead of following the crowd] and by choosing knowledge over the veils of ignorance."

This is the narrow path.

Yeah, but those guys can't be wrong.

They can't?

Well, when I go to the Word of God and I study Bible prophecy, and I'm told in Bible prophecy that at the time of the end, the whole earth, every nation on earth is going to be deceived. They're going to be under this deception.

Paul writing to the Thessalonians in 2 Thessalonians 2 describes it as a powerful delusion, a strong delusion that God himself sends, and the reason God sends it is because they rejected the truth.

Who's the truth?

Jesus. They rejected Jesus, and so He sends them this powerful deception, and they believe, not a lie, The Lie! Oh, it's not "What is the lie." "Who is the lie?"

If Jesus is the truth, then the devil is the lie. That's the lie. And it's already here.

And I'm going to play it safe and stand up here behind this pulpit, as is my privilege every week, and say to you, Hey, everything's going to be okay.

[Laughing]

Thank you for laughing, some of you. It was an uncomfortable laugh, but...

[Laughter]

There's a big problem with that.

Ezekiel writes about it. He says if you don't warn the people, their blood's on your hands. However, if you warn them, and they don't respond, then the blood's on their own hands.

How's that for selfish? I'm washing my hands; it's on you now.

No, but I will stand before the Lord, and James makes it very clear.

In fact, he says, you know, if you desire to be a teacher, it's a good thing, it's a noble thing, but you better, you better be very careful, and prayerful because teachers of God's Word will be judged by a much higher standard.

Why?

Because of this.

What did you do, Pastor? Did you warn the people about what's coming, or did you tell them peace, peace when there is no peace, as were the

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false prophets of that day? So when, not if, it came they were blindsided by it, not ready for it, and perished because of it.

And God forbid, God forbid. I will stand here, and I will scream, and I will cry, and I will beg, and I will plead with you, please, please, please, this is real. This is happening. This is now. This is not 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 years from now. This is now, today.

It's happening now that which we're told will come to pass during the 7-year tribulation is already beginning to come to pass now, today, November 2021.

It's happening now. And the rapture is going to happen before the 7-year tribulation begins. And the Antichrist cannot be revealed until the church is removed, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, actually the whole chapter.

You know what that means?

If we're already seeing that which was foretold in Bible prophecy beginning to take shape that will find its ultimate fulfillment in the 7-year tribulation, and it's already happening now, how close are we?

I believe we are so close, so close.

Okay, this brings me full circle to how we began. I want to just share with you that in my own life; I've been walking with the Lord for many years now. I always know I made a good decision when my only regret is that I didn't make it sooner, and such is the case with this.

My only regret is that I did not let go of this world sooner because when I let go of this world, the peace oh, the peace, just the peace, all the emotions, the stress, everything [poof] gone because everything now is viewed through the lens of Jesus coming to take me out of this world.

So now when I'm watching TV - I don't yell at the TV anymore. I mean, that's a victory in and of itself. Because it's completely changed the complexion of how I view everything and everyone. I'm looking at that politician - don't email me on this - I'm looking at that politician on the television screen.

It's on mute, still on mute. I'm not that - I haven't got that victory yet, but I'm watching that politician and before I let go because see, that's my investment is here.

I need to hear what he has to say because it's going to impact my investment because my treasures are here in this world. So I better - this is important.

Now it's like [pf-ff] it doesn't matter. Now I look at him. I already know - you already filled in the blanks, so whatever, that's fine, that's between you and the Lord.

And the only question I ask now is - because I've let go of all of this - it does not have a hold on me, nor do I have a hold on it.

So now the only question I ask is, do they know Jesus? Red, Blue, Republican, Democrat, Liberal, Conservative, Right, Left, whatever you want to say. No, no, no, no, no, no, no. Black, white, you have in your mind the things of man. Get thee behind me, Satan.

The only thing that matters is, do they know Jesus? I was thinking about this the other day.

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Again, I do often; I see somebody, and of course, the flesh is right there. It's going to be there until we get our new bodies, can't wait. But the flesh rears its ugly head.

It's kind of like, can you believe what they just did? The bill they just passed, the implications of it. It's going to make that money you have worthless.

Not mine. Because my treasures are up there. How about that?

Yeah, but hyperinflation. And you're going to wake up one morning and that bank balance is going to be a fraction of what it was because of that.

[Pf-ff] It's up there. It's not going to happen up there because moth, rust, the government cannot break in and steal it, hyper-inflate it, and make it worthless because it's up there. They don't have access to it.

Now, if I got it down here, they've got access to it. So let go. I promise you again, the peace that will just fill your heart and mind will be overwhelming, and your only regret will be why didn't I just let go of this sooner? You can have this world, take the world, take it. Just give me Jesus.

By the way, if you do take the world, if that's your choice, tops, seven years, just so you know. You can have the world, but you're only going to have it for seven years. Go ahead, go ahead, that's fine. I'll take Jesus.

Because that's forever. and that's the gospel, the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ, eternal life because of Jesus Christ.

This is why we end with the gospel, and a simple, childlike explanation of the ABCs of salvation. What is the gospel? The gospel is, in fact, the word "gospel" means "good news." Your penalty has been paid.

Your debt has been paid. You're free to go. Good news. That's the gospel. That's what the word "gospel" means.

What debt's been paid?

Oh, the death penalty has been paid. Jesus paid it. Jesus died for you. You're free to go. Whom the Son has set free is free indeed. You're free, you're free to go.

The ABCs are really just again, a very simple way to explain the gospel, and really, the centrality of the ABCs is the B. I mean, it's almost simpler than ABC; it's just as simple as B, but the A is what brings a person to the B.

The A is for admit or acknowledge that you sinned because see, unless and until you acknowledge that you're a sinner, you're not interested in the Savior.

Romans 3:10 says, "There is no one righteous, not even one." You might think you're a good person, but you'll never be good enough.

And here's why; Romans 3:23, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We've all missed that perfect bull's eye standard of God's righteousness. We've all transgressed. We've all broken His law. You break one commandment it's like breaking them all.

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I broke them all and then some. And so did you, so don't look at me all spiritual like that. We've all sinned, we've all transgressed, we've all broken God's law.

Now because we've broken God's law, we have to enter into the courtroom of eternity and stand before the judge of the universe, and we have to enter our plea.

What's your plea?

Guilty as charged. I'm guilty of the sin of breaking God's law.

And then the judge has to now enter into the sentencing phase, and He pronounces the death sentence. That's the bad news.

And just as they're about to haul you out of that courtroom of eternity before the judge of the universe in walks a man, no ordinary man, it's the God man, Jesus the Christ. And he says, Stop everything.

I will go to his death, her death in her stead. I will pay the price. I will die in their place. And the judge just looks at you like oh, because he's the local judge, and he says, Good news. Your debt has been paid. You're free to go.

And the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. I know I say this every week. I hope you don't tire of me saying it, but it's so important to keep repeating it.

A gift is a gift. I know that's deeply profound, but a gift is not a gift if you purchase it. It's a purchase. It's not a purchase.

It's a gift. He purchased it. He paid for it in full. It cost Him everything. And He purchased us, paid the price. And He offers us the gift that He paid for, eternal life. That's the good news.

And that's the A; here's the B.

And this again is central: believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord Romans 10:9-10 says, "If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved." There's no - the jury's not out.

The verdict is in. It's not you might, you could, you should; no, you will be saved.

Believe on Him, And the C lastly, which comes as an expression of the B, when you believe in your heart, what comes out of your mouth?

You call upon the name of the Lord. 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 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 Romans 10:13 - I love this because it seals the deal. For me, this was almost 40 years ago, in fact, 40 years this January was my Romans 10:13 when I called upon the name of the Lord.

"All who call upon the name of the Lord will [will, will, will] be saved." That simple.

Listen, if you're here in this church, I make no assumptions. Maybe you're visiting, maybe you visited, you're coming back. We're so glad you came back.

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But I make no assumptions, and maybe somebody is watching online, today is the day of salvation. Please, please, please do not put off the most important decision of your life for eternal life.

Today is the day of salvation. Tomorrow is not guaranteed. Today, today.

Can I share with you one "But God" testimony in closing? This one comes from Jennifer Cypret. Sure hope again I'm pronouncing her last name correctly.

She writes, "You asked for "But God" stories a few weeks, ago and I watch your videos a few weeks behind. But I thought I would send it in anyway. I have been married for 28 years. I married the youth minister at my church.

Shortly before our wedding, my husband was diagnosed with basal and squamous cell skin cancer. It was a minor problem at that time. He got the spot removed, and we got married. He was 19 at the time.

Well, this became a major problem because he is a red head and continued to get more and more skin cancers over the years. And though he often went for prayer at church, God never healed him from his skin cancer.

I have been attending church by myself for nearly 17 years, as my husband has been very angry that he has not been healed, even though he trusted God and served Him. He has been through chemotherapy twice and has had dozens of surgeries.

He has applied for disability three times and is always turned down, and no one will hire him because he has open bleeding wounds that will never heal. He is a modern-day leper and hates to leave the house. He does odd jobs and is self-employed to bring in some income.

I have prayed for him to turn back to The Lord for 17 years. It has felt like the unanswerable prayer.

But God...

I have been watching your videos for over a year now. Each time, my husband and I would get into huge fights because he thought what you were teaching was wrong because no other church was teaching the same things.

[Sounds like the crowd to me]

[Laughter]

[She didn't say that]

[Laughter]

He began to do research on his own to refute what you were saying on the Prophecy Updates. And slowly he began to see that what you were saying was right and changed his mind. He recently rededicated his life to the Lord and got re-baptized.

[Applause]

[And then she says this lastly]

He is still not healed of his cancer, but God did heal him from his anger.

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[Which in some ways can be worse than cancer, by the way]

Why don't you all stand; we'll have the worship team come up, and I only share that because it's for me at least a much-needed reminder. Keep your eyes on Jesus. Keep following the Lord. Don't follow the crowd.

Yes, it is difficult. Yes, the gate is narrow. Yes, only a few go through. But God. Pick up that cross with me. Pick up that cross, and just get it over with.

Die. Die. Quit trying to hold on. Let it go! Let it go, just let it go. And watch what God will do.

I promise you; I promise you; I promise you on the authority of God's Word and God's goodness. Let's pray.

Father in heaven, I did my best, Lord, and, You know my heart, but now You have to do the rest, You have to take this now, and You have to do what only You can do by the Holy Spirit in our lives, in and through it.

Lord, please, I know many have taken this thing, and Lord, we do pray for them, that You'll be merciful to them, that You'll heal their bodies and somehow get their bodies, which You designed to expel whatever this is that's in them. Get it out of them, supernaturally heal them, and keep them, keep their health, and their immune system.

And Lord for all of us, and I include myself in this lastly. Lord, help us because unless the Holy Spirit enables us, we're not able in and of ourselves to do it, but we need the Holy Spirit to help us let go of this dying world that's passing away and lay hold of the hope, the only hope that we have, and that's You, Jesus.

Jesus, come quickly, please. Maranatha, in Jesus' name, we pray, amen.