

Message# 234_3-26-2023 - You Call Yourself a Christian, Come out of the Closet, Show me the Toes

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Good morning everyone. Thank you for tuning into the message this morning.

I want to remind you again of the Prayer Request page on the website. Please remember to keep each of these in your prayers. If anyone has any updates from their requests, be sure to let me know about them.

This past week, I was reminded again - for about the millionth time in my lifetime - that the biggest enemy to the truths contained in the Word of God - is from something called "church."

I want to address something this week because for Teresa and me and our family, this hits very close to home. A few days ago, Teresa told me to go to the Springfield News-Leader (newspaper) and read a story titled:

An Ozarks church leader claims prayer regrew a woman's toes. Others aren't so sure. by Susan Szuch, Springfield News-Leader

<https://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2023/03/22/james-river-church-leader-says-woman-regrew-toes-during-a-service/70028744007/>

The link is in the notes and on the Audio page of the website. The article states:

A Springfield-area church is claiming that prayer re-grew a woman's amputated toes last week. During a livestream of James River Church's March 15 service, Pastor John Lindell explained that a "creative miracle" took place the day before at the Joplin James River Church campus.

James River Church and the woman involved, Kristina Dines, have not returned the News-Leader's requests for comment. As of publication of this article, there are no photos or videos of the event taking place or the aftermath.

The alleged toe-regrowth event has drawn considerable attention on social media, with many expressing skepticism of the claims. A website urging anyone with proof to share

it has popped up at ShowMeTheToes.com. The website cites Luke 17:14:

"And when (Jesus) saw (the lepers), he said unto them, Go show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed."

The services were part of the church's "Week of Power," which included services by guest pastors Bill Johnson and Randy Clark. Johnson is a pastor for Bethel Church of Redding, California, which was in the news in 2019 for attempting to resurrect the two-year-old daughter of congregants.

(Here are three links so you can read about this series of events.)

<https://www.news-leader.com/story/news/2019/12/17/bethel-family-seeks-bring-daughter-back-life-through-prayer-song-and-praise/2676273001/>

<https://slate.com/human-interest/2019/12/olive-alayne-heiligenthal-resurrection-bethel-church.html>

<https://nypost.com/2019/12/23/bethel-church-family-admits-olive-alayne-heiligenthal-will-not-be-resurrected/>

During a March 15 livestream, Lindell said that during a service hosted by Johnson, "prayer team members" prayed over Dines. Lindell said Dines had three toes amputated after her then-husband shot her in 2015. In 2021, Stephen Thompson was convicted of shooting and killing Carissa Gerard and critically injuring Dines, according to KOAM's coverage of the trial.

"As the ladies prayed for Krissy over the next 30 minutes, all three toes grew, and by that point, were longer than her pinky toe. Within an hour, nails began to grow on all the toes," Lindell said in the livestream.

The video where Dines shared her testimony about her toes growing back has since been removed from Facebook, but still exists on Twitter. In it, Dines said that she had three toes amputated in an accident, but after attending a service at James River Church where women prayed over her feet, she witnessed the amputated toes re-forming.

"Tonight, I can stand on my tippy-toes. Listen, do you understand?" Dines said in the

video. "I can stand on tippy-toes. No, I couldn't do that because I didn't have toes to tippy on."

During the livestream of the March 14 event, Johnson led a prayer session for "creative miracles." Johnson said creative miracles are different than healing, and that he was "healing by decree, in accordance with how God's world works."

For example, if someone has a loss of cartilage in their knee, "I lay my hand on his knee and say, 'God, Let all things be made new. I call into being cartilage in this knee,'" explained Johnson.

Johnson alleged that a friend re-grew a kidney as a result of prayer meetings: "We had a friend that had to have his kidney removed because it was diseased, and he went in for another kind of x-ray, a year later, and they found he had a brand-new kidney. He was in a meeting where he was prayed for and the Lord created that."

During a service on Sunday, Lindell made another claim about the power of prayer.

"I'm gonna say one other thing, and I don't say this lightly. But I just think you need to know what's going to happen. There are going to be — some of you are going to raise people from the dead. I'm not saying everybody will be raised from the dead. I'm just saying there are some people in this room — you're gonna raise people from the dead. It's going to happen."

This is what makes me so upset about all of this. The world looks at this - and totally mocks this "church" - which is absolutely what the world does to anything they relate to Jesus Christ and that's fine - but this "church" and every single other organism that calls itself "church" is not the voice of God, not the representative of Jesus Christ and the world throws out God, Christ, and the Bible - because of these blaspheming heretics that lay claim to something that isn't theirs - the truth of God's Word.

From another article - when this Bill Johnson was trying to resurrect the little 2 year girl that had passed away - the article reports the mother as saying (and I' sure you already know what did NOT happen):

All hail, make way for King Jesus! Thank you so much for joining your faith to ours, we feel your strength and radical belief. Keep declaring life over Olive Alayne with us. "It is finished" were His last words before bursting back in resurrection life, so we're not

done. It is finished, so we're not done. This is awakening. Come alive, Olive!

(in regards to their 2 year old daughter that had passed away) and this:

"We believe in a Jesus who died and conclusively defeated every grave, holding the keys to resurrection power. We need it for our little Olive Alayne, who stopped breathing yesterday and has been pronounced dead by doctors," Kalley Heiliegenthal wrote.

"We are asking for bold, unified prayers from the global church to stand with us in belief that He will raise this little girl back to life. Her time here is not done, and it is our time to believe boldly, and with confidence wield what King Jesus paid for. It's time for her to come to life,"

Listen now, all that is great - but friends - claiming King Jesus and not living with Him as King of your life is what is so disheartening about these people and the effect they have on the world. And, they absolutely have effect, there's no doubt about it.

The original Springfield News-Leader article has been picked up and ran all over the world.

This type of junk negatively affects everyone who claims the Name of Jesus Christ. Even for those of us who understand what the Name of Jesus Christ means - in that we are living - everything we do, everything we say, every place we go, we do so by the Authority of King Jesus not asking permission from any man to do the things commanded by God.

The stuff I am bringing up today is from the "church" 501(c)(3) "church"! These are the same people who set up "vaccination clinics" in their buildings - in their "churches." They tell everyone they can raise people from the dead, they can cause people's toes to grow back - but they set up "death chambers" in their "churches" because of some phony virus that doesn't even exist - and when we dig into the reality as to why they set up their "death chambers" - we find it was pay-back to their true gods for the millions of "dollars" they received during the fake plandemic. These places are not of God. They are not of King Jesus and the world needs to know this.

They are liars and deceivers and they do more to disgrace the God of the Bible than probably anything else going on in the world today.

Side-note for just a second: I mentioned the word “dollars” in quotes a minute ago.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines dollar this way:

*DOLLAR, noun [G.] A **silver coin** of Spain and of the United States, of the value of one hundred cents, or four shillings and sixpence sterling. The dollar seems to have been originally a German coin, and in different parts of Germany, the name is given to **coins** of different values.*

[My emphasis added.]

The value of one hundred cents.....

Cent was defined this way:

CENT, noun

1. A hundred. In commerce, per cent denotes a certain rate by the hundred; as, ten per cent is ten in the hundred, whether profit or loss. This rate is called percentage.

*2. In the United States of America, a **copper coin** whose value is the hundredth part of a dollar.*

Done with the side-note. We will be using this later on, not today, but at some point soon. Just more proof of another scam that we've had perpetrated on us for every single day, every single minute of our lives - at least for those born after 1964.

As I mentioned at the beginning, all of this hits very close to home for us and that's one of the reasons why I want to talk about it this morning and why I want to keep saying,

“The 'church' is NOT the voice of God, the 'church' is not the representative of the Jesus Christ of the Bible. The 'church' is the enemy of Jesus Christ dressed up in sheep's clothing exactly like the apostle Paul said it would be.”

Our voices may be small. But we need to proclaim this far and wide to as many people as will hear.

It makes me angry to read comments from all the haters of Christ who hear about what

these so-called “churches” do - and they see the foolishness and the idiocy of it all - and they use it as an opportunity to trash the true Jesus Christ and the true God of the Bible.

I sent a text to someone inside this clown-show and simply said this - paraphrasing:

“Instead of letting the name of Christ be blasphemed all over the world - wouldn't it be a simple thing to do to show everyone Krissy Thompson's toes?”

Think about it for a second. Are you telling me - wait a minute - forget about me. From the world's perspective - pretty much every single person in the world - at least in the u.s. - that's above the age of - let's just say 18 - I know that a lot of little kids have their own phones - but let's just say the age of 18 - pretty much every single person in the u.s. has a phone - with a little something on there called a camera. They record everything. The world looks at something like this and says, “Really, you are seeing someone's amputated toes growing right in front of your face - and not a single one of you pulls out your cell phone and records it?”

“Church” inside their four walls - has created their own world. And, just like the world outside of it - it's a world of make-believe. You are not allowed to question it. You are told what to believe by something called a “pastor” - which - interestingly enough - though this man, woman or trans is the most revered, almost worshiped idol in their “church” - is a position - I guess that's an acceptable word - “pastor” is a word that is found exactly 1 time in the last 27 books of our Bibles. But somehow, this “pastor” has evolved - yes evolved - because this thing called “church” is a convoluted, evolutionized construct of man that resembles absolutely nothing from the Ekklesias in the Bible - and the response I received from my initial question - is pretty much exactly what I thought I would get:

“If you had confidence in your pastor and what God's doing in your church? You. Wouldn't doubt it.”

Listen to me, friends. IF, IF, IF - and again - just like in last week's message - IF, IF, IF - I'm stressing to you that I have 100% confidence that this did not happen - but IF, IF, IF it is proven that this lady's toes were regrown as a result of a “creative miracle” - a term that doesn't even appear once in our Bibles - if her toes were regrown as a result of a “creative miracle” in a 501(c)(3) government controlled, operated and funded “church” - and IF, IF, IF this was truly of God - that would be the day I would close my Bible, put it

away - and never open it again.

The God of the Bible does not do things contrary to His Word. This James River - which at one time was clearly identified as James River Assembly - part of the Assemblies of God - tongue-speaking, faith-healing, perveyors of the false end-times lie - but later - in order to be more inclusive - dropped the word Assembly from their marquee in favor of the more inclusive term "church".

Stop for a minute. The only thing. The one and only thing the "Assemblies of God" ever even came close to getting right - was their public refusal of using the word "church" - and instead using the word assembly. But even though that was close - it still isn't right because it's not just the word "church" that is despicably wrong - it's the concept also.

Just trading the word "church" for "assembly" - doesn't make it right. Changing the word "church" to Ekklesia - doesn't make it right. It's not just the word that's the problem - it's the concept. Jesus Christ did not come to establish weekend social organizations. He came to establish His Ekklesia - His Government and call men and women boys and girls out of the domain of darkness - the concept that men have been given power to define good and evil, right and wrong, and then force other men - at gunpoint if necessary - to obey their definitions.

God is doing NOTHING in these "churches" except calling people out of them.

Unlike so many others, I have NO confidence in any man that calls himself a "pastor" of a "church." A man that doesn't even have the Biblical sense to know the word or the concept is not in the Bible? No. I have no confidence whatsoever in that man - and neither should anyone else listening to this message today.

We are to have confidence in the Word of God. We are to have confidence in the faith - the system of belief once delivered to the saints - we are to have confidence that God - and God alone is the author, the definer of all things good and evil - and we are to have confidence that God, His Son Jesus Christ, exclusively are the Rulers of this world.

In the New Covenant World - men are not allowed to rule over each other according to their own definitions of good and evil - and where we find this happening - which is pretty much everywhere in the world we have allowed to be created today - the true Christian, the true follower of Jesus Christ, the true Citizen of the Government of God, the true Citizen of the Commonwealth of Israel is to stand against this false doctrine,

ideology and present the truth of God's Word no matter what the circumstances are.

If, in and by the Authority of the One true Jesus Christ, toes are regrown by the prayers of those who refuse the Authority of the One true Jesus Christ - then I'm done. I'm out. God is not the other of confusion - and this is the most confused state of being I've ever seen in my life.

Now, we all now these "churches" do cite the Scriptures when they think they can force the Scriptures to fit their narratives.

All I asked for is proof. Just show the proof that the toes were regrown. Simple enough. Show the proof. And, because I absolutely knew there was no proof, is no proof, never will be any proof - and if somehow there was - it would be months later after the healing has taken place from the Frankenstein surgery that was performed to make toes reappear - I knew I would eventually get something else given to me as an excuse as to why "proof" wasn't and will not be provided. Here it is:

"Skeptics are not changed by proof, otherwise Thomas and the rest of the religious leaders and all of Israel would have believed."

Stop right here for just a minute.

I recall very well, too well, actually, when I was playing "church" - and remember - I played "church" - was on the "church staff" of one of the largest Baptist "churches" in the u.s. Doubters, skeptics, etc., of anything that the "church" was involved in - were shunned. They were most times ignored. The "church" didn't owe them anything. If outsiders questioned, the "church" did not owe anyone a response.

Now. I get that to a certain extent. If applied correctly to the Ekklesia of Christ - I would agree in most instances that we do not owe anyone a reason, proof, etc., for why we live the way we live. Except, except for the declaration of Peter in I Peter chapter 3. Turn there with me for just a minute. Look with me beginning in verse 12. And we're going to get back to this whole concept of these people as to why they think they are providing Biblical basis for not providing proof.

[12] For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

[13] And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

[14] But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

[15] But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

[16] Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

When I say the world is not owed anything by the true Ekklesia of Christ, what I'm saying is that ultimately, our job in this life is to stay faithful to the Word of God, the Will of God for His people. Yes. I believe we are to explain why we live the way we do. Explain why we believe the way we do. But ultimately, our responsibility it to obey God, obey His Word, and if the world doesn't understand, then that's on them.

This “church” that has made this claim - and not just this one - there's a ton more - maybe not nearly as egregious as this one - but there's been a lot more. And the reality is, IF they simply provided an answer - provided proof - of their claims - wouldn't that shut the mouths of all the “skeptics” and IF this was all done in Jesus Name - wouldn't this be such a wonderful thing for the advancement of their “church?” Of course it would. That's not really a had thing to see. Unless, you are one that has been caught up in the deception and you are living in this fairy-tale world called “church.”

So, the “church” offers what they believe is a Biblical basis for not simply providing the skeptics proof of the three toes that were regrown. What I am telling you today, is that “church” sometimes offers the appearance of using the Bible, but what they are doing in actuality is misusing the Bible - not using it.

“Skeptics are not changed by proof, otherwise Thomas and the rest of the religious leaders and all of Israel would have believed.”

First of all, Thomas was not one of the religious leaders in Jerusalem. But I'll give the benefit of a doubt that this response maybe didn't mean that, maybe it was Thomas *and* the religious leaders....I had referenced to the fact that Thomas didn't believe Jesus Christ Himself, but Jesus showed Thomas - Jesus provided Thomas with the proof.

Now listen to this next bit of rationale closely.

...“and all of Israel would have believed.”

...“and all of Israel would have believed when they saw with their own eyes the miracles that Jesus did. They didn't believe because their hearts were hard.”

Alright. I am hoping so much that many of you got this and how the Scriptures - principally speaking here - were misused - and how the misuse of the Scriptures has been used to deceive so many people into falling for “church” and never even given the opportunity to learn about Ekklesia - the Government of God.

Ok. The skeptics in Christ's day did not believe even when it was Christ Himself performing miracles. Therefore, today, when we perform miracles, such as regrowing three toes that were amputated back in 2015 - and offering no proof of this “creative miracle” - we are not required to show anything to the skeptics because the skeptics didn't even believe Jesus.

What's wrong with this answer?

From the correct perspective of Fulfilled Bible Prophecy, of understanding the difference between the Old World and the New World, of understanding the timing of when these things occurred, what's wrong with this answer?

“We don't need to answer the skeptics today, [because in the first century], the skeptics did not believe Jesus.”

Here's my answer. And not only is the answer timely because of the three toes creative miracle - but because of an email I received this past week going back to the Predestination vs Whosoever Will series from 2021.

“The whole “skeptics” argument is Biblically flawed. Who hardened the “skeptics” hearts? God did. The unbelievers at the time of Christ HAD NO CHOICE as to whether they would believe or not. They were predestined to unbelief. Trying to use that argument today in dealing with “skeptics” is totally Biblically baseless and it's because people do not believe that Jesus fulfilled ALL the prophets. Which is EXACTLY like this James River church and all the Baptists, the Catholics and all the rest of them that are futurists.

Today, we live in a “whosoever will” world. It is horribly wrong to say we should not

offer proof to "skeptics" - and then use those from the first century as an excuse not to persuade "skeptics."

We must rightly divide the Word of Truth. We are dealing with a Book that is more powerful than any weapon man has ever devised - even those they think they have devised. When the Word of God is misused - all sorts of really bad things can happen. Such as entire movements of things called "church" which have done more to lead people away from the truth of Jesus Christ - than any other device man has ever created.

When you take Acts chapter 2 - for instance - and you fail to see the simple, ridiculously clear - that even a first grader should be capable of understanding -

"This is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel"

- referring very clearly to what was taking place that day - on the Day of Pentecost - in the first century - just days from the execution of Jesus Christ, His triumphant resurrection from the dead and His Ascension to His Father - when you take what was going on there that day - and you then try to say that the "last days" are anything other than what the text so clearly says - you are turning the Power of the Word of God from being a truth bomb - to being a weapon of mass destruction that leads people away from Jesus Christ and His Government.

When you do not understand how Predestination was the standard in the Old World and how Whosoever Will is the standard in the New World - you are going to be led astray by false teachers whose purpose is to lead you away from the Government of God and away from salvation. Turn over to II Peter chapter 3. Begin, please in verse 1:

[1] This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

[2] That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

Look at what is said in verse 2.

That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets,

Friends, if you believe the prophecies have not been fulfilled - you can't possibly discern the Scriptures correctly.

This James River “church” and pretty much every other “church” in the world today teaches that the prophecies have not been fulfilled. Peter says don't forget the words spoken by the prophets, and don't forget the commands of the apostles and of the Lord and Saviour. Why? Verse 3.

[3] Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

Peter is clearly telling these first century saints - they were in the last days. Friends, when people do not understand this - their understanding of the Word becomes MISunderstanding of the Word and misunderstanding of the Word will cause colossal damage - as we have seen for entire lives. And why? Why is it so important? Verse 4.

[4] And saying, Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

When people misunderstand passages such as this, and they misunderstand principles such as Predestination vs Whosoever Will, and it causes them to say the Messiah King is coming in the future - instead of in the days where Peter so clearly said His coming was to - it places the reality of the Government of Christ in the future. It tells people that Jesus is nothing other than a coming king. Oh yes. They will call Him King until they are blue in the face or until they fall backwards on their behinds slain in their spirits - but the truth is - the little g “governments” are their kings in actuality - and Jesus Christ is only their king “spiritually”. That's all it is.

The Bible is a Book about the establishment of the Government of God on this earth. Maybe after some discussion, everyone that claims Jesus will eventually agree with that. The problem is when. When did the Government of God establish itself on earth? It happened in the first century - just like the Bible says it did.

Since then, it has been the responsibility of every living, breathing creature to come out from among the ideologies of men - whatever they may be - their definitions, their governments, their “churches”, etc., and into the Government of God - the control of men's minds concerning every single thing they do in life.

The grave danger in misusing, misunderstanding the Word of God is that people then believe that the Government of God is future - it's not for today. The government - the control of the mind - is with men's little g "governments" - with men's definitions of right and wrong, good and evil, legal and illegal, lawful and unlawful - and when your faith - your system of belief is on this foundation - you are lost. You are not in Christ, and you are just like in the first century:

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

These matters are not just matters of small importance. They are life and death matters. They are the ultimate matters of concern for men and women boys and girls. If you are an alien to the Commonwealth of Israel, you are a stranger from the covenants of promise, you are without Christ, you have no hope and you are without God in this world.

Friends, Charlie Steward did not write this. Charlie Steward did not come up with this. I'll tell you that 99.9% of people playing "church" today - do not even know of the phrase the Commonwealth of Israel. And those that might know about it, think it's referring to a group of people in the middle east - who want nothing whatsoever to do with Jesus Christ. They are perfectly content being without Jesus Christ in the world. Verse 5 (II Peter) is of grave importance because I believe it very aptly applies today as it did back then as well.

[5] For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the Word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

[6] Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

[7] But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same Word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

What is verse 7 talking about? It's talking about the Mosaic World. Verses 5-6 is talking about Noah's world. Verse 7 is talking about Moses' world. And what was coming was Christ's world - the New Covenant World where Jesus took everything back to Himself, gave it to His Father, and His Father is the sole Ruler over His Creation and no longer allows any man to administer it - unless that man is administering it according to the Laws, Commandments, Ordinances and Perfect Will of God the Father as found in the

Word of God and in nature.

Teresa and I were watching a video this week of a “court trial” going on in the u.s. The “judge” and all the parties involved couldn't stress enough how the proceedings were taking place according to the “laws and statues of Utah”. No. That is blasphemy. Those days are over. Even during the times God allowed that - it was still blasphemy - but now - more than ever - in the New Covenant World - it's blasphemy. You want to bring me into your “courts” - then fine - judge me according to the Laws of God. That's the Gospel. That's the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, that's the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven, that's the Gospel of the Government of God.

This is Good News. This is the Greatest News ever. The Government of God is here. It's now. Men are not to be judged according to their own definitions of right and wrong, good and evil, they are to be judged by the Altogether PERFECT Laws of God and His PERFECT WILL. Wow. What a world that would be. And the reason that's not taking place anywhere in the world today? “Church.” “Church” is the greatest obstacle in existence today because when the “church” handles the Word of God - it is actually mishandling the Word of God. When the “church” uses the Word of God - it is actually misusing the Word of God.

[8] But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

[9] The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

[10] But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

The dissolution of the Old Covenant world was upon them. It was soon taking place.

[11] Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

Was Peter lying to them? Was he telling them a great big lie for the purpose of keeping them in the dark concerning when the events really would take place?

[12] Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the

heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

[13] Nevertheless **we**, according to **His** promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

That's Peter and the first century he was writing to.

Again. Was he lying to them? Whose the “we” according to His promise? Who is the “we” and Who was the “His?” It was the believers in the first century to whom the letter was written and the “His” is either a reference to God the Son or God the Father, doesn't matter which.

Rightly dividing the Word of Truth shows very clearly when the “last days” were, when the Old Covenant world - the heavens, the elements - melted away and when the New heavens and the New earth were established.

Getting this wrong is the source of all the world's problems today and the number one source for the misinformation comes from something called “church” who is more concerned with deceiving people into believing they can regrow toes - than bringing people into the knowledge of salvation. They are more interested in bringing further pain to a mother - I can't even imagine losing your two year old. Then, having some scum sucking “preacher” tell you “if you just believe hard enough, if you just pray hard enough, if you just say the word Jesus enough, God will raise your little baby from the dead.” Day one of your intense pain comes and goes - but God is going to raise the dead baby. Day two, three comes and goes and the intense pain from the loss gets worse and worse. Oh, then the discovery, the eureka moment, “We haven't given Jesus enough time to raise your precious baby from the dead.”

What scum. Incredible that there are people out there like that. And what's worse is the people that believe them - have “confidence in their pastor.” And in that regard, I'll use the word CONFidence with a capital C-O-N like I do with their CONstitution. Verse 14:

[14] Wherefore, beloved, **seeing that ye look for such things**, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

Of course, Peter is lying to them, right? Peter tells them they are in the last days. He tells them they will be witnesses to those things. He tells them they are to look for such

things. But it's all a lie. And, just like the "Church of England" declared recently that "God got it wrong" - the "church" declares once again - that Peter got it wrong, Jesus got it wrong - because none of this happened as it's described here - it's all in the future.

The Government of God is in the future - it is not for today. And why does God allow these liars to continue?

[15] And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

Now watch.

[16] As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, **which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.**

[17] Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

[18] But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

This is what happens when

- 1) people fail to yield to the simple, easily understood Scriptures concerning the phrase "the last days";
- 2) when people fail to understand the passing of the Old Covenant world and the establishment of the New;
- 3) when people fail to understand that Jesus came to fulfill all the prophecies, to fulfill all the Law;
- 4) when people fail to understand that Christ took everything back to His Father - the days where God allowed the nations to walk in their own ways, He took that all back; the days where men said, "Give us a king like all the other nations." Christ ended those days.

Today, they call Him King - but they still live according to the “kings like all the other nations.”

Jesus is not in the toe regrowing business, today. He's in the business of calling men and women boys and girls out of the domain of darkness and into the Light, into His Government, His Peace, His Laws, His Statutes, Judgements and Perfect Will.

Look again at verse 16, which is the main reason we came to this chapter.

[16] As also in all his epistles, **speaking in them of these things**; in which are some things hard to be understood,

At that time, yes, it was hard for them to understand. But today, we have the completed Word of God. It's not hard for us to understand.

which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

I'm telling you - don't be fooled. Don't be led astray. If you do not understand the Scriptures - those that do not understand - will be led to their own destruction.

Once again, open your Bibles to Luke chapter 24. This is after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Begin in verse 30.

[30] And it came to pass, as He sat at meat with them, He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

The beginning of understanding starts taking the Bread of Life from Christ.

[31] And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight.

[32] And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?

Oh how I wish these verses would burn into our hearts like it did this day. It so vitally important that we know the Scriptures. That we understand the Scriptures. I don't want any of you to have confidence in me. I'm just a man like the rest of you. I want you to have confidence in the Scriptures. Know the Word of God like the back of your hand.

Knowing the Word of God is the only way not to be led astray. It's the way to not to be deceived by those who would twist the Word of God to lead people to destruction.

[33] And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,

[34] Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

[35] And they told what things were done in the way, and how He was known of them in breaking of bread.

[36] And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

[37] But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

[38] And He said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

[39] Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have.

Funny how the “church” people refuse to provide proof to the skeptics, yet Jesus didn't have any problem showing proof.

[40] And when He had thus spoken, He shewed them His hands and His feet.

[41] And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, He said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

[42] And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

[43] And He took it, and did eat before them.

He showed proof of His Resurrection. He showed them proof. But that doesn't necessarily help us today. We are reading about an historical event that took place in the first century. We believe this because it's in the Word. This is part of our faith - our system of belief - and we trust in it - we hope in it.

Beginning in verse 44, are eternal principles that applied most certainly then - and they most certainly apply today and forevermore. Verse 44.

[44] And He said unto them, These are the Words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, **that all things must be fulfilled**, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me.

[45] Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the

Scriptures,

Friends, I'm telling you, this is the beginning of understanding the Scriptures. If a man does not believe that Jesus fulfilled ALL THINGS. If a man does not believe that Jesus fulfilled all things that were written in the Law of Moses, the things that were written in the prophets and in the Psalms - they cannot possibly have their understanding opened.

Who do we think we are? How have we become better than the disciples? How have we become better than the apostles or any of the saints recorded in the Word of God? The understanding of the Scriptures begins with understanding that Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies.

You are fooling no one but yourself by believing your "church" your "pastor" if your "church" and your "pastor" tells you that you are "living in the last days." If that very basic understanding is not taught, you are being led astray - and being led astray by the very Scriptures themselves - and you are being led astray to destruction.

I don't care how many toes are regrown. I don't care if they did raise a two year old baby from the dead - if they do not believe and teach the present day reality of the Government of God because Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies - then what they did or claim to have done - was not of God.

There are lots of David Blaine videos and David Copperfield videos out there that show some of the most fabulous tricks you could ever see. But they aren't true. They are illusions. And if you think those illusionists are not part of the "church" - then you are deceived - you have been led astray.

[46] And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

[47] And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

[48] And ye are witnesses of these things.

[49] And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

[50] And He led them out as far as to Bethany, and He lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

[51] And it came to pass, while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and

carried up into heaven.

[52] And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

[53] And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The charismatic “church” world is not based on the truth of the Word of God. It does not use the Word of God skilfully and accurately. It misuses and mishandles the Word of God and does so to the destruction of all those who have fallen for it. It is based on a religion of emotion and sight. It is built on the testimonies of men who describe to others things they claim have happened to them - things that do not align with Scripture.

“I know it's true - because it happened to me.” “I know the 'devil' is real because he came into my bedroom last night and we had an actual fistfight.” Yes, friends, I've had more than one person tell me that. When a person's mind convinces them so fully of a deception - typically there's no amount of Scripture, there's no amount of persuasion, that can change their mind. Bad anchovies on a late night pizza has been the source of a lot of these people's faith. And I'll tell you right now - basing your faith on pizza is a recipe for disaster.

These people are offered one delusional story after another from a very young age. And I'll assure you this, if Teresa and I had taught our children that there is a 'devil' running around just waiting to eat them up - if we had taught them that while they were very young - when they were old - they'd be so convinced of this “devil” - no amount of Scripture, no amount of reasoning or persuasion could change their mind.

The religion of “church” is based on experience and bedtime stories and drama. Last week, we were in II Corinthians chapter 5. I want you to go back there again for just a few minutes. Look with me to a very simple, yet powerful principle found in one of the shorter verses in the Bible. Verse 7, taking nothing out of context as this passage and the next should still be firmly in our hearts from last week:

[7] (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

We walk by faith - which is our system of belief once delivered to the saints. We live by the things we have learned from the Word of God. We do not live by sight. We do not live by emotion. We live by faith. If what we see does not line up with the Word of God - then we need to examine - we need to test - we need to judge everything by the Word of God.

Turn to Matthew chapter 16, and let's begin with verse 1. Living by sight and not by faith. Jesus addressed this while He was here.

[1] The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

[2] He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.

[3] And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?

[4] A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And He left them, and departed.

Give us a sign. Give us something we can see. If you'll just give us a sign, then we'll believe. Show us a great miracle. No. The only thing we are getting is the Word of God. Turn over to Luke chapter 16. Let's begin in verse 19:

[19] There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

[20] And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

[21] And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

[22] And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

[23] And in hell [the grave] he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

[24] And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

[25] But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

[26] And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

[27] Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to

my father's house:

[28] For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

[29] Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

[30] And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

[31] And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Our faith comes from the Word of God. It comes from what we read from Moses and the prophets, the Psalms. It comes from the last 27 books of our Bibles. We don't change our faith - our system of belief - because of witnessing things that are described as signs and wonders - and especially from the 501(c)(3) government controlled, operated, and funded "church."

Friends, I know some of you crave fellowship so badly. I get that. I understand it. But our fellowship must be based on truth. It must be based on the faith once delivered to the saints. The true body of Jesus Christ is not to have fellowship with darkness.

Yes. You hear messages every week telling you to come out of the men's little g "governments." And I won't stop preaching that. But, we also need to come out from those that call themselves "church." It is not of God. Jesus came to claim the Ekklesia - the Government of Israel - for Himself and that's what we are to be a part of.

This is all really so very simple. We have all seen - many times now - and from a multitude of Scriptures - the Ekklesia of Jesus Christ and "church" are as far apart Biblically as day is from night, as right is from wrong. They are not interchangeable. We know the word and the concept of "church" was not even in the very first fully completed English Bible. If anything you believe about the Bible, anything you believe about Jesus Christ, anything you believe has been shaped, formed or molded by that creation of man called "church" - I'm telling you - you better get back to the Word of God and make sure that what you believe is firmly grounded in the Word.

We were warned about false teachers - wolves in sheep's clothing - the ministers of evil dressed as messengers of light. Why do you think those warnings are in the Book? It's because it's real. The danger is there. It was there in the first century - it is still here now.

If a man does not come to you preaching the present day reality of the Government of God. That men and women boys and girls are to come out from the domain - the dominion - from the world of men's little g "governments" and into the One True Government of Jesus Christ - you better beware. You better be on high alert. Don't be fooled. Don't be led astray.

Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and I will be your God, and you will be My people.