

Dean Caldwell Q&A Session 9.12.25

#Summary

This powerful teaching takes us deep into one of the most profound mysteries of our faith: the rapture of the church and the end times. We discover that the transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain wasn't just a spectacular moment—it was a divine preview of what's coming. Moses representing those who have died in Christ, and Elijah representing those who will be taken without seeing death, together paint a complete picture of our future hope. What's particularly fascinating is the exploration of all three rapture positions—pre-tribulation, mid-tribulation, and post-tribulation—and how Scripture actually supports each one. Rather than creating division, we're challenged to ask ourselves the most important question: which group do we belong to? The teaching brilliantly connects Noah's ark with its three stories to God's plan through the ages, showing how Enoch's translation before the flood foreshadows the church being caught up before tribulation. We learn that we are made in three parts—spirit, soul, and body—and that God has designed worship to minister to our whole person. This isn't abstract theology; it's practical truth that helps us understand why we feel moved during praise, why we need the Word, and how obedience is the highest form of worship. The message reminds us that our faith can never exceed our knowledge of God, which is why immersing ourselves in Scripture is so vital to our spiritual strength and stability.

Chapters

Chapter 1: The Transfiguration and Three Views of the Rapture 0:00 - 11:38

We explore the transfiguration of Jesus as a precursor to His second coming and examine the biblical support for pre-tribulation, mid-tribulation, and post-tribulation rapture positions.

Chapter 2: The Restrainer and the Body of Christ 11:38 - 21:35

We examine 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 to understand that the Body of Christ, not just the Holy Spirit, must be removed before the Antichrist can be revealed.

Chapter 3: Understanding Spirit, Soul, and Body 21:35 - 39:22

We discover that humans are made in three parts—spirit, soul, and body—and learn how God designed us to worship Him and experience His presence through each component.

Chapter 4: Faith, Knowledge, and Spiritual Warfare 39:22 - 51:35

We learn that faith comes by hearing the Word of God, and we see how David's victory over Goliath illustrates the power of combining God's Word with spiritual warfare.

Chapter 5: Interpreting Scripture with Scripture 51:35 - 60:32

We conclude with the principle that Scripture must interpret Scripture, not religion, culture, or tradition, using the example of God's testing versus temptation.

Sermon Analysis

****Title:**** Understanding the Rapture and End Times: Pre, Mid, and Post-Tribulation Perspectives

****Sermon Summary:****

This comprehensive teaching explores the biblical foundation for the rapture of the church and end-times prophecy. The pastor addresses common questions about when believers will be caught up to meet the Lord, explaining that Scripture supports pre-tribulation, mid-tribulation, and post-tribulation raptures for different groups of believers. The sermon emphasizes that humans are tripartite beings—spirit, soul, and body—and explains how God ministers to the whole person through worship. Throughout the message, the pastor stresses the importance of interpreting Scripture with Scripture rather than relying on religion, culture, or tradition, and encourages believers to ground their faith in biblical knowledge rather than emotions alone.

****Key Points:****

- The rapture is biblically supported and occurs before the tribulation period begins (Revelation 4:1)
- All three rapture positions (pre, mid, and post-tribulation) have scriptural support for different groups
- The Holy Spirit will not leave during the tribulation because people will still be saved during that time
- Humans are created in three parts: spirit, soul, and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23)
- The spirit houses our intellect and knowing; the soul houses our emotions
- Soul sleep is unbiblical—believers go immediately into God's presence at death
- The transfiguration (Moses and Elijah) demonstrates the reality of life after death
- Something (the body of Christ) must be removed before the Antichrist can be revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8)
- Noah's ark is a prophetic picture: Enoch represents the raptured church, the ark represents Jews going through tribulation
- Worship services are divinely designed with prayer, praise, and the Word to minister to the whole person
- Faith comes by hearing the Word of God—our faith cannot exceed our knowledge of God
- The highest form of worship is obedience, not sacrifice
- Scripture interprets Scripture, not religion, culture, or tradition

****Scripture References:****

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 (The rapture of the church)
- Revelation 4:1 (Pre-tribulation rapture)
- Revelation 7:9-14 (Mid-tribulation rapture)
- Revelation 20:4 (Post-tribulation martyrs)
- 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 (The restrainer must be removed)
- Matthew 17 (The transfiguration)
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (Spirit, soul, and body)

- Hebrews 4:12 (Dividing soul and spirit)
- 1 Corinthians 2:8-12 (Spirit of man, Spirit of God, spirit of the world)
- Genesis 3:15 (First prophecy of virgin birth)
- Genesis 6:4 (Giants in the earth)
- 1 Samuel 17 (David and Goliath)
- Matthew 27:33 (Golgotha—place of the skull)
- Romans 10:17 (Faith comes by hearing)
- Acts 2:17-21 (Outpouring of the Spirit in last days)
- James 1:13 (God cannot be tempted with evil)

****Stories:****

- The transfiguration of Jesus with Moses and Elijah on the mountain, demonstrating that the dead in Christ are alive in God's presence
- Noah and the flood as a prophetic picture of end times, with Enoch's translation representing the pre-tribulation rapture and the ark representing protection through judgment
- The three-story ark representing God (lower story—Garden of Eden), Jesus Christ (middle story—door in the side), and the Holy Spirit (upper story—dove with olive branch)
- David and Goliath, emphasizing how David prepared himself with five stones covered with the Word of God before facing the giant
- The significance of Golgotha (place of the skull) being named after Goliath's head, fulfilling the Genesis 3:15 prophecy of the seed of the woman bruising the serpent's head
- Personal testimony about growing up in church and the reality of God's presence throughout a lifetime of ministry
- Illustration of people praying through emotions versus praying into knowing—the difference between temporary emotional experiences and lasting spiritual transformation
- Example of sensing someone's presence in a dark room, illustrating the reality of the human spirit
- Story of discussing rapture theology with a pastor for two hours, addressing common objections

Scripture References from the Sermon

Explicitly Mentioned Scripture References:

1. ****Matthew 17**** - Transfiguration of Jesus
2. ****Revelation 4:1**** - Door opened in heaven, "Come up hither"
3. ****1 Thessalonians 4:13-17**** - The rapture and resurrection
4. ****Revelation 7:9, 14**** - Multitude from great tribulation
5. ****Revelation 20:4**** - Souls beheaded for witness of Jesus
6. ****2 Thessalonians 2:7-8**** - Mystery of iniquity and restrainer
7. ****John 14:15-16**** - Promise of the Comforter
8. ****John 6:44**** - No man can come except the Father draws him
9. ****Acts 2:17-21**** - Outpouring of the Spirit in last days
10. ****Matthew 24:36-37**** - As in the days of Noah

11. **Genesis 3:7-8** - God walking in the Garden of Eden
12. **Genesis 5:21-24** - Enoch walked with God
13. **Jude 14** - Enoch prophesied about the Lord's coming
14. **Genesis 6:16** - Three stories of the ark
15. **1 Thessalonians 5:23** - Spirit, soul, and body
16. **Hebrews 4:12** - Word divides soul and spirit
17. **1 Corinthians 2:8-12** - Spirit of man, Spirit of God, spirit of the world
18. **John 4:24** - God is a spirit (alluded to multiple times)
19. **Psalm 42:5-6** - Soul cast down (depression)
20. **1 Samuel 15:22** - To obey is better than sacrifice
21. **Romans 10:17** - Faith comes by hearing
22. **Genesis 3:15** - Seed of the woman
23. **Genesis 6:4** - Giants in the earth
24. **1 Samuel 17:40, 54** - David and Goliath
25. **Matthew 27:33** - Golgotha, place of the skull
26. **James 1:13** - God cannot be tempted with evil
27. **Genesis 22:1** - God tempted (tested) Abraham
28. **2 Chronicles 32:31** - God left Hezekiah to try him

Additional References Alluded To:

29. **Revelation 1:18-19** - Keys of death and hell; things seen, things which are, things hereafter
30. **Revelation 2-3** - Seven churches
31. **Revelation 3:20** - Behold, I stand at the door and knock
32. **Exodus 3** - God's name (Yahweh) - referenced in David and Goliath discussion

Main Themes and Suggested Related Verses:

Rapture/Second Coming Theme:

- **1 Corinthians 15:51-52** - Mystery of the resurrection
- **Philippians 3:20-21** - Citizenship in heaven
- **Titus 2:13** - Looking for the blessed hope

Spirit, Soul, and Body Theme:

- **Genesis 2:7** - Man became a living soul
- **1 Corinthians 15:44** - Natural body and spiritual body

Walking with God Theme:

- **Micah 6:8** - Walk humbly with thy God
- **Genesis 6:9** - Noah walked with God

Worship Theme:

- **Psalm 95:6** - Come let us worship and bow down

- **Psalm 100** - Enter his gates with thanksgiving

Total explicit scripture references: **32 passages** covering approximately 28 different biblical books and contexts.

Moses is an example of the dead in Christ.

Elijah is an example of the lie that remained because Moses died in the land of Moab and was buried and Elijah was translated out.

So the transfiguration of Jesus was simply a precursor of the coming of Jesus Christ and that was given as a sign and Jesus said don't tell this until after the crucifixion and the resurrection and so Matthew writes that

That's part in Matthew chapter 17.

Transcript
All right.

Did I halfway answer that for you?

Yeah.

Halfway answer that.

I appreciate that.

In his name, pre, mid, and post-tribulation.

To take the fuss out of it, all three of them are biblical.

All right.

I know that raises eyebrows, but I'll show you that from the scripture.

All three of them are biblical.

In Revelation chapter 4, now any time that you read the book of Revelation and you come across these words, after these things, after this, that's a natural division.

It means God has closed out one subject and he's started another subject.

So the first three chapters of Revelation is speaking to the churches.

And those are idealized and explained for us in chapter 2 and chapter 3.

Chapter 1 and verse, if you look here, chapter 1 gives some insight when he talks about the candlesticks.

But then in verse number 18, he said, I'm alive for more having the ease of a little bit.

Verse 19, write the things that thou hast seen, the things which are, the things which shall be hereafter.

The mystery of the seven stars that thou sawest in thy right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks.

The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches.

The seven candlesticks are the seven churches.

Now I know I'm going to live on the block for this, but in verse 19 he gives you a summary of what Revelation is all about.

That the things thou hast seen, the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

What John had saw at that point was the candlesticks, Jesus walking among them, which the candlesticks represented the churches.

Jesus walking among the churches means a continuous revival.

It never was a day of revival.

It's a God of revival.

It has not passed.

It still exists.

God still moves.

And then he said, write the things that are.

The things that are are Revelation chapter 2 and chapter 3.

the seven churches that are written there for us in our understanding, and they fit.

And they have a threefold meaning as well.

They have a colloquial application, which means these churches literally existed, just like Warner, Assembly of God, and Oasis Church in Muskogee.

These churches literally existed about 50 miles apart across the Asia Minor course.

Also, they have a revelation individually.

You can find all seven of those spirits alive in the church world today.

And then they also have a prophetic revelation.

revelation to them as well which means the last church that was spoke of in Revelation chapter 3 the church of the lonely cities in verse 20 it said behold I stand at the door and knock if any man hear my voice open the door I will come in to him and sup with him and he with me this is the only place in the scripture that you'll find Jesus standing outside the church trying to get in

But he said if you'll open the door, what does that mean prophetically for us?

We're living in a world today that, well, if you've been in church very long, you've heard this.

We don't have church like we used to.

Well, when I was a kid, we used to do this, we used to do that.

Well, maybe so.

But our Lord hasn't changed.

And he said, I'm standing at the door and knocking.

And if you open the door, I will come in.

And when I come in, we'll have lunch.

I'll sit with you and be with me.

But the key is opening the door.

What does that mean?

There's a falling away and there's an outpouring of the Spirit at the same time.

They're simultaneously happening.

I'm going through that because he said, write the things you've seen, the things which are.

Then he said, the things which shall be hereafter.

All right.

Revelation chapter 4 starts the things that are after.

In verse 1 of chapter 4, he said, after this...

I beheld that lo, a door was opened in heaven, and the first voice which I heard was as a trumpet talking with me, which said, Come up, Heather.

You've got all the aspects there of 1 Thessalonians chapter 4.

A door was opened, a voice, a prophet, a catching away.

Got all the aspects of that in chapter 4 and verse 1.

Well, I'll tell you what I do.

Let me back up.

If you're following me in your Bible, I'm in Revelation chapter 4, but I want to go back to 1 Thessalonians chapter 4.

I want to charge you to do something.

When you find something in the Scripture, follow that.

Like the chapter 4's, the chapter 5's,

And sometimes just the verses of each book go to that same chapter and verse and see how they relate one to another.

It's amazing how the Bible is absolutely laid out for us.

Alright, I'm going to go back to 1 Thessalonians chapter 4.

I'm going to start in verse 13 and read through the rest of the chapter.

Because chapter 4 of Revelation in verse 1 sums it up in one verse that Paul explains it in detail.

He said in 1 Thessalonians chapter 4 verse number 13.

I would not have you to dig it, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that you saw them not, even as others which have no hope.

For if you believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so then also the sleep of Jesus will God bring with him.

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are not in remainance to the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

Verse 16.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with his shadow,

with the voice of the archangel with the trump of God.

The dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain shall be called up together with them to do what?

To meet the Lord in the clouds and the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord, wherefore comfort one another with his word.

Verse 16 and 17 identifies three entities there.

The Lord himself, the dead in Christ, and the alive and remain.

So when you read that, he divides that out for us.

Let me take a little detour here and clear something up that I'm running into a lot the last five years of time.

And I hope there's nobody here that believes this, but if you do, let me help you get it straight.

All right?

Scripture, that is the teaching of soul sleep.

S-O-U-L, soul sleep.

That is gang momentum in the United States.

Soul sleep.

Here's what they do.

When a child of God dies, they're in the grave.

They're in a coma.

They're in a deep sleep.

And that's just, that's where they are.

They're in the grave.

Let me show you something very powerful.

If you're with me in 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, I started in verse 13.

I want you to pay attention to verse 14.

Because he said, if you believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so then also with sleep in Jesus, watch this now, will God reign with him?

Oh, that knocks that in the head right there.

He can't bring them with him if they're not with him.

So when a saint of God dies, the inner man, the soul and the spirit leaves the body.

And goes into the presence of God and there they stay until the trumpet gets ready to sound.

So when he said the day of Christ the one to rise first, here's what he said.

They'll be the first to know.

About the coming or the appearing of Jesus Christ.

They're in the presence of God.

Now I could preach an hour on that because there's a lot of things that your loved ones that have preceded you in death are booted and the scripture bears it out.

They're not in a coma.

They're not in a deep sleep.

They're alive and well in the presence of God.

I just read in Matthew chapter 17 where Moses and Elijah appeared on Mount Transfiguration.

And at that time Moses had been dead 1,700 years.

1,700 years and appears on Mount Transfiguration as a whole person.

talking, visiting.

There's biblical proof of all of this.

I'm just brushing the highlights here.

But there will be a trumpet sound, the day that Christ is going to rise, and it relates that to us at the beginning of the tribulation period in Revelation chapter 4.

Before the first seal is broken, before the first vial comes about, he said, I saw a door open in heaven, and the first voice I heard was as a trumpet talking with me, which said, Come up, Heather, and I'll show you things which must be hereafter.

So if it lays that out, now if you're here and you feel like you're going to go halfway through the tribulation period, let me help you.

I'm in Revelation chapter 7.

Revelation chapter 7 and verse 9.

Now the first 8 verses of Revelation chapter 7 is a sealing of 144,000 which are Jews.

From the 12th tribe of Jews, 12,000 from each tribe.

When you get to verse 9.

Here's what it says.

After this, there's another natural revision.

After this, I beheld a loitering multitude which no man could number.

Now what's this?

Of every nation, kindred, people, and tongue.

And they stood before the throne before the Lamb clothed in white robes and palms in their hand.

That's verse 9.

Look at verse 14.

Go to the other side of the page.

Look at verse 14.

These are they that come out of great tribulation, having washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

So there is a truth going to go halfway through the tribulation period.

That's mid-term.

Revelation chapter 7.

Now look, we don't have time to go into that, but it is through the whole scripture level.

How about it?

Go with me to Revelation chapter 20.

And 1, 2, 3, verse 4.

He said, I saw thrones of men that sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them.

I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, which had not worshipped the beast, neither received his mark upon their forehead or their hands, and they lived in the name of Christ a thousand years.

Here's a group that goes all the way through the tribulation period.

How do we know that?

Because the mark of peace is not made mandatory until the last half.

It will be available at the last half of the tribulation period.

It is a requirement.

You can't buy or sell without it.

And this group gave their life.

They were beheaded.

Now that's not hard for us to understand because it's coming back around in countries over there that they're beheading people.

It was, that was almost zilch for many, many years, centuries, but it's come back.

So you've got a group that's going to leave before, you've got a group that's going to leave in the middle of it, you've got a group that's going to go halfway through.

Why fuss about it?

The question is, which one of you don't know him?

If you want to go halfway through, there's a group going halfway through, and I bet they've got a webpage.

But there's going to be a group that's going to leave here before.

Now, when I said that, I felt a little tight-kneed.

In here when I make that, I want to step into this a little deeper and put some scripture on this.

Go to 2 Thessalonians chapter 2.

2 Thessalonians chapter 2.

Verse 7 and verse 8.

I want you to listen to this very carefully.

Now, the reason I'm more up on this is because in our podcast that airs every Monday, we're into the 2 Thessalonians right now.

And we've got one more lesson to do before we close it out.

Chapter 2 of 2 Thessalonians, verse 7 and verse 8.

He said, Now the mystery of iniquity doth already work.

Only he who now letteth will that until he be taken out of the way.

Because it means something that leads you.

In verse 8.

And then shall that wicked be redeemed.

Whom the like Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth and destroy with the brightness of his coming.

What's he saying?

Something has got to be taken out before an antichrist can come to his house.

Wow.

Now then he said he who knoweth will let it till he be taken out of the way.

Now let me help you understand the he there.

That's been preached and taught for years.

That's the Holy Spirit.

Can I tell you?

The Holy Spirit's not going to leave you.

It comes to stay.

That's in John 14, verse 15.

Jesus said, I'm going to send you another company to buy.

Or verse 16, He'll ride with you forever.

Besides that, there'll be people saved through the tribulation period, and you can't get saved without the drawing of the Spirit of God.

John 6 and verse 44, Jesus said, No man can come unto me except my Father sent me to draw him.

The reason it's so important when the convicting power of God is working on somebody's heart, you better pay attention.

He don't have to do that.

He does that because He chooses to do that.

But you have to be drawn by the Spirit in order to be saved.

But there will be people saved during the tribulation period.

Alright, let me see if I can find a good plain scripture to put on that.

Yes, Acts chapter 2.

Acts chapter 2 is a good one.

Let's start in verse 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21.

Verse 21 is where I want to get to, but I want to show you something very powerful.

Verse 17 and 18 of Acts chapter 2 is related to an outpouring of revival spirit.

I know those people said, well, we're not going to sit.

We are sitting.

God is moving among the youth of America.

I mean, God is stirring up young people.

I've been meeting with young people from time to time, and they ask Bible questions that's mind-blowing.

That's not a big explosion that's blown my mind.

That's not a big explosion at all.

But God's moving among our youth in America.

And they don't come here from sickness about the Word of God, but they're sick of being lied to and they want proof.

And you know the sad part about it?

The church in general is not meeting that challenge.

Oh, I can stand here and tell you some of the questions they ask.

Man, you almost have to put a sack over your head to answer because some of them are so embarrassing.

But they want to know.

They want to know.

And they tell me from time to time, Brother D, we don't want your opinion.

We've had enough of that.

They tell me that.

And it don't offend me.

I'm happy that they would say that.

But let me read now.

You thought I forgot where I was at, didn't you?

I'm in Acts chapter 2.

Let's start verse 17.

And it shall come to pass that the last day shall come that I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh.

sons and daughters shall prophesy, young men shall see visions, old men green rings, old men serving on my handmaidens, for I have borne of those days that my Spirit and they shall prophesy.

And I will show wonders, and I'm going to talk about the tribulations period.

And I will show wonders, and the heavens above signs in the earth to me, blood, fire, vapor, smoke.

Sons shall be turned to darkness and wounded to blood before that great noble day of the Lord come.

Great and noble will of the Lord come as the second covenant of Christ in Revelation 19 when he does away with antichrist and false prophet and those that have received the mark of beast.

And look at verse 21.

And it shall come to pass that whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

That takes the flesh out of that crowd there.

So the Holy Spirit is not going to leave here.

He comes to stay.

He'll be here through the tribulation period.

He'll be here through the millennial reign.

He'll be here in the new heaven and the new earth so that he is the body of Christ.

Now let's read it with that light on that, okay?

I'm back in 2 Thessalonians 2, verse 7 and 8.

Now the mystery of the necropsy does already work.

Only he, the body of Christ, only he who now hath willed that until he...

Be taken out of the way.

The body of Christ, the believers that are looking for the appearing of Jesus Christ have got to leave here before an antichrist can be revealed in Adam.

That's some powerful stuff right there.

You can take that to the bank because it is the word of God.

How did your pastor call me?

A week before last, I guess it was.

And I went on with him, I guess, two hours.

And he asked that very question about the rapture of the church.

Now listen, I feel comfortable here tonight, but about five or six years ago, I guess I had to change the terminology.

When I preach about the rapture of the church, I don't use the word rapture, I use the period.

Because I had so much conflict over that.

And their argument was the word rapture is not scripture.

It's not in the Bible.

I said that's true.

But it's a Latin word that was taken to formulate all of the hints.

I'll use the period of Jesus Christ.

That is scripture.

That is the Word of God.

But let me show you something.

When you go to Matthew 24, am I taking this?

I have one question here.

Okay.

In Matthew 24, Matthew 24 is referred to as the final column of prophecy.

All of the events are there in that one chapter of end times.

But when you get to verse 36, he said, "...as it was in the days of Noah..."

So shall it be also in the coming of the Son of Man.

Now why did God compare the end time event with Noah?

What is all that about?

Let me show you something.

Before the flood of Noah, Enoch, Enoch, whatever you want to call him, was translated out of this world.

Before the flood.

But then God spoke to Noah to build an ark for the safety of his house.

The ark was to be built in three stories.

That's in Genesis 6 verse 16.

That'd be a lower story, a middle story, and an upper story.

The ark absolutely represented time of God through the ages.

The Lord's story represented God.

God showed up in the Garden of Eden to walk with Adam and Eve.

Let's read that.

Don't take my word for that.

Genesis 3, verse 7 and 8.

The eyes of them both were opened, they knew they were naked, they thought, so dig these together and make yourself aprons.

Verse 8.

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.

Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of God among the trees in the garden.

Indicating God physically came from heaven to walk.

How do we know that?

They heard his voice and exactly who it was and they hid.

in the presence of God.

But after Adam and Eve was thrown out of the garden, something changed.

No longer could God come down and walk with man, but man has to walk with God.

Let me show you that.

That's chapter 3.

I'm just reading you Genesis chapter 3, verse 7 and 8.

I'm going to go two chapters over to chapter 5.

I'll look at Genesis beginning in verse 21.

And Enoch was sixty-five years old when he begot Methuselah.

And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah three hundred years and begot sons and daughters.

All the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years.

Watch this.

Enoch walked with God.

Are you seeing that?

Verse 22 and 24.

Enoch walked with God.

Enoch walked with God.

And it was not for God to kill him.

Now, I don't have time to go into the details of that.

There are seven verses of Scripture in the entire Bible concerning this man.

Oh, they tell a story.

I mean, they tell a story.

Let me just give you a look at it.

Let me look this up.

I'm in the book of Jude in verse 14.

And Enoch also beset from Adam prophesied these sayings.

The Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints.

Enoch prophesied about the second coming of the Lord before the flood.

Now doesn't that not be happy for you?

Yeah.

He had some divine insight.

But here's a picture of the rapture church.

The ark is a picture of the Jews going through the tribulation period.

Because when God said to Noah, build the ark, he said, pitch it within, pitch it without.

That's a pyrite substance between the lords.

It keeps the water from coming in the hole.

And here's the ironic thing.

That word pitch comes from a root word in the Hebrew, which means atonement.

Open your mouth.

It just means atonement.

What does that mean?

The atonement kept the judgment of the floodwaters from coming in the boat.

You and I are under the atonement of Jesus Christ.

We're not subject to judgment.

Wow.

But the second story of the ark is the door put in the side of the ark.

Why is that so important?

Because there have been three sides to history that saved man from annihilation.

The side of battle, the side of the ark, and the side of Christ.

So the second story represented Jesus Christ.

The upper story represented the Holy Spirit.

How do we know that?

Because he let a raven go, which represented sin.

It never returned, which means your sins are gone.

Then he let a dove go, and it brought back an olive branch.

The dove represents the Holy Spirit.

The olive branch represents the anointing.

Isn't it amazing that it was in another room that the horde of the spirits, they owned the death that it caused?

But here's something I like.

The door of the ark stayed open seven days after the animals of Noah and his family all got on board.

Well, that means a seven-year tribulation period for the extension of mankind to come to Christ.

Oh, man, there's so much.

There's no wonder.

He said in Matthew 24, as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it also be in the coming of the Son of Man.

Alright, so the period of Jesus before, the tribulation period.

Now listen, I've had that day with college professors before, and I love it.

I love it.

You can get daylight past the rooster, easier than you can get the rapture past the church.

Too much scripture to support it.

Don't make any different beliefs if you don't.

But there's a group going before, middle, and after.

Don't even fuss about it.

They're all scripture.

It's just which one you can go in.

Hope I covered that well enough.

How do we exactly take this captive?

Okay.

Let me start out, give you a deep breath here.

It's not a sin to have a bad thought.

I don't care how close to God you are, you can't keep from having bad thoughts.

Why?

Because you're flesh.

You're flesh.

Did you ever have bad thoughts?

Oh, yeah.

Yeah.

I've run over people with my humble.

You can have that watch because you're flesh.

You're made in three parts, and that's going to answer another question or two on this, but let me just, I'll just cover this where you can read it a bit, but all right?

We're made in three parts.

You'll find that in 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, verse 23.

1 Thessalonians chapter 5, verse 23.

He said, and the very God of peace sanctify you holy, W-H-O-L-L-Y, holy, that means completely.

H-O-L-Y means sanctify, it's a different word.

But W-H-O-L-L-Y, the very God of peace sanctify you holy, I pray God, your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

That means every individual here is made in three parts.

In three parts.

I had a discussion with a college professor here a few years ago, a Bible college professor, and he said, talking to a friend of mine, he said, you and Caldwell, y'all think you can divide that up?

That's just all who you are.

You're spirit, soul, and body crammed in one.

I said, then how do you interpret this?

Hebrews 4, verse 12.

For the word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to dividing and sundering, that means tear apart, the soul and the spirit, the joints and the mouth, and is the discerners of the thoughts and the intent of the heart.

What does that mean?

It's divided.

Only biblically.

What we see here is the body, but inside you are more eternal than you are natural.

Spirit and soul.

And it is divided up for us in the word of God.

I'm going to do that.

I'm going to answer three or four questions over here right now with that because here's why it's important.

Go with me to the book of 1 Corinthians chapter 2 and verse 11 and 12.

I'm going to talk about the spirit.

You have a spirit inside of you.

Now before I read those, I see some looking them up in their eyeballs or phones or whatever.

Let me explain something.

Have you ever been in a group of people and had the greatest conversation and just the presence of someone walking up changed the whole mood of the conversation?

If you have a spirit, we can be that.

Have you ever been in a dark room while you're trying to find the lights with, you sensed there was somebody else there?

We have a presence.

Now let me throw this in.

When you have a prayer line, and your pastor says, can you light them up and help us pray?

Get involved in that.

Because someone in that prayer line may be in a struggle, but the presence of a God-filled person, they walk up behind them and there's enough of the glory of the presence of God to boost them into the realm that they're looking to get in with God.

The reason we're laborers together, we help one another.

Now, let me read you.

All right.

I'm in 1 Corinthians 2, verse 11 and 12.

Now, as I read this, this is what I want you to look for.

The spirit of man, the spirit of God, and the spirit of the world are scared of heaven.

There's three spirits revealed to us.

That's a mind-blowing letter.

I think there's just two.

The Bible seems to throw a third one in there for us.

For what man knows, A-N-O-W-S, for what man knows the things of man save the spirit of man which is in him.

Even so the things of God know no man but the spirit of God.

Now we've not received the Spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God that we might know the things for He had given to us, God.

Spirit of man, Spirit of God, Spirit of the world.

Now then, God has given a gift of the Spirit called discerning of spirits.

Operational, under the power of the Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Why is that?

Because we deal with three spirits.

The spirit of man is the confusing part.

It is.

When I pastor, I can't tell you how many times I've had people come down here and cast the devil out of my life.

Well, being a pastor, you have to go, you know, they don't have a devil, that's just me.

Cast that out and leave it at that.

I have women to talk to.

I have a brother who said, cast the devil out of this man of mine.

Spirit of man.

Spirit of man.

We have that.

Every one of us have that.

The reason we have that is this.

is a spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth because god is a spirit he put a spirit in you spirit of man it houses your intellect and your knowing

Wow.

What man knows the things of man.

I'll tell you what I'll do.

If you're following me in the Bible, go back to 1 Corinthians 2.

I read verse 11 and 12.

But I want to back up to verse 8 and bring it through where you can see what he's talking about.

Knowing, knowing, knowing, knowing.

All right, I'm in verse 8.

Which none of the princes of this world knew,

For had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord in glory.

But he said, if the devil had known the outcome of the death of Christ and the resurrection, he said to the demons, don't bother him, let that dude die of old age.

Yeah.

For which none of the priests of this world knew.

For had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord in glory.

Are you seeing that?

Alright, verse 9.

As it is written, eyes have not seen or ear heard, neither hath it entered the heart of man the things God hath prepared for them that love him.

What he said, in your wildest imagination you cannot comprehend what heaven is in the natural thinking.

But how be it in the spirit that he hath revealed them unto us?

In the spirit.

He has revealed to them, for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the big things of God.

God put His Spirit inside of you so He can connect with you.

Don't ever think you can't connect with God.

Don't ever think that, well, I did do me, I did this, I did that.

No, no, no.

I put something inside of you that you can connect with Him with.

God is a spirit.

They that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

What does a soul do?

A soul houses your emotions.

Let's prove that.

Psalms 42, verse 5 and 6.

Now I'm just picking scriptures that will say it to plants.

All right?

I believe Curtis D. Mack said that one, didn't I?

I'm going to explain it to you to plants.

All right?

That's what he said in Psalm 42 verse 5 and verse number 6.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul?

Why art thou this blind in me, hope thou of God?

I shall praise him for the help of his countenance.

Verse 6, O my God, my soul is cast down within me.

Therefore will I remember thee from the land of the Lord to hear my and to heal my sorrow.

Now I want to help somebody here tonight.

If you're struggling with depression, Psalm 42, David was going through depression.

That's right.

that will help you tremendously.

But verse five and six said the soul is the theme.

It houses your emotions.

Not every day I feel safe.

Come on.

Sometimes I wonder.

If you're going to feel in too bad shape, because you're going to feel out in the cold most of the time.

That's the reason Paul said, I know, I know in whom I have believed.

I know, I know that I've passed from death unto life.

Let me help you with something.

Pastors, preachers, teachers, whoever's here, how many times in our tenure of walking with God have we seen someone come to an altar of prayer, pray, use a half a box of Kleenex?

You think they've got it going, get up, walk out the door, and you never see them again.

Nothing changing.

You're thinking, what's going on?

They prayed through the emotions.

But then you see some old saints of God that has lost family members tragically.

Never give up on God, just kept on going.

Never quit, just kept on going.

They've had rocks on them and they just kept on going.

What's the difference?

Because when they went to know their prayer, they got past the emotions and got into the knowing.

I know in whom I have believed.

I know that I've passed from death unto life.

I know, I know, I know.

Not every day I feel so saved.

But my motor rises up with him and punches on my feeler and says, Mr. Feeler, you don't feel it, but we're still a child of peace.

And it's not long until my motor starts punching on my feeler and my feeler gets to feel it, but no one else.

And when my fever disappears and no one knows it, it affects my body.

Now I'm smiling and I've got a clap in my hand and I've got a spring in my feet.

Why?

Because I just know and I feel who I am in Christ Jesus.

Now let me help you with something because there's a question on here.

Why do I cry?

Why do I do this?

Why do I do that?

And how do we pray?

This is how it happens.

God has designed the service to minister to the whole person.

When you come to church and that music gets to flowing and you get to singing the praises of God, you get to feeling something.

It ministers through your emotions.

And then the pastors get up there and open the Word and teach you something from the Word of God and it deals with the morning.

Wow.

And you shake hands with your friends and your loved ones that you haven't seen since last Sunday.

And when you leave the building, the whole person has been ministered to.

That's the reason God puts so much emphasis on being in the house of God.

I preach a message, it's been a whole few years since I preached that, but I take the church from where it started all the way to where it ends.

And did you know there's a church has to get it?

several scriptures prove that that's reason the enemy's private artists

to discourage people about being in the house of God.

Because God puts so much emphasis on that.

So we worship Him and spirit Him in truth because He's a spirit.

God is a spirit.

And we worship Him the way God has set it out to worship Him.

I believe it's, let me think, it's in 1 Samuel 15.

And verse 22, 1 Samuel 15, verse 22.

Samuel said, As the Lord is great, delight in our offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord.

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice.

To hearken to the fat of man.

Do you know what that means?

The highest form of worship you can give God is obedience.

Right.

Highest form.

Several forms of worship.

There's a question of, why do I cry?

Why do I, when I'm praising God?

Well, the reason you do, God brings you so he can touch you.

And God has divinely designed the worship service.

Do you know the worship service started out as a divine function of God in the book of Ezra and Nehemiah?

All the way back, that poor back.

And we still carry food.

They don't care what the nominations are down this road.

They have worship.

They have work.

It takes three ingredients to have a worship service, and you can't call it a worship service.

Prayer, praise, and the Word of God.

And here's why.

Prayer is what gives you to God.

But praise is what gets God in you.

And the Word of God gives us knowledge about God.

Alright?

So God designed it.

Prayer, praise, and the Word of God.

So the whole person can be touched by the power of Him.

Now, I've been in church all of my life, and when I say that, I am not exaggerating.

I know what it is to lay in the church view and punch that gun.

And say, if I ever get wrong, I'm going to get me some of that perfect gun.

I don't really have to say that, but I'm going to get me some of that.

I've been in this all of my life.

I've seen things come, I've seen things go, I've seen things change.

There's nothing like the reality of God.

And you can't get away from how God made you.

Can't get away from that.

God made you and put you together so he could touch you and be real to you.

So the scripture said, how do we worship the Father and Spirit and the truth?

That's how we do it.

God made us so he could touch you and the truth of the matter.

Let me show you.

In Romans 10, verse 17.

Yes.

Romans 10, verse 17.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of the Lord.

What's he saying?

Your faith can never supersede your knowledge of God.

Okay?

So when he said faith comes by hearing, what's the greatest thing you can get from God with the least amount of faith?

Salvation.

All you have to do is believe Jesus, come from heaven to this earth, die on the cross and rose again, and that's God to me.

But after you start your spiritual journey, the more you learn about God, the stronger your faith is.

The more you learn about God, the more stable your spiritual walk is in the Lord.

So the way comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of the Lord.

Let me take one more question.

That's 1 Samuel chapter 17.

And whenever David was going to have the challenge of Goliath, I'm going to take this from the start, alright?

Okay.

I'm going to take it from the start.

This is going to get a little deep.

But it'll show you how real the Bible is.

Okay.

In Genesis chapter 3, verse 15, there's not a subject in the Bible that don't have roots in the book of Genesis.

I mean none.

Because Genesis is called the book of beginnings.

The first scripture in the Bible that deals with the virgin birth of Christ coming into the world is in Genesis 3, verse 15.

He said this, now this is after the fall of Adam and Eve.

God's speaking to the devil here.

He said, I will put enmity between thee and the woman, between my seed and her seed.

His heel shall bruise thy head, thy head shall bruise his heel.

Now let me show you how powerful that is.

Now this is the first scripture concerning the virgin birth.

Let me read it again.

Some of you said, yeah, no, we're going to get the virgin birth of that.

Let me show you what it's like.

I will put enmity between thee, talking to Satan, thee and the woman, between thy seed, Satan's seed, and her seed.

The woman does not carry the seed, she carries the egg.

Here's the first prophecy in the scripture about a virgin birth.

Of Christ coming into the world.

God made a match.

Now watch this.

Go to Genesis 6.

Verse 3, my spirit shall not win.

Verse 4, look at verse 4.

They were giants in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of God came in and did the daughters of men, and they bare children unto them which were mighty men of old, men of the nine.

Two theories on this, but we have to understand which one's right.

The theory that the sons of Ceph were friended with the daughters of Cain and produced the superhuman race are the following just as on the form of man and mix.

with the daughters of man, humanity, and produced the superhuman race."

Now I've seen pictures of the skeletons of these that's been dugged out of the ground.

I've seen one that the skull was bigger than a man squatting down.

That didn't come.

Watch this.

Three words in that first scripture tell you exactly who it was.

There were giants in there from those days and also after that.

There were giants before the flood and there were giants after the flood.

So it can't be the sons of Seth running with the dog as you can.

Because they all go around in the flood.

I heard a dude say something like this, those giants don't want to do the side of the ark.

I said, shave my legs and call me Snoopy.

Where did you come up with that?

Not our legs.

They were guys before the flood and guys after the flood.

Okay.

And he said, I was limited between my seed, the word seed there, and the Hebrew of Zerah, which means offspring.

Now then, your life is an offspring of the seed of Satan.

Okay?

Watch what happens.

I'm back now in 1 Samuel 17.

David has prepared himself to go to the jungle.

I'm in verse 40.

You're following me.

1 Samuel 17, verse 40.

He took his staff in his hand.

Well, there's a testimony within that.

He stopped by a book, got five songs, put them in the shepherd's bag, even in a script.

Look up the word script, it'll take you back to the shepherd's bag.

Look the word script up, and by the dictionary, it's parchment.

Parchment is dried animal skins with scriptures written on them.

So before David went out to meet Goliath, he prepared himself.

He got five stones because Goliath had four brothers and five of them had boys.

And he brought them in there and covered them with the word of God.

And I believe he brought them in there about Exodus 3.

When God said to Moses, this is my name forever.

And in the Hebrew, that name is Yahweh.

Why do you say that?

Because this is what David said when he went to meet God.

You come to me with a sword, spear, and shield, but I come to you with a name.

Of the God of the owners of Israel, whom thou hast denied.

And he reached in there about Exodus 3.

Not a stone that was covered with the Word of God.

Put it in a sling and brought the giant down.

And I tell you, that still works today.

But while we're here, I don't think I'm going to preach that here.

It's going to be on Rock and Roll 5th.

I do need to be here again.

When the stone knocked Goliath to the ground, David ran up there and took his Goliath sword and locked his head off.

And verse 54 said he took the head of Goliath back to Jerusalem.

But he put his armor in his tent.

Now this is important to see.

He took the head of Goliath back to Jerusalem.

Let me show you how powerful this Bible is.

Now, I want you to go with me to Matthew chapter 27 and verse 33.

Matthew 27, verse 33.

Jesus is going up Golgotha's hill.

Simon is carrying the cross.

Look what he said, verse 33.

When they come to the place that is called Golgotha, that is to say, the place of the skulls,

When you pulled the word Golgotha apart, it was the abbreviation of Goliath of Goth.

And on top of the head of Goliath of Goth, where God said his heel will bruise your head, Satan, and you'll only bruise his heel.

There's a cross planted there.

And Jesus' feet stood on top of the head of Goliath the God, just like God said when Adam and Eve fell.

And he brought it to pass.

But he said, if God promised you something, you hang on to it.

You just hang on to it because on Golgotha's hill that day was a 4,000-year-old promise that had come to pass.

His foot will stand on your head, little man, the seat of Satan, and you can't do anything about it.

On Golgotha's head, his heel bruised his head, and his head bruised his head.

David broke the glass down because he had his pallets.

He didn't have all the pallets.

Lord, if you don't have anything, you ain't got nothing.

Now realize that some people claim they have pallets in certain areas, but it's not really palleted.

The old preacher would go outside and make a jolt of noise and say, Lord, there's a jolt of noise in the racket.

How many can't sing that you can do other things?

Don't you do other things too?

I got a little witness when I was growing up.

Sunday after church, Sunday night after church, I was laughing in church.

Now it's alright.

But back then it was sacrilegious.

My dad would just beat the living hell out of me.

And he told me so much, I didn't get the same good as that.

I told him one time, I said, if you knew they didn't get the same, why didn't you hook us over that?

I didn't even want them to give me a bad try.

I hope we blessed you tonight with maybe some insight to some of these questions.

I know that many of you covered several of these in that one area there.

But we, you know, a lot of times when you're asked questions, you don't even know what questions to ask.

But then when you get to talking and something like this and there's more questions that come up, well, I'm going to try to ask this.

But God's Word always has an answer.

It has an answer.

Scripture interprets Scripture.

Okay?

Three areas of Scripture's being interpreted in this day and time.

Religion, culture, and tradition.

That worked for a while, but when you get in a hard test, something's gonna come loose.

But Scripture will interpret itself.

And when you filter your question through the Word of God, through the Scripture, He'll bring the answer up, and then you've got something God will stand with.

Religion.

Well, Richard, you know that's not how it was taught.

Well, maybe there are plenty of scriptures you put on it, but I wouldn't talk about it.

Culture.

We're seeing culture try to interpret the Word of God.

Then you've got tradition.

Well, that's what Grandma said.

That's what Grandpa said.

That's wonderful and good, but did God say it?

Scripture, perfect scripture.

Now leave me with this and I'll explain what I'm talking about.

In James chapter 1 verse 13, let no man say when he is tempted I am tempted of God.

God cannot be tempted.

With evil neither tempteth he any man.

If you interpret that of religion, culture, and tradition, here's what's come up with it.

God's never tempted anybody.

He can't tempt anybody.

He's not going to tempt anybody.

Watch this.

In Genesis 22 and 1, after these things, the Lord didn't tempt Abraham.

Go get out.

2 Chronicles 32, verse 31.

after Hezekiah had 15 years on his life and to work back Sunday.

He said, how good was the business of the prince of Babylon who was sent to acquire the wonder that was done in the land.

God left him to trap him.

That he might know all that's in his heart.

You put Genesis 1, 2 and 1, 2 Chronicles 32, verse 31 and James 1, 13 together.

Here's what you come up with.

God can't tempt you with evil.

He may be tempted with evil, he won't tempt you with evil.

But God will always tempt you to be righteous, to be holy, to be pure, to be true.

Conviction is temptation.

So filter your questions through the word of God.

And put it all together because God's word gives us the truth.

and the truth will make you free.

Yes, sir.

Father, I am so thankful tonight for this opportunity that you have given us just to come together and share the truth and the wisdom of the Word of God.

I pray tonight, Lord, that just the inspiration of the Scripture tonight will have lifted somebody up in this place.

Giving them some inspiration that will encourage them, undergird them, and cause them to walk in the truth and the heavenly places of God.

God, as we leave this place tonight, let Your Word stay within the confines of our spirit and our heart.

And let us walk in the liberty we have been made free in.

This is our prayer in Jesus' name.

And we thank You, Lord.

Amen.