

Message# 145 - 6-27-2021 - The Faith Once Delivered to the Saints - Eyewitnesses

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Good morning everyone. Thank you for tuning in to the broadcast this morning. I'm honored and blessed that you have taken the time to listen in this morning. I hope you are telling others about these messages. Encourage to listen each week or steer them to the website.

Speaking of the website, I had some really great comments come in after last week's message. Matthew from Texas said the message should be on the Home page of the website and Jeff said it was probably in the top 5 messages that he's heard since the Matthew 24 series.

Michael had some interesting insight as well - as usual. And, it was so funny, I think I'll just read it to you. I forgot to ask his permission - but I think he'll be okay with it. First, the good serious words - then the comedy -- quote:

I heard how you related your "debate" in the message today and want you to know I thought your statement was excellent...succinct. Perfectly said and delivered. It actually brought joy to my heart. But, I was equally saddened--maybe disgusted is the better word--by the response you had from the "church". First, that they evidently emailed the "congregation" and told them not to attend? What sort of cult behavior is that? But the response that you got from them took the cake. Honestly, I don't know how you were able to continue after such a repugnant, antichrist "rebuttal". End quote.

Well, Michael. I'm not sure, either. Teresa said she was about to explode and wanted to leave. I told her I felt a real presence of evil in that room - but I felt like I wanted to continue confronting it face to face. This past week, I was able to salvage the audio of the debate - and I believe I should have it on the website by the end of the day. Continuing with Michael's email:

I'm sad to say that I'm losing hope day by day with such filth masquerading as "believers". I don't want to be around such people; I have nothing to say to such sick and backwards and cowardly fools anymore. Let them render unto Caesar. But you get no "godspeed" from me. Go perish in your sins.

If I ever succumbed to such a schizophrenic interpretation of Scripture as these modern churchians believe, I'd be the most miserable creature, without hope, angry towards

God for giving us such confusion and causing us to cower before our enemies for NOTHING. What does their gospel boil down to? 'Evil MUST be allowed to WIN'. As soon as one received such a doctrine as that, why not get this sorry life over with as quickly as possible. I probably would.

I absolutely agree. And believe it or not, there was more that could have been talked about last week. God is the author of evil. Now, take that completely out of context and build a religion around it. A religion that takes the rest of the Bible and completely disregards it as having been somehow nullified because God created evil. Since God created evil - people are to submit themselves to it - Do not resist evil - that's what Christ said - submit to evil - God created it - and it is His plan and purpose to submit to it because He created it. And, when you submit to evil - it's all going to be okay - because,

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

So, by submitting to evil and not resisting it - in the end it's all going to work out for good.

After they said that to us, Eric said, "How's that working out for you today?"

Went in one ear and right out the other. All the evil going on in the world today is the plan of God - and Christians - better stated "churchians" are to submit because God is causing it all to happen.

Now from the insane to the funny, Michael closes his email with the following statement:

Next time someone quotes to you the "turn the other cheek" line by way of denying our Christian duty to stand against evil, I invite you to haul off as hard as you can and slap that person across the face. Like this. See what they do. Then do it to the other side of their face. Call their bluff and prove to them they are lying hypocrites. Maybe you'll wake somebody up finally. Either that or knock them out. End quote.

The "like this" was a link to a Russian slapping fight video he sent me. I'll link it in the Message Notes so that you can see it.

Alright, moving on. I want to remind you that Larry Blanchard will be on Sam Britton's "Off the Cuff Show" this evening at 6:00pm Central Time. Sam's show comes on right after Ted's evening broadcast on Missouri Liberty Radio. The best way to listen to the interview will be on the livestream for the radio station at www.molibertyradio.us I have a feeling this is going to be a very interesting show. I've been on a lot of radio shows in the past and Sam is, in my opinion, probably the best interviewer I've had. He has a knack for letting his guests get the information out and Sam just kind of leads in a manner that doesn't hijack the show.

Continue praying for Chris in the Wisconsin jail. I did receive a text from his son this past week who said that a couple of the men that were giving Chris a hard time in the jail had been moved - so he had a bit of a reprieve from that nonsense. Chris is having some dental issues, though. Pray particularly for that as well. I'm not sure what happens in jail - but I'll tell you that my teeth have never been the same since jail. I had one that had to be pulled - and it just seems to be a continuing issue since. Chris is experiencing some issues with a plate. He's down to 8 weeks left. Which is absolutely amazing. They seem intent on keeping him there the whole time. That's amazing because - you know - because of COVID - they seem to try to get people out of jail more than keep them there - but they have done all they could do to make sure he stays there. Again, amazing. First quote "offense." But there he is.

A couple weeks ago, David Elsmann, was in a really horrific van crash. He told me it had to have been only the grace of God that he survived. I saw pictures and yeah, it's a wonder that anyone survived. But he did. He is getting better. But please pray for them as he continues to heal. They sold their place and are now kind of in a holding pattern until the next step towards Ecclesia occurs.

As for Ecclesia, several have asked. Eric and I found land, but brethren, we don't have the resources by ourselves to make the purchase. I'll be the first to tell you that we would move - we would begin - Christ said - "Where two or three are gathered" - if we had only two or three - that's not the problem - the problem is resources.

For those of you who have been listening to me preach - you've never heard me ask for money - at least I can't recall. If you are unable to take the physical step towards Ecclesia - but you have resources to help - by all means contact us. There are some who are doing that. But we are well short of what we need for a land purchase.

I heard someone else this week talk about someone was willing to give them land - but

they didn't like where the land was located. I get that. There may be someone out there who has land they would like to give for the purpose of Ecclesia - get in contact with us.

I realize we are - in many ways - talking about heading out across the Atlantic Ocean in a wooden boat towards land that is uncharted territory - I get that - God will provide yes - but we need to be wise with our resources - or maybe I should say - lack of resources.

We have some families and some single men that are singularly focused on Ecclesia - and we are moving in that direction. One way or another - we are moving that direction. This world is crazy - it is lunatics running the lunatics - and God's people had better get busy creating a nation of called - out Christians - true believers - because these nut jobs are moving lightspeed ahead and trying to close the doors on the last vestiges of freedom. I've said this before - the whole COVID thing was and is a test. It's a test to see how much farther they can go in a short time period.

The climate lockdown thing is next. Or whatever the next stages are in the vaccination mandates. The food supply is included in this. God's plan for His people is Ecclesia and we are not doing what he told us to do. I'm not sure how we think we can sit back and ride the storm waiting for some miraculous salvation - when He already provided the blueprint for miraculous salvation - and no where in that blueprint is sitting on our hands waiting for delivery in the instructions.

I will build my Ecclesia and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

When I quoted that verse in the debate last week - I included the text where Christ said He gave the keys of the Kingdom to Peter. He didn't tell Peter He gave him the keys to a church building. He gave him the keys to the Kingdom.

We have been living in every kingdom except that one. And somehow we think that we can manage just fine following a set of plans that the Master did not create. I'm telling you brethren, we better get together and do what He told us to do. And we better be moving in that direction sooner than later.

Not long ago, one of our brothers from up in Canada wrote to me about purchasing land in Canada for Ecclesia. He then told me that in Canada, only quote "registered" Canadians are quote "allowed" to buy land there. I have to admit to you I was a little stumped at that. That's not how it is here - at least right now. Who knows for how

much longer that will be the case here. I don't know. But I could certainly see it changing. I could see how they could try to make it where only registered U.S. citizens could own land.

Turn with me please to the book of Jude. Let's read again the verse several verses as we continue to strive earnestly for, struggle for, contend for the faith - once delivered to the saints. Verse 1:

[1] Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

[2] Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

[3] Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

[4] For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

[5] I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

There is an issue that keeps coming up with folks that are sincere seekers of Christ - these are not "churchians" - these are warriors - these are people truly seeking the King and Kingdom - but there is something that keeps popping up and I want to take this morning to address it and hopefully help others who might also be struggling - now these people don't necessarily view themselves as struggling - but when I read and listen to what they are saying - I see it as a struggle.

And that is the concept that they need to see certain things that the Scriptures refer to as being fulfilled somewhere in man's history books - or else they are just not certain that those things have been fulfilled.

To which I respond, as I have often in my messages - you cannot trust man's history books for the truth. Look around us today. Can you trust the ABC Nightly News? Can you trust CNN? Can you trust the New York Times? Those people - and it seems as though it is downright purposeful - they cannot tell the truth what happened yesterday. There's always a spin. There's always a slant. And many times, the quote "news" they report is just an out and out lie. Yet these are the people responsible for today's quote

“history books.”

How about 9/11? New York city - the supposed greatest city on earth - brought to its knees by some Afghanistan cave dwellers identified because when they flew the jet liners into the buildings - someone was standing on the street corner and the id papers of one of the quote “hijack terrorists” just flew down from the crash and into the hands of someone on the street - and voila - that's the guy who flew the jet into the building. Wow. What a great story that is. Maybe they should make a movie out of it. Or, maybe they should tell that story over and over and over on the Nightly News and people will believe it.

As I was thinking about this scenario, I wondered - and folks - I couldn't care less what is being taught in the government schools - I never put my kids there. Followers of Christ should not have their kids in those God forsaken places. But because I'm trying to get us all to reevaluate our positions and thoughts concerning man's history books - I found an article on Time Magazine dot com that gives some insight into what is now being taught in government school as quote “history” related to an event that happened just a mere - just a drop in the bucket of time - just twenty years ago, quote:

For example, four of the nine earlier textbooks mentioned the war in Iraq as part of the aftermath of 9/11, but when Stoddard and Hess were doing research in 2005, only one, McDougal Littell's The Americans (2005), got into how evidence for the weapons of mass destruction claims had not yet been found. One 2005 textbook, Prentice Hall's Magruder's American Government, said that when Congress authorized President George W. Bush to take whatever measures were “necessary and appropriate” to neutralize the threat of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in the wake of 9/11, “it was widely believed that the regime had amassed huge stores of chemical and biological weapons”; the 2010 edition deleted the sentence about weapons of mass destruction. In some textbooks, the descriptions of the attacks got shorter as time went on. For example, that 2005 edition of The Americans said about 3,000 people were killed in the attacks, and then specified how many were passengers on the planes, people who worked at or were visiting the World Trade Center, and how many were first responders. The 2010 version cut out the breakdown of the casualties. End quote.

I remember, and I'm sure you do, too, how quick George Bush and his ilk were to blame Saddam Hussein - get a war started in Iraq - find Hussein - see to it that it got executed - or at least that's what they said happened to him - then - woops - we may have made a mistake - they didn't have any quote “weapon of mass destruction.”

For the quote “politicians” they lie every time their mouth opens. Well, except for Joe Biden. He doesn't lie. This past week he reminded anyone that wasn't happy with the quote “government” they better have F15s and nuclear weapons. Of course, the “politicians” wouldn't hesitate for a second to use those F15s and nuclear weapons against their own people if they wanted to. But that's besides the point. He didn't lie about that - but that's about the only truthful thing he's said.

My point is, these people are in charge of writing the quote “history” books. They are liars. They're not telling the truth. They're fabricating things.

Should we be of the mindset that the lying about quote “history” is something characteristic only since the generation we have been born into? Men - men who live their lives separate from the King and His Kingdom - are liars - they love to make a lie. Take your Bibles this morning and turn to Revelation 22. Our minds do not think this way. When someone looks at us in our face and tells us something - we - followers of Christ - are inclined to believe them. What's the old saying, “You can't con a con.” Sure. Liars spot liars. They are all part of the same mold. But followers of Christ are called to the truth. We want to believe what someone says. That's part of our inherent make-up and it is actually a very good trait to have. But look at Revelation 22:14-15:

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

[15] For without (the city, outside of the gates of the city) are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Those who are outside the gates of the city - the New Covenant - the Kingdom of Christ - the Ecclesia - those who are not part of the Kingdom of God make lies and they love to make them. I don't understand that. You don't understand that. It's good that we don't understand how someone would prefer to tell a lie as opposed to telling the truth.

The more I think about that, the more my mind can't even comprehend it. If I have the choice between telling the truth or telling a lie - it's simple for me. But for those outside the Kingdom of Christ - somehow they get joy - they get some sort of demented satisfaction out of creating a lie - then getting people to believe it. That's what they do.

The ONLY history book written by man - that you should not consider a lie before you even read it - would be a history book written by someone who claims exclusive

citizenship in the Kingdom of God, that man would believe and live that the present day reality of the King and Kingdom is for today - that all men are to bow their knees and confess with their mouths the Lord Jesus - that's it. That's the only quote "history" book we should entertain as truth from the outset - and friends - show me that history book somewhere.

Show me the history of quote 9/11 written by a man who has that for his testimony.

"But, I need to see where Revelation 21:4 was described in history - or else I just can't grasp that the book of Revelation was fulfilled."

Turn to Revelation 21:4, please. And, for the one who wrote this to me this week, I'm not picking on you. In fact, the writer, is one of the greatest warriors out there right now fighting for the Kingdom - fighting for truth - but in some ways - because of statements about Bible prophecy not being fulfilled already - the writer is unknowingly fighting against his own attempts to turn people to the truth.

Listen to me, if the book of Revelation - every bit of it - has not been fulfilled - then what that means is that Christ has not been revealed as King of kings and Lord of lords. And if He has not been revealed already - as King of kings and Lord of lords - then He is reduced to nothing more than a quote "coming king" Who is basically impotent today - and God - yes God Himself - has ordained for men to be quote "kings" for men to be quote "presidents and governors" - to be quote "lawmakers, legislators" and until Christ is someday revealed as the King - all of us are to obey - as it was told to us again last week in the debate - we are to obey every human institution - even if they are evil. Because God will take obedience to evil and the proliferation of evil - and will turn it into good.

When we tell people to Come out of her my people - then say that the beast of Revelation is alive and well today - we are confusing the message. And ultimately, we are - as painful as it is to hear - we are supporting the false message that has been coming from the 501(c)(3) government preacher. Look at Revelation 21:4

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

I can't find this in the history books, so, it must mean that it hasn't happened yet. But

the truth is, if you begin in verse 1, you'll see that this is perfectly in keeping with the time-stamp for the book. It's talking about the beginning of the New Covenant World which began in the first century.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;

Who's eyes and tears is this talking about?

There shall be no more death, sorrow, crying, pain.

Who is this talking about? It's talking about the first century saints who went through unspeakable persecutions, pain, suffering, even murder, because they would not bow to Caesar - the beast of the book of Revelation.

In Romans 8, Paul said

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

In I Corinthians 4:9, he said

For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.
[10] We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised.
[11] Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace;
[12] And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it:
[13] Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day.

In II Corinthians 1, he said this

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;
[4] Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are

comforted of God.

[5] For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

[6] And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

[7] And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation. (Revelation 21:4)

[8] For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:

[9] But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

[10] Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

In II Corinthians 11

For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face.

[21] I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also.

[22] Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I.

[23] Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

[24] Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

[25] Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

[26] In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

[27] In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

You want to know who Revelation 21:4 is talking about? It's this history book. It's a book that tells the story of men committed to the King and His Kingdom as a present day reality in the first century. This is who the promised relief of Revelation 21:4 is

talking about.

Their tears, their pain, their sorrow, their death. That's what was taken away when the New Heavens and the New Earth - the New Jerusalem - the New Covenant was revealed in the first century. That's what true pain is. That's what true persecution for the cause of Christ is - and there's not a single one of us living in America today that can identify with what they went through because they would not waver a single second in their commitment to the King.

And here we are today, 2,000 years later and the God forsaken historians and the God forsaken quote "preachers" are commanding men to obey Caesar because Jesus said so. Unbelievable. This is another reason why the book of Revelation - especially chapters 20 and 21 cannot be fulfilled - it takes away the absolute truth that followers of Christ in the first century would not bow to the little g "governments" of men - thereby giving us the example we should be following from generation to generation.

You simply cannot tell someone that the quote "beast of Revelation" is alive and well today. Because of what the beast of Revelation did to our Christ and to His followers in the first century - the book of Revelation records that the beast was destroyed - cast into the lake of fire.

Lest we think that Paul alone suffered - we are reminded of I Thessalonians 2:14-19

[14] For ye, brethren, became followers of the Ecclesias of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:

[15] Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men:

[16] Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

[17] But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.

[18] Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

[19] For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

Verse 19 is the same promise as Revelation 21:4 just stated a different way. Turn over to

I Thessalonians chapter 3 and let's begin in verse 1. I'm showing how the first century saints were persecuted - then had the promise of Revelation 21:4 for them.

- [1] Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;
- [2] And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:
- [3] That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.
- [4] For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.
- [5] For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.
- [6] But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:
- [7] Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:
- [8] For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.

Stand fast. The Greek is stayko

to stand firm

to persevere, to persist

to keep one's standing

with an emphasis, to stand firm; tropically, to persist, persevere (A. V. stand fast): absolutely to persevere in godliness and rectitude, 2 Thessalonians 2:15; ἐν κυρίῳ, in one's fellowship with the Lord, Philippians 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 3:8 ((cf. ἐάν, I. 2 b.)); ἐν τῇ πίστει, 1 Corinthians 16:13; ἐν ἐνί πνεύματι, Philippians 1:27; to keep one's standing (opposed to ζυγῶ ἐνέχομαι), τῇ ἐλευθερίᾳ, maintain your allegiance to freedom (cf. Winer's Grammar, § 31, 1 k.; Buttman, § 133, 12; but L T Tr WH take στήκετε here absolutely; cf. Lightfoot ad loc.), Galatians 5:1; to stand erect, tropically, not to sin (opposed to πίπτειν equivalent to to sin), τῷ κυρίῳ, dative commodi (Winer's Grammar, as above), Romans 14:4. (In John 8:44 (ἐν τῇ ἀλήθειᾳ οὐκ ἔστηκεν) WH read the imperfect ἔστηκεν (where others adopt ἔστηκεν from ἵστημι), owing to the preceding οὐκ (T WH after manuscripts κ B* D L etc.); see Westcott's Commentary on John, the

passage cited 'Additional Note'; WH, Introduction, § 407. But such an imperfect is nowhere else found (yet cf. Revelation 12:4 WH), and respecting confusion in the ancient use of the breathings, and the interchange of οὐκ and ὄχι, see οὐ at the beginning and references there, especially Tdf. Proleg., p. 90; moreover, the familiar perfect (present) of ἴστημι thoroughly suits the context; see ἴστημι, II. 2 d.) ((The Sept., Exodus 14:13, Alex., Complutensian; 1 Kings 8:11); Alex.; Aphr. probl. 1, 49 vat.; ecclesiastical writings.)

I'm telling you these first century saints standing fast, steadfast unwavering commitment to the King and His Kingdom brought about relentless persecution - but they would not bow. They are our example. Today, we live in a society that has got its fist in the face of God and wants nothing whatsoever to do with Christ and His Kingdom - and we must stand fast - stand firm - unwavering commitment to the Kingdom of Christ as the example was of those first century saints.

And, in absolute opposition to those who have trampled on the testimony of the saints - today - telling us to submit - obey evil - render unto Caesar - despicable men trampling the testimony of those saints who showed us the proper response to living in an evil and adulterous generation. Verse 9:

[9] For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;

[10] Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

[11] Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you.

[12] And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:

[13] To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

Yes, it was these first century saints who had the promise of their tears being wiped away, their sufferings coming to an end, their deaths ending - are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming.

Friends, if you are looking for Fulfilled Bible Prophecy in man's history books - you aren't going to find it. The proper conclusion of Fulfilled Bible Prophecy is that Christ is King - right now. And I'll assure you that man's history books are not going to allow such

things to prove the Kingship of Christ.

Turn to Luke chapter 1. It's the Word, it's the testimony of the saints, where we should be receiving confirmation of the Prophecies. Luke 1, verse 1

Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

[2] Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word;

[3] It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,

[4] That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

Be satisfied with the eyewitness testimony of those saints recorded in the Word of God.

I understand that the Word has been tampered with. I get that. The word "church" never never never should be in our English Bibles - but we know what they did. We know their agenda. We see what they did - and even though they tried to change it - they tried to alter it - God preserved His truth for us - regardless of the wickedness of those men. We see what they did. Yet the Word of God still remains. Trust the eyewitness testimony provided in the Word.

I'm a little confused at why we want so badly to see something in a history book - but when it comes to the Bible - we are more standoffish than man's history books. That's throwing the baby out with the bath water. I have absolutely no problem whatsoever believing that we have access to the preserved Word of God. I know what the agenda was with the KJV. And I don't even need a quote "history book" to tell me. Even when I was playing "church" as a little kid, then as I got older, then in quote Bible college, then in the quote "church ministry." I knew there was something fundamentally wrong with the teaching regarding quote "church" and I knew it before I came to the understanding of Ecclesia.

I had a quote "preacher" tell me one time that my problem was that I didn't understand that quote "church" was the buildings and the people. "You believe that it's only the people, but it's not, it's the buildings."

See, I was arguing that the quote "church" was the people, and if the quote "church"

was not supposed to be incorporated, the quote "church" was not supposed to have licenses, and pay taxes, etc., well - then the quote "church" is the people and the people should not be participating in those things. But the quote "preacher" was arguing in defense of the buildings, and the property and the money that the quote "church" had as in the physical aspects of the quote "church's assets."

I was arguing all the way back in 1981 that the quote "church" was supposed to be a called-out Christian community of believers, called out from the world - to follow and obey Christ and Christ alone.

Well, brethren, when I studied what Ecclesia was, well, that ended up being sic' em to a bulldog. That made the Scriptures become even more clear, more vibrant - even the KJV. When I saw how that the print houses - at the command of the quote "king" had taken the word King from I Peter chapter 2 - when it was capitalized in the first edition KJV - and then they subsequently made it lower case - well that just made the Scriptures come alive even more - even the KJV. Seeing how the full-on assault of the King and His Kingdom was actually the agenda of those men - that didn't make me doubt the Word - or doubt God's promise to preserve His Word - that made me see all the more how that God kept His promise - in spite of what those evil men did.

I don't need man's history books and neither should you. We need only the Word of God. Let's take the eyewitness testimony of the saints and let God be true and every man a liar. That's the safest place for us to be. Turn to II Peter chapter 1. Let's look at verse 1:

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

[2] Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

[3] According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

[4] Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

[5] And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue;

Add to your knowledge of God - your system of belief based on the truth. What makes ours so different? We believe that all Bible prophecy has been fulfilled. Because of that, we believe that Christ was Revealed as King of kings and Lord of lords and it has been so since the first century. We believe that all men are to be exclusive citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel. The nation of God is alive and well and it is called the Commonwealth of Israel and that's where our citizenship is supposed to be. We do not believe that men have the Authority from God to define or redefine good and evil. That is something that God has always reserved to Himself and has never given man the Authority to do. These are the basics of our faith - our system of belief.

Now, to this faith - this system of belief, let's add virtue. Let's continue from virtue, to

and to virtue knowledge;

[6] And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

[7] And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

[8] For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[9] But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

[10] Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

[11] For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thousands and thousands of years later, of course. Your entrance into the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ really isn't meant for you. For those of you that had this sent to you in the first century. I just want to tell you it is - maybe to keep you faithful. Maybe to give you some false hope. Maybe to make you feel good temporarily - but this really isn't meant for you because there's thousands of years more to be fulfilled before the Kingdom comes.

No. The Kingdom was coming soon. Just like every single thing in the Bible had been saying up to that time period. The Kingdom came in the first century and it has been the responsibility of every living, breathing creature to conform that Kingdom ever since. It has been going on from generation to generation and will continue on forever from generation to generation and we should be doing everything we can to see and live in His Kingdom in our generation. The history books of the generations are being

kept in heaven. What will that history say about our generation?

Will there be anyone, anywhere who has obeyed the command to build Ecclesia? There's still time. There's still time for us. We've been talking now for a while - let's get busy. Let's get our resources together and start building. I'm talking about every man, woman, boy and girl that claims to be the Israel of God. Enough talk. Let's put feet to the talk and begin building Ecclesia in our generation. Verse 12:

[12] Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

[13] Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;

[14] Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, (he's talking about his physical body) even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

[15] Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

[16] For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

Oh my goodness. Did you hear that? They weren't following cunningly devised fables. They were - once again - eyewitnesses to the majesty of Christ. These are the historians we need to be listening to. There is not a quote "historian" alive today who is reporting and recording on current events that was an eyewitness to the Kingship, the majesty of Jesus Christ. But Peter was. Luke was. Paul was. John was. These are the historians we need to be listening to - and no others. Verse 17.

[17] For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

[18] And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

[19] We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Friends, the quote "churches" and the "churchmen" have filled themselves with their prophets and their prophecies. And one by one - their prophecies have failed. One by

one - they've all died. They all - from JN Darby, to Scofield, to Moody, to Torrey, to Billy Sunday, to McGee, to Martin, to Ravenhill, to Graham, to Wilkerson, to Bob Jones, Norris, Ham, Hyles, Dixon, Falwell, VanImpe, LaHaye. Rodgers, Ruckman - every single one of them prophecied their whole lives about a rapture about a second coming, about a tribulation - and it didn't happen to a single one of them. Not one of them. They all had a theory about the second coming, they all had teachings on the battle of Armageddon, the mark of the beast, the book of Revelation - and every single one of them were wrong.

That's because they forsook the book - they forsook the book filled with eyewitnesses who had a more sure word of prophecy. They wanted historians. They wanted church books. They wanted everything except the sure word of the prophecy of the book.

[20] Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

Every single one of them - except for the ones who were mere puppets of C.I. Scofield - but even them - had their own private interpretations of prophecies.

Knowing this first,

They seemed to forget that. You can't do anything with Bible prophecy - if you don't get this first. There is no private interpretation of prophecy. The Bible tells us all we need to know about Bible prophecy. Christ summed it up - once and for all. Luke 21:22

For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

That's not hard. The prophecies were fulfilled in the first century. In those days. That's what Christ said. All the rest of the words of the writers of the last 27 books say the same things - over and over and over. Let's believe the eye-witnesses from the first century.

[21] For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Stay away from the quote "history books." They are cunningly devised fables. They are written by people who are outside the gates of the city and those are people who love

to make lies. Why? I have no idea. But that's what the book says about them.

In conclusion this morning, I want to change gears a little, and revisit one particular thing from the debate last week.

In a nutshell, we were told that when Christ said, "Turn the other cheek" - He was nullifying all the rest of Scripture. When He said "turning the other cheek and resist not evil" means we are to submit to evil - what He meant by that was that He was taking the Laws of God that had been in existence from the foundation of the world - and He was changing them - nullifying them with one swift spoken Word.

Of course, we absolutely reject this as being totally false. This teaching is the doctrine of devils. It is turning good into evil and evil into good. I do not believe everything that John Wesley had to say. In fact, what I am getting ready to read to you, I can't even prove that John Wesley said it. In fact, I can't even prove to you that there even was such a man named John Wesley and that he ever wrote a single word.

Considering what I said about history and man's history books, I'm not being so rigid and unwavering to say that everything ever written outside of the Bible is a lie. I'm not saying that at all. I'm just saying that the things we read - if they are extra-Biblical - before we put any stock into what is said - we need to be wary of the potential for a lie - and ultimately - if what we read doesn't line up with Scripture - then it needs to be tossed out. Everything must align with Scripture. Not the other way around.

I found some things this week that claim to be from the writings of John Wesley. I have no reason to believe they are not true. I have no reason to believe they are not, in fact, the writings of a man named John Wesley. John Wesley was a "churchman." That gives me pause - yes - but I wasn't necessarily looking for someone to be in agreement with what I teach - so much as I was just looking for someone from hundreds of years ago - who might have some insight on what they were teaching in regards to "turning the other cheek" hundreds of years ago. John Wesley, it is said, was born somewhere around 1703 and died somewhere around 1791.

Apparently, they may have been doing quote "church" a little bit differently than what we understand it today Wesley may have been doing it differently - in that - it was said about Wesley that he failed in quote "church" but he rather preferred establishing societies. I find that interesting, maybe even worthy of more research.

Anyway, through the years, I have enjoyed reading his notes - or at least the notes attributed to him through the years. I particularly enjoyed reading his notes on Exodus 22. They are excellent. This week, I went to read his notes on Matthew 5 and this is what I found.

One of the first things that I noted for me, was in verses 17 and 18. And the main reason I wanted to read what he had to say - over 200 years ago - is because I wanted to see if he was saying along the lines that Christ was nullifying the Law of God. I did not. I did not find anything of the such.

Verse 17

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Think not — Do not imagine, fear, hope, that I am come - Like your teachers, (the Pharisees of the scribes. I added that because that's who he was talking about) to destroy the law or the prophets.

I am not come to destroy — The moral law, but to fulfil - To establish, illustrate, and explain its highest meaning, both by my life and doctrine.

Now contrast that to what we were told last week. “Like your teachers, who teach that Christ nullified or destroyed the Law.

Verse 18

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Till all things shall be effected — Which it either requires or foretells. For the law has its effect, when the rewards are given, and the punishments annexed to it inflicted, as well as when its precepts are obeyed. Luke 16:17; 21:33.

This is interesting, because he is clearly saying that the purpose of the Law is to punish - reward good yes, but punish evil. Clearly, Wesley was saying that there is a place to resist evil. And to punish evil. Now to verse 25:

Verse 25

Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at

any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

Agree with thine adversary — With any against whom thou hast thus offended: while thou art in the way - Instantly, on the spot; before you part.

Lest the adversary deliver thee to the judge — Lest he commit his cause to God. Luke 12:58.

As you know, this is exactly what I have taught about this passage. When you are the guilty party in a controversy - make it right. And make it right quickly so that the controversy doesn't escalate. This isn't saying that anyone who comes along and becomes adversarial to you - you just cower and roll over like a doormat. That's not what this is saying at all. It's not saying you don't quote "resist evil" and allow evil to flourish. It's saying, "You messed up. You harmed someone or damaged someone. Make it right as fast as you can so the situation does not escalate."

Now, for those of you who might look at Wesley's Notes here, I'm not skipping some of these verses because I don't see it the same way he does, I'm skipping for time's sake. This is what he says about verses 38-41.

Verse 38

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

Ye have heard — Our Lord proceeds to enforce such meekness and love on those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake (which he pursues to the end of the chapter) as were utterly unknown to the scribes and Pharisees.

It hath been said — In the law, as a direction to judges, in ease of violent and barbarous assaults.

An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth — And this has been interpreted, as encouraging bitter and rigorous revenge. Deuteronomy 19:21.

Verse 39

But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

But I say unto you, that ye resist not the evil man — Thus; the Greek word translated resist signifies standing in battle array, striving for victory. If a man smite thee on the right cheek - Return not evil for evil: yea, turn to him the other - Rather than revenge thyself 40,41.

Now listen to this.

*Where the damage is not great, choose rather to suffer it, though possibly it may on that account be repeated, than to demand an eye for an eye, to enter into a rigorous prosecution of the offender. The meaning of the whole passage seems to be, rather than return evil for evil, when the wrong is purely personal, submit to one bodily wrong after another, give up one part of your goods after another, submit to one instance of compulsion after another. (Now listen to this) **That the words are not literally to be understood, appears from the behaviour of our Lord himself, John 18:22,23.***

Now, in closing this morning, turn to John chapter 18. We'll read verses 18 through 23.

I want to watch this very closely. Verse 18:

And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself.

[19] The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine.

[20] Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing.

[21] Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.

[22] And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest so?

[23] Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?

Friends, do you see what just happened here? Someone needs to write to me and tell me where - when given the opportunity to respond - like the Pharisees and the scribes who actually nullify the Law of God - someone needs to write to me and tell me where Christ turned the other cheek in this passage of Scripture.

“Turn the other cheek” is not carte blanche to let evil proliferate. It is not nullifying the Law of God to resist evil - to stand against evil. Christ Himself, when given the opportunity to “turn the other cheek” as we are taught in the quote “churches” today - failed miserably when given the opportunity.