

Message# 165 - 11-21-2021 - I John 4

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Good morning everyone. Thank you for taking the time to listen to the message this morning. I've got a whole lot to share with you this morning - in addition to the continuing message theme we've been on for several weeks now.

So, let's get right to it. I told you in the reminder email "I have good news and bad news." The bad news as it turns out - affects only 1 man alive today - and that's me.

My youngest daughter - which I just cannot seem to overcome that she is nearly a woman - and I have to use that terminology to maintain my own stability over it - though she will not take it well that I said she is nearly a woman. But, Chrissy, you'll just have to continue living with it with me for a while. In fact, Teresa have a daughter that is 31 years old - and I can barely think of her as a full-grown woman with two children. They don't get it and never will until they get older.

I've got a 28 year old son that is 6'6" tall and weighs 270 pounds - and in order me to wrestle him and pin him to the ground - I'd have to use both hands now - finally - but many times when I look at him - all I can think of is him standing in the basement beside the washing machine at about 2 feet tall saying, "Wa, wa, wa wa" as he looked up at his mother that must have looked like she was 10 feet tall to the little guy.

Our youngest son is 25 - married for two years now - 6'9" almost 6'10" and although I stand next to him and think he's 10 feet tall - the memories of him with his little Ricky cow boy boots just will not leave my memory.

Or Taylor - who's been married now for 3 years and has her own little baby - on her 5th birthday when Teresa got her a purse with the letter T on it - she was so happy - her response was, "All I've ever wanted was a purse with a T on it."

I know they think all of that memory lane stuff is silly - but to their Dad - it represents some of the happiest times in all of life.

Now we come to Chrissy.

As you know, if you've been following this ministry for any time now, our family does

not do X-mas - and I really really hope you didn't fall for that trap - you know - "Put Christ back in Christmas" - that's what it is - it's a trap - Christ never was in Christmas. Some "church jesus" was in christmas - but Jesus Christ of the Bible - Jesus Christ the Lord - Jesus Christ the King of kings and Lord of lords was never in christmas. We don't celebrate men's invented holidays. Funny how they celebrate this thing called chris-mas - but would never ever entertain the idea of calling it CHRIST-mas - which is far more accurate - in fact - they don't get either syllable correct - CHRIST or the catholic mass.

Holidays - of course - they would never consider using the word "holy" - well - rightly so because there's nothing holy about any of their special days. That's why they call it "holly."

Anyway, our family never did the "holidays" of the world. But one thing we did do - was birthdays. And we tried to make the children's special day as special as Teresa and I could possibly do it. Absolutely. Their mom and dad were so happy that God brought those children into our lives - sure - once a year - on the day they were born - we had a big celebration - as big as we could possibly make it.

While our children were living at home - neither Teresa or myself - ever missed one of those special days. Yeah, we know how children love to get presents and open them up and have cake and ice cream and parties - and all that - but in our family - I can think I can probably speak for Teresa, too, and say for us - those days were probably more special to us - than they were even for the children.

We never missed one of those days - but in the spring of 2017 - I missed one of Chrissy's. It was probably one of the saddest days of my life - because I could not be with her on that day. I had been eye-witness to every single one of their births - I had been eye-witness to every single day or event in their lives that were special to them - but on that one - I was not home because some feral animals felt like I was better off in a cage dealing with their wrath, with the wrath of their pure evil.

So, here we are - at the good news and the bad news. And the bad news is only for me - that being - as much as I would have been perfectly happy having all my children staying close by - one by one - they've all found wives or husbands - and they are now working on building their own families - and now my last baby - has decided that she, too - must enter the ranks of being married - and her days with Dad are officially numbered. Last week, actually on the 8th, I was pulled kicking and screaming into a surprise family engagement party for Chrissy and I watched Jerry ask my baby to marry

him.

And Chrissy looked right at him and told him yes. With me sitting right there in the same room - she told him "Yes."

And all the family members there thought it was the greatest thing and everyone was so happy and all of them thought it was such great news. So - there's the good news - and now you know about the bad news. And, for me, the only bad news about it is that Chrissy's days living under the same roof with her Dad are officially on a countdown.

I told Jerry and Chrissy that we were looking at about a 10 year engagement period - but that doesn't seem to be flying that well. Actually, they are looking at next year - just before Chrissy's 20th birthday.

So, there you have it - the good news and the bad news.

I told you several weeks ago that I was going to let you know some more details concerning Jerry and Chrissy. And that's because, I believe, it goes towards the understanding of "whosoever will" AND the fact that just because we are in a "whosoever will" world - that does not mean that God has just abandoned us. I do not believe that. I do believe that He has set certain things in motion in order to make His gift a "whosoever will" proposition to anyone who WILL simply accept it - but taking that hands off approach to what happens once we accept His gift - is not what we are to believe about our Father in heaven.

If predestination and foreordination exists in the New Covenant World - then what is the purpose of prayer? If predestination and foreordination exists in the New Covenant World - then no amount of prayer - no amount of fasting - no amount of right living - could change anything. If the course is already set - there is absolutely nothing any of us could do to effect any type of change. And friends, I'm telling you, I believe that is one of the fatal things that has killed us in our generation. We - the majority - by far - of people are conditioned to think that "God is in control" meaning ultimately - that we need to do nothing more than to sit back and watch the show - sit back and make the best of the ride.

While the freaks, the queers and perverts have shown that by being vocal, by being pro-active - THEY can and they HAVE altered society in their favor - we think we are just supposed to sit back and do nothing and watch - and of course - complain and grumble

about the evil people surrounding us - and ultimately blame God for all of it - because - after all - "He sees it all, He sees the end from the beginning, He knows it all - He has planned it all - and nothing is happening that He is not allowing to happen."

So, in the meantime, we just continue on making sure the grass is mowed and the weed-eater has been run - and Jesus is going to come riding back onto the scene just before the stroke of midnight - and turn everything back to the right again. And, friends, that's just crazy - but that is what is going on and we all know it. And it is the result of horribly wrong "theology."

Our obedience to the plan of God - and that is that His Will be down on earth as it is in heaven. Our obedience to King Jesus Christ and His Kingdom - our refusal to obey the decrees of caesar, saying there is another King, One Jesus - prayer - the fervent prayer of a right living man availeth much - yes - those things - are what turns worlds rightside up.

[1] Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:

[2] But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

[3] For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

[4] (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

[5] Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

[6] And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

That's what changes things. Our obedience to the commands of Christ is what moves Yahweh - the God and Creator of heaven and earth - to move on behalf of His sons and daughters.

While God has absolutely taken the steps to ensure that everyone born after the first century has a free will - a free choice to embrace or reject His Son and His Kingdom - when those people do embrace His Son and His Kingdom - their world can and will be affected, altered, changed, through their actions.

My family - in the eyes of the world - has always been considered to be odd balls. Their Dad and Mom are kooks - they're nuts. They refuse to walk the same way everyone else does. As a result of that, our children have not been the most popular kids in the community - and I make no apologies for that and am not ashamed of that in the least. But as a parent, I will admit that it was hard at times, maybe more than I want to admit, on my children because they did not have a lot of friends growing up.

This is another reason why Ecclesia is so practically important. Our children need to be around other Kingdom kids. And while we are scattered - most of the time - that's not the case. Children need to be around other children whose parents are wanting to live exclusively as Citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel.

As adults, we get into our routines and even ruts you might call them - and sometimes we adapt to our lonely, isolated lives and we can find a way to live that way. But that is hard on children. Children need to be around other children that are Kingdom kids. If not, there's a real possibility of losing our children to the world.

While our children are young - I know I didn't - actually until it was possibly a little too late - but we kind of get wrapped up in their childhood and because most of us were young people raising young people - we don't understand just how fast our children grow up. We don't think about how our sons will be supporting their own families - and how soon that will actually be taking place. It was yesterday - when Joshua was looking up at us saying, "Wa wa, wa wa." It happens so fast.

We don't look at our 5 year olds with some of the silly things they say and do - and think that it will be the blink of an eye until it's time for them to be married and raising their own families.

I didn't know these things until way later in life. I wish I would have known them when my first baby came along. I wish I would have been prepared for that even before Teresa and I were even married. But I wasn't. I can't change that - even though I want to. Life goes by way too fast.

Chrissy, has never expressed any desire to Teresa and I other than wanting to be married and have children. You might say, "So, that can be said about a lot of people." And, yes, I get that, for sure.

But, let's narrow the focus a little. Chrissy could not, would not, just marry someone to

be married. Chrissy demanded a man who is a follower of Christ. A man that is a Citizen of the Commonwealth of Israel. A man who is not a citizen of the world. Well, that changes things a little, doesn't it?

No one, I don't think, can tell this story better than Teresa can. Well, maybe Chrissy herself could and maybe Jerry could, too. But I have asked Teresa to tell this story from her viewpoint - and then share some of her thoughts on what we should be doing with our children - years before the time where they are thinking about marriage. So, Teresa, get closer to the microphone and tell Chrissy's story.

Remembering now we are talking about "whosoever will" but that does not mean that God just abandons us after we have chosen to follow Christ. This is a great story on how God moves in the lives of those that follow Christ.

Let's take this a step further this morning. Let's go ahead and get Chrissy involved in the conversation. This should be a lot of fun.

Teresa and Chrissy (No transcript available. Please listen to the audio message to hear Chrissy's story.)

I hope you enjoyed that story from Chrissy and Teresa this morning. Hang on, Chrissy has one more thing she wants to add.

I absolutely believe the hand of God was on Chrissy's life and on Jerry's life and as the two come together to begin building a Kingdom family, I get a sense of renewed trust and hope because I see the hand of God working in all of our lives in that relation.

It is the Will of God for two people to meet, to fall in love, to get married and have children and raise them to be Citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel. That is the Will of God. And when we raise our children this way - with this faith - with this system of belief - and they patiently wait on God to work - He will work on our behalf.

It's a great story. Maybe I'll get Jerry on here to tell the story from his perspective, too. It would be good for all of us to hear from him as well.

So, in the last year and a half, I believe that Jerry and Chrissy have done this the right way. Both families have been involved. Tim and Helen, Jerry's parents testify that they are followers of Christ. And Jerry has been all that Chrissy has hoped for and has been all that Teresa and I have hoped for in Chrissy finding a future husband and a father for her children.

My point in having Teresa and Chrissy tell the story is that one can just write this off as one giant coincidence or it is this:

Trust in Yahweh, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

[4] Delight thyself also in Yahweh; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

[5] Commit thy way unto Yahweh; trust also in him; and He shall bring it to pass.

[6] And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

[7] Rest in Yahweh, and wait patiently for him:

Stay faithful to Yahweh, His Son and His Kingdom, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

[9] And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

[10] For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

[11] If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

[12] Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

[13] If ye then, being evil, (and again now, I remind you of what that word evil means - He's not saying that followers of Christ are evil - it's in comparison to Christ) know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?

These are great benefits of being sons and daughters of the Almighty Creator.

Come out of her my people, and I will be your God, and you will be my people.

Chrissy has never been part of "her" - she could have - just like others have gone and join herself to them - but she has not. She has remained faithful to her Citizenship and she's now reaping the benefits of her trusting her faith. The whole story is just awesome and it is a constant source of renewed trust in our faith - our system of belief.

I've had in my notes for several weeks now to make mention of something that I'd like to have you think about. And it relates again to faith. As I have said before, and I absolutely believe this - we do not have our understanding of faith correct.

Faith is not some mystical concept floating around out there - I have faith in this, or I have faith in that....faith is your system of belief. There are actually 3 things - 3 words - that I think cause confusing people don't really think about the fact they are different.

The words are faith, trust and hope.

Faith is a man's system of belief. It's the things he believes in. And saving faith, are the things shown in God's Word that we are supposed to believe. The faith once delivered to the saints is the way the first century saints - believed. It is putting yourself in their shoes - looking at life through the lens of their perspective and believing in the things of Christ as they were taught and believed in the first century.

Then trust. Trust is believing your system of belief - trusting that it is the truth. So trust is not faith - trust is something that is added to faith. Men have trust in all sorts of things - men are trusting in all sorts of beliefs that are not true. Men have faith - and they have trust in that faith. Right or wrong - it's faith and trust.

But saving faith must be built on the truths of God's Word and then trusting in those truths. When we trust the faith - our lives will be affected. We will live the faith we trust.

Then what is hope? Hope is that God will do the things He said He would do based on the fact we have placed our trust in the faith once delivered to the saints. Those three elements are not interchangeable.

We first have faith - a system of belief based on the teachings found in the Word.

Then we trust in those beliefs by living according to them.

Then we have a blessed hope

Knowing therefore that Yahweh thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

That in every thing ye are enriched by Him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:

So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

Alright. I can't believe we are almost out of time. I may not have as much time to get back to I John like I want to. That's ok. We'll get to it. I've got some really exciting things to share with you from I John.

I have been wanting to say something for several weeks and just have not had the time. I may as well say it now.

My whole ministry, as you know, is about trying to get people to come out of their worldly, earthly citizenships - and embrace EXCLUSIVELY - Citizenship in the Commonwealth of Israel. I believe that's theme of the whole Bible. I believe salvation does not exist apart from being a Citizen in the Kingdom of God.

As much ammunition as we already have for trying to get people to see the folly of worldly citizenship - I still - from time to time - will make comments that are designed to try to wake people up.

I listened a few weeks ago when that maniac from Virginia was telling parents they did

not have a “right” to be involved in their children's “education.” I saw and heard that garbage.

Of course, for the true follower of Christ, and I think we need to start emphasizing that more and more - the true follower of Christ - “churchians” claim to be “followers of Christ” but a true follower of Christ would never have their children enrolled in the “government” school - at any level. So, for the true Christian, the comments that Terry McAuliffe made are basically immaterial to the way we live. But - they should be pointed out.

So what happened in Virginia? His Godless comments became a rallying cry for the “churchians.” It was a declaration of war - a rally to move. And what did they do? Why they “elected” Glenn Younkin. Wow. Great win. Really? Are their elections rigged? Of course they are. Did people in Virginia not know that Glenn Younkin was the former CEO of the Carlyle Group, for goodness sake? And people think by their “electing” him - that was a victory? What a joke. If there was an “election” at all - it was purely a choice between evil and evil. That was a clear case of “election fraud.” BOTH “candidates” are pure evil - pure frauds - and who won? Fraud and evil won. That was one of the most telling things I have ever seen in their U.S. politics and I don't think I heard anyone else even notice. I don't think I heard anyone else say that Glenn Younkin was the former CEO of the Carlyle Group.

I heard Younkin mock McAuliffe and say something about “people who make their living off the government.” Holy cow if that isn't the pot calling the kettle black, I don't know what is. So, again, for those of you still looking for “wins” as citizens of the U.S. in their “elections” or in their “court decisions” - better be careful. Remember, “nothing happens in U.S. politics by chance.”

I'm almost hesitant to get into this with this little bit of time, but I'm going to try and then if I need to, I'll pick up again next week with this subject before we get into the message. Obviously I'm not going to make it to I John this week, but that's okay.

I've been asking you to research time keeping from the Bible. I've had some great comments come in and hopefully more will keep coming. But I had the occasion this week to do some of my own research and I want to share with you what I found.

Turn with me to Genesis chapter 1, please. Let's begin in verse 14. Now, I want you to know right away, this is rudimentary, elementary. Probably not going to be particularly

eloquent - I know what I want to say - but not sure I can articulate it fully yet. I'm still going to take a stab on it. But maybe others can build on this. Verse 14.

14] And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

[15] And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

[16] And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. (And yes, I am emphasising the word LIGHT - the sun and the moon are lights.)

[17] And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

[18] And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

In a nutshell, there are civilizations that have created calendars for themselves - men's little g governments - that have created calendars for themselves. My son-in-law made what he - at least I think he may have said it - not knowing that his statement has proof - but he said he thinks men's little g governments created their calendars for the purpose of taxation - and I will tell you this - that I found plenty of documentation - or at least statements from "historians" that said that exact same thing.

The reality is - there is no need for a "calendar." There are some references to months having names in the Bible - but by and large - for the most times in which months are spoken of in the Bible - they are called - the first month, the second month, etc. And, it is so rare that a month is called by a name - I'm not even going to mention them. I believe there may be a specific purpose why Galatians 4:10 is mentioned - but I'll get into that later.

In my message notes, I have listed the names that are briefly mentioned, and I'll say that not all the months have names in the Bible.

Nisan the first month,
Zif the second month,
Sivan is the third month,
Abib,
Ethanin is the seventh month,

Bul the eighth month,
Chisleu is the 9th month - WINTER - Jeremiah 36:22
Sebat is the 11th month (Shebawt)
Adar the 12th month (I think),
Elul,

But anyway, as you know, I want to know how you can look at the sky and say, "We are in the first month. We are in the 9th month, etc. That's what I want to know.

So in my research this week, I started out with some elementary work on calendars. And basically, there are two types of calendars that have been made by civilizations for hundreds, thousands of years.

One is based on the sun, the other is based on the moon.

Calendars are made up of what we all know is called months.

The word Moon first appears in our Bibles in and that's actually not until Joseph's dream in Genesis chapter 27:

[9] And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

The word moon here comes from the Hebrew yaw-ray'-akh which just means moon, but Strong's says to see 3391 which is yeh'rakh - which means - a lunation, i.e., a month. This is really easy here - so far. God's months are determined by the moon. Moon means month. And, this is of course, if we are interested in doing things by the Book.

My research took me to a website called - simply enough - calendar.com

This is some really deep stuff here. Moon means month. [Calendar.com](http://calendar.com) - really deep stuff.

I am out of time. I'll pick back up here next week.

I hope you were blessed by hearing Chrissy's story this morning. I particularly, have

been blessed and encouraged by seeing the hand of God work in her precious life and in Jerry's life, too.