

Message# 246 7-02-2023 - Having Done All, Stand

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

I want to remind you that Teresa and I have reserved the campgrounds for when the world calls Aug., 20 through the 23rd. The 20th is a Sunday. We will plan on doing this the way we have in the past, where we open up sign in for 1:00pm that afternoon. Then, we'll begin the Conference with a dinner, followed by our opening Assembly that evening. We have a great lineup of speakers. I'm very excited again to hear from our young men - then we have some of the same old guys ready to speak as well.

I have two intentions this morning. But as always, we'll just have to see where they lead. The first intention is to go back and tie up some loose ends from last weekend's message - then the second intention is to try to do what I intended on doing last weekend - and that was visiting some email responses that I received after the message from two weeks ago. Mikveh. I want to go there again. I believe it is of utmost importance that we spend some more time on mikveh.

But first, the article that I read for you concerning Ted Cruz was from Business Insider. I found another article on the same issue - that was actually quite a bit more detailed and it was published in USA Today. I want to deal with that this morning.

And my purpose again, is to try to show people who call themselves Christians - and I mean the sincere ones. There are lots and lots and lots of people out there who call themselves Christians - and they are as sincere as possibly can be - but the sad reality is - they have fallen for something called "churchianity" which has a slight resemblance to Christianity - but in all reality - the two are as far apart as night and day. But if we could get them to understand this - and they redirected their sincerity to true Christianity and away from the imposter that is churchianity - there is no telling what could happen in the world - and - it could happen relatively quickly.

The power of the Government of God is real. It's vast. It's unlimited. But - it takes people who are willing to obey that Gospel in order to effect change.

I saw a sign outside of a "church" this week that said - "God Bless America. Please give God a reason to bless America. God make America blessable again."

I understand what they are saying. But that is totally misguided. It isn't truth and it is not how a people become blessable. Friends, listen to me, hear this, if you get nothing from this message at all today - please get this. If you are a living, breathing person today - you better hope that you are not in the presence of God when or if HE makes a land blessable again. When men and women refuse to obey God - the Scriptures are quite clear that the people and the land are cursed. If God has to take measures to make His land blessable again - the way He does it was never something men want to experience.

Think Sodom and Gomorrah. Think Jerusalem at the end of the first century. If you are asking God - please do something to make your land "blessable" again - when God takes this type of action - you are asking for fire, brimstone, earthquakes, pestilence, famine, destruction, utter destruction of people and land - in order to start over again with a clean slate.

If you are identifying the need for God to make something "blessable" again - the most ideal way for this to happen is for people to once again choose God as their King - cast off all the idols of men's "governments" they have created for themselves - and return to the exclusive Citizenship of the Commonwealth of Israel and declare that you are committed to following exclusively the Laws, Commandments, Judgments and Perfect Will of God. That's by far the best way to bring change.

If you want to sit back and continue living the rebellious way of following the little g "governments" of men - you are asking for change alright - be assured of that - but if God has to bring the change - you are going to get blasted, too. That is not very smart. That is not the best plan of action that a man can take. The best plan of action for men to take is to fall on their faces before God and beg forgiveness for refusing to have His Son be their King - receive that forgiveness from a gracious, forgiving God Who wants nothing more than to forgive people's sins - then have them rise back up - cast off men's little g "governments" and begin living a life following the exclusive Kingship of His Son - Jesus Christ.

The Bible records monumental changes in societies where men did just that. And, it didn't seem to require all that great of numbers, either. Today, because of a population change - it may take more - I don't know if God works on percentages or not - the story of Sodom and Gomorrah seems to indicate something of that nature - I don't know. But I was telling Jeff the other day, if there 1,000 people living here that would commit themselves to the Gospel and would obey the exclusive Government of Jesus Christ -

what would happen? I'd sure like to see it.

And, this brings me to another point. I know people just do not understand why I am saying that all of this hinges on a man's relationship with men's little g "governments" but it does. Giving them control, giving them govern-ment over one inch of our lives compromises the power of the Gospel. We must cast off men's little g "governments" and follow exclusively King Jesus. Get rid of men's governments out of our lives and live according to the Government of God - exclusively.

The Bible clearly tells us - we've seen this a thousand times - look at again for a minute this morning. Turn to Jeremiah chapter 13 and let's begin in verse 1.

[1] Thus saith the LORD unto me, Go and get thee a linen girdle, and put it upon thy loins, and put it not in water.

[2] So I got a girdle according to the word of the LORD, and put it on my loins.
[Got some underwear.]

[3] And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying,

[4] Take the girdle that thou hast got, which is upon thy loins, and arise, go to Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock.

[5] So I went, and hid it by Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

[6] And it came to pass after many days, that the LORD said unto me, Arise, go to Euphrates, and take the girdle from thence, which I commanded thee to hide there.

[7] Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

[8] Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

[9] Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

Why?

[10] This evil people, which refuse to hear My words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

[11] For as the girdle cleaveth to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave unto me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, saith the LORD; that they might be unto Me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and

for a glory: but they would not hear.

[12] Therefore thou shalt speak unto them this word; Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and they shall say unto thee, Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?

[13] Then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

[14] And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.

[15] Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken.

[16] Give glory to the LORD your God, before He cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, He turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness.

This is what I'm talking about. When God brings correction, it's really bad. But men have the opportunity to turn voluntarily.

[17] But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD's flock is carried away captive.

[18] Say unto the king and to the queen, Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, even the crown of your glory.

[19] The cities of the south shall be shut up, and none shall open them: Judah shall be carried away captive all of it, it shall be wholly carried away captive.

[20] Lift up your eyes, and behold them that come from the north: where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?

[21] What wilt thou say when he shall punish thee? for thou hast taught them to be captains, and as chief over thee: shall not sorrows take thee, as a woman in travail?

[22] And if thou say in thine heart, Wherefore come these things upon me? For the greatness of thine iniquity are thy skirts discovered, and thy heels made bare.

[23] Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

[24] Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.

[25] This is thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the LORD; because thou hast forgotten Me, and trusted in falsehood.

[26] Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face, that thy shame may appear.
[27] I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem! wilt thou not be made clean? when shall it once be?

I think one of the reasons people today do not associate themselves with passages such as this is because - all they can seem to remember about a passage like this is just the end. They'll read verse 27

I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields.

And since I think it's safe to say that most people are not committing sexual adulteries - and they are not snorting like a horse - which is actually symbolic language for idolatry - although, although, a very solid case that the majority of people today are snorting like a horse by committing idolatries with the worship of their "governments" and their "laws" and their "CONstitutions" - or they aren't visiting prostitutes - then they just don't find much value in a passage like this. But the Bible is in many ways like any other book. It's passages have introductions, then body text, then summaries. And if we are looking at the sins in the conclusion - we should understand that most times - the conclusion is a summary of the intro. The main problem with Judah here - the same main problem that Judah had in almost every other instance. It's found in verses 9-10:

[9] Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

[10] This evil people, which refuse to hear My words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, [this underwear] which is good for nothing.

The record of Judah's history is of a people who constantly refused to follow the exclusive Kingship of God. Written - recorded - for our learning. Judah's constant references to refusing to hear the Word of God, of walking according to their own imaginations - which is their laws, their treaties, their CONstitutions - shall be the supreme law of the land - walking after their rulers, their judges, their magistrates, serving their CONstitutions and the laws which shall be made in pursuance thereof - none others with standing - worshiping their "governments" - that's what Judah's constant problem was - and the record is there for us. It is supposed to be there to

show us - those who desire to be God's people - that we are not to make the same mistakes they did.

The evil people were committing adulteries, they were committing idolatries, they were committing whoredoms - and it was because they were not following the exclusive Kingship of God. When people refuse the exclusive Kingship of God - which means being Governed by His Laws, His Judgments, His Commandments and His Perfect Will - God calls it adultery, idolatry and whoredom. And yes, the people are guilty. The people are without excuse for doing these things - but the people are also led by - look at verse 18 again:

[18] Say unto the king and to the queen, Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, even the crown of your glory.

The battle is with the principalities. And the principalities are those who are the heads of a society. Listen to the Greek Septuagint of this chapter. Verse 1:

1 Thus saith the Lord, Go and procure for thyself a linen girdle, and put it about thy loins, and let it not be put in water. 2 So I procured the girdle according to the word of the Lord, and put it about my loins. 3 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 4 Take the girdle that is upon thy loins, and arise, and go to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock. 5 So I went, and hid it by the Euphrates, as the Lord commanded me. 6 And it came to pass after many days, that the Lord said to me, Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take thence the girdle, which I commanded thee to hide there. 7 So I went to the river Euphrates, and dug, and took the girdle out of the place where I [had] buried it: and, behold, it was rotten, utterly good for nothing.

The cloth, the underwear had become rotten. It was good for nothing.

8 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Thus saith the Lord, 9 Thus will I mar the pride of Juda, and the pride of Jerusalem; 10 [even] this great pride [of the men] that will not hearken to My words, and have gone after strange gods, to serve them, and to worship them: and they shall be as this girdle, which can be used for nothing.

This is what happens when men follow their own "laws". That's what strange gods means. Serving them, worshiping them. When men do this, they become like the

worthless cloth, a tattered rag, utterly good for nothing.

11 For as a girdle cleaves about the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave to myself the house of Israel, and the whole house of Juda; that they might be to Me a famous people, and a praise, and a glory: but they did not hearken to Me. 12 And thou shalt say to this people, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and it shall come to pass, if they shall say to thee, Shall we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine? that thou shalt say to them, 13 Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I [will] fill the inhabitants of this land, and their kings the sons of David that sit upon their throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and Juda and all the dwellers in Jerusalem, with strong drink. 14 And I will scatter them a man and his brother, and their fathers and their sons together: I will not have compassion, saith the Lord, and I will not spare, neither will I pity [to save them] from destruction. 15 Hear ye, and give ear, and be not proud: for the Lord has spoken. 16 Give glory to the Lord your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble on the dark mountains, and ye shall wait for light, and behold the shadow of death, and they shall be brought into darkness. 17 But if ye will not hearken, your soul shall weep in secret because of pride, and your eyes shall pour down tears, because the Lord's flock is sorely bruised.

Friends, the Lord's flock today, is sorely bruised. It's time for us to do something different. What we have been doing isn't working. The battle is with the principalities. The Greek is basilei and it means the kings. This is what the Christian needs to be saying today - verse 18 from the Greek Septuagint:

18 Say ye to the king and the princes, Humble yourselves, and sit down; for your crown of glory is removed from your head.

Once again, but this time from the USA Today, ***Cruz criticizes Florida pastor over Ugandan anti-LGBTQ law: 'Your biblical analysis is in error'***

There's a photograph of someone from Uganda wearing a hoodie that says Say No to Homosexual, Lesbianism, Gay - Down with Babylon Up with Hope. A black man wearing that. The reason I say that is because there are people that say the Gospel, the Good News is only for white people. Then I look around and see black people who are more willing to live according to the Laws of God than most white people that I know.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2023/06/06/ted-cruz-florida-pastor->

uganda-anti-lgbtq-law/70293354007/

The article says:

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, sparred with a pastor on Twitter over an anti-LGBTQ law in Uganda, asking the faith leader if “you really believe” the United States’ government “should execute every person who is gay?”

Cruz last week called the law, which imposes the death penalty for what it calls “aggravated homosexuality” and establishes lifetime prison sentences for people who engage in gay sex, “horrific & wrong” on Twitter.

“ALL civilized nations should join together in condemning this human rights abuse,” Cruz shared.

Tom Ascol, a Florida pastor, responded to Cruz’s tweet, telling the senator to “Tell it to God” and quoting a passage of the Bible.

“Was this law God gave to His old covenant people ‘horrific and wrong’?” Ascol shared.

Cruz on Monday hit back, [of course he did] telling Ascol that he honors “your ministry” but “Your biblical analysis is in error.”

And then this is how he says the Biblical analysis for the death penalty is wrong.

“Do you really believe that the US govt should execute every person who is gay??” Cruz tweeted, adding “Leviticus also tells us: ‘For anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.’”

“Should the govt execute every child who’s disrespectful to his parents?” Cruz shared.

Let's stop right here for just a minute. Since when is “cursing his father or his mother” equated with - and I know where someone like Ted Cruz wants to go with this because I've dealt with it before - he's trying to say that God's Law is saying you should kill your children if they sass you or back talk you. My precious little grandbaby Poppy, you ask her if she wants to do this or that - knowing that her answer should be in the affirmative - but she might say - “Uh uh.” Or she might say Mo - which as quickly as it was so cutely Mo - she is now saying No. So, you want us to believe how awful God's Laws are concerning children that God's Laws says kill your children when they tell you

No - when they should have told you Yes. Kill your children if you believe in the death penalty for homosexuality if they tell you no when they should have said yes.

That's one of the stupidest things men have ever said. And, double shame on Ted Cruz - someone who most people think has some smarts about him - shame on Ted Cruz for equating homosexuality with a child telling their parent no - when they should have said yes. That is displaying such an ignorance of the Will of God that it's just ridiculous. If that's what God's intentions were with that Law - the entire race of man would be eliminated in one generation.

18 Say ye to the king and the princes, Humble yourselves, and sit down;

Sit down and shut up when you are cursing the Laws of God - which is exactly what he and so many others do when disparaging the Laws of God. Cursing your parents - in the Law of God that brings the death penalty - is not talking about sass or back talk. Cruz said:

Pastor, I don't know you, but I honor your ministry.

Your biblical analysis is in error. Jesus told us to "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

We are talking the laws of man, not the Old Testament laws of God.

And again, how ridiculous. This whole thing is about the "government of Uganda" passing a "law" that criminalizes homosexuality, and the promotion of lgbtq and Cruz plays the "Render unto Caesar" card?

And,

We are talking the laws of man, not the Old Testament laws of God.

18 Say ye to the king and the princes, Humble yourselves, and sit down;

These people, these "leaders" of the principalities - they have led the people to become

...evil people, which refuse to hear My words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall

even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

But friends, yes, the leaders of the principalities need to sit down and shut up - I might add - but the people themselves are not excused because of their “leaders.” The people need to quit following the “leaders” of the principalities and return to the exclusive Kingship of the God of the Bible - no matter what the “leaders of the principalities” do.

The USA article continues:

1/x Cruz is not the only leader who has spoken out about the measure Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni signed into law.

And here you go again. I've said this a thousand times before. There's not a lick of difference between any of them. Cruz, right wing conservative Republican.

President Joe Biden called the law “a tragic violation of universal human rights – one that is not worthy of the Ugandan people, and one that jeopardizes the prospects of critical economic growth for the entire country.”

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has also raised concerns about the measure.

“(Guterres) calls on Uganda to fully respect its international human rights obligations, in particular the principle of non-discrimination and the respect for personal privacy, irrespective of sexual orientation and gender identity,” U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Turn to Romans chapter 8. Begin in verse 34:

[34] Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

[35] Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

[36] As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

[37] Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.

[38] For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor

principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
[39] Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us
from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Look at verse 38 again. Is this saying that principalities would try to separate the true follower of Christ from the love of God? That's exactly what it's saying. Now there are quite a few definitions of arche (archay) in the Greek (principalities). Let me mention a few that I feel are appropriate here. From Mr. Thayer's Greek Lexicon:

the person or thing that commences, the first person or thing in a series, the leader: the first place, principality, rule, magistracy [cf. English 'authorities'], (ἀρχω τινός): Luke 12:11; Luke 20:20; Titus 3:1; office given in charge (Genesis 40:13, 21; 2 Macc. 4:10, etc.), Jude 1:6. Hence the term is transferred by Paul to angels and demons holding dominions entrusted to them in the order of things

On that last one, Mr. Thayer has allowed some churchology to enter into his definition. Angels, demons - but then it comes right back into focus when he says “*dominions entrusted to them in the order of things*”. We are talking about principalities. The structure of societies where the origins of how a society governs itself comes from.

Yes, principalities, municipalities, if they do not have the Laws of God as their foundation - they will be used to try to separate people from their God. Turn to Ephesians chapter 6, begin in verse 10.

[10] Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.

[11] Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

[12] For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

[13] Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

We just read an article about the “government of Uganda.” In Uganda, that's the seat of “government” over there. We read how Ted Cruz, Joe Biden, and United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed their opinions on the subject. Friends, this is exactly what Ephesians 6 is talking about. And, when the true follower of Jesus Christ sees those in these positions who are clearly opposing the Law of God - that

should be simple simple simple.

[14] Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

[15] And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

[16] Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

[17] And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God:

[18] Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

[19] And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

[20] For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Paul said he was an ambassador. That is a political term. Paul was not a citizen of those representing

principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, spiritual wickedness in high places.

We, as followers of Jesus Christ are to Come out from among them and be separate - so that the Lord will be our God - our Ruler, Judge and Magistrate - the Lord will be our God. The One Whose Laws we follow. The world can curse those Laws all they want to. But the true follower of Jesus Christ will never curse the Laws of God.

People like Ted Cruz have it completely, totally backwards. If I were a betting man - and don't misunderstand me - I'm just using a common saying - betting is wrong - Christians should not be involved in gambling - but using that phrase, "If I were a betting man" I would place my bet that Ted Cruz is an advocate for "water baptism" according to whatever "church" he's involved with.

So the Laws of God that have been done away with - he advocates for.

And the Laws of God that will never be done away with - he curses. Totally, 100% backwards. The sacrificial, ceremonial Laws of God - which includes - to name just a few - the blood sacrifices and the washing of the flesh and the washing clothes - most

commonly - though incorrectly - called “baptism” - the blood sacrifices and the “baptisms” - were done away with. They ended when the physical temple came down. But the moral Law of God has not ended, will never end, and that is how God demands people Govern themselves in the New Covenant World in which we live. We're not to be governed by our own “laws” our own imaginations, we are to be Governed by God and His Laws.

We see, over and over and over, how the people of God in the Old Covenant World would continually replace the Laws of God with their own laws. We see, over and over and over how bad God said this was. And we see, over and over and over how God told the people to stop doing that and return to His exclusive Laws - and every bit of that was written and recorded for our learning - yet still - in 2023 - we see leaders in the world's principalities - who have the gall to call themselves “Christians” and they make comments like

We are talking the laws of man, not the Old Testament laws of God.

And very few people understand the significance. And much of that could be attributed to his catch-phrase “Render unto Caesar” which makes just about all in the “church-world” stand to their feet, put their hand over their heart, and sing a song in worship of the “government” they have created for themselves.

That USA Today article and the conversation between Ted Cruz and that Florida pastor - who at least on this issue - is much closer to the truth than most - should have lots of people scratching their heads in questioning whether what they have believed from what they learned in their “churches” has been correct. Let's pray that it will wake many from their sleep.

The leaders of the people have caused them to err, and they that are led of them are destroyed. It's time for God's people to rise and tell the leaders of the principalities to

Humble themselves, and sit down.

Alright, two weeks ago, we went back and looked at mikveh again. And, I received several emails and comments that prove exactly what I have been saying since I started the water works series last year. I have made the statement that if someone has never heard the word mikveh before - there is a really good chance they have never heard the gospel before. Now, that needs some explanation. It is not so much that they never

heard the word mikveh - so much as they have never heard the truths related to the application of physical water to the flesh as is found in the Word of God.

If someone believes - if their system of belief - their faith - if they believe that the application of physical water to the flesh is what saves them - and they trust in that faith - friends - they have missed it.

The proper understanding of water - not just in the last 23 books of our Bible - is key to understanding what it means to become a follower of Jesus Christ.

There are people out there who demand the application of physical water to the flesh - and they call that "being baptized into Jesus Christ." Friends, applying physical water to the flesh is not "being baptized into Jesus Christ." Being "baptized into Jesus Christ" has nothing whatsoever to do with physical H₂O water. The application of physical H₂O water to the flesh - was something that was done - many times - *most times* - right alongside the sacrificing of animals in the Old Covenant World - for the remission of sins.

The two acts - the two works - the blood sacrifice and the physical washing of the clothes and the flesh - were essential elements of the sacrificial system that God told Moses to institute in the Old Covenant.

Not only do most people today - *outside of Judaism* - understand mikveh and its role in the Old Covenant - but most people today - *outside of Judaism* - never knew of the physical H₂O water requirements in the Law God gave Moses for the remission of sins in the Old Covenant World.

Most people understand that the blood sacrifices were (as they say) done away with at the cross. Even though very few people can give the proper understanding as to why we see Paul participating in an animal sacrifice in the temple in Acts 21. And very few people have addressed and even less people understand why James said the believers in the Book of Acts were "zealous of the Law." And, very people have been taught and therefore understand the significance as to why the early followers of Jesus Christ were "daily in the temple" in Jerusalem.

Were they there having coffee and donuts with the jews every morning and evening when they got off of work? No. They were not. They were there every morning and every evening because that's when the daily sacrifices according to the Law God gave

Moses took place. And they were there in obedience to the Law God gave Moses. But for the “church” and its woeful ignorance of the Bible - that should be really really simple to see and to understand.

But, again, because of the woeful ignorance of the “church” which teaches that the Old Covenant blood sacrifices - were the only thing of value in the Law God gave Moses - and that “ended with the cross” - which is totally NOT what Jesus Himself said - it is no great mystery as to why people are so confused about what was taking place in the Book of Acts.

The followers of Jesus Christ - in Jerusalem - in the first century - after the cross - after the ascension - but NOT after the temple was destroyed - but before - were keeping the Law God gave Moses - but doing so in the Name of - in the Authority of Jesus Christ - and not under the authority of Moses. This, they were commanded by Jesus Christ Himself - until the time of reformation - until the time of reforming - the passing of the Old Covenant World - and the forming of the New Covenant World - which took place - officially - when the temple was destroyed.

The washing requirements of the Old Covenant Law God gave Moses - were still in effect - in the first century - after the cross - after the ascension - while the temple was still in place.

The translators of the original 1611 King James Bible - in their own words said - on the very last page of their chapter called “The Translators” - that they avoided the scrupolositities of the Puritans.

What did that mean? Scrupolositities of the Puritans. It means the Puritans, in their translations, were afraid to make a mistake. The Puritans did not want to make mistakes with their translations. So, they used the English word “washed” instead of as the KJV translators said - “We avoided the scrupolositities of the Puritans and went on” - where if you read between the lines - they admit they did not have the authority to do - but rather changed from using the word “washed” and instead inserted the transliterated word “baptism.” Additionally, avoiding the scrupolositities of the Puritans, they changed the word “congregation” which was understood at that time as government - to the more commonly understood word by even the vulgar - as they said - to the word “church.”

Then, they claimed to have taken the authority to change those words as to make the

Bible more understandable - to as they said - the vulgar.

What's the big deal? Well, aside from the obvious, had the words "baptize, baptism, baptized" etc., been left as they were from the first 39 books of the Bible - it would have done what God intended. I realize that might be taken as an arrogant statement. It is not. But it is said with all confidence that had the word been left the way it was at it appeared in the first 39 books - then it would have been much easier for people to understand that what was taking place in the Gospels and in the Book of Acts as it related to applying physical water to the flesh was the fulfillment of the Law God gave Moses. When He told Moses to tell the people - over and over and over - to wash their clothes and bathe their skin.

That wasn't just take a bath to wash the scum off of you. Those were requirements that were included in most cases - during the sacrificing of the animals. The two were - most of the time - inseparable? Why? Because the blood pointed to the blood of Christ. And the water pointed to Jesus Christ as the Living Water. Blood and water. The Law God gave Moses was not just blood. It was blood and water. Both of which were used to point to the coming Messiah, the King of Israel, Jesus Christ.

To me, what should be so obvious that there were water requirements in the Old Covenant Law God gave Moses was concerning John the Washer. John the Washer was an Old Covenant prophet. John the Washer never stepped one foot inside the New Covenant World. John the Washer was murdered by the state years before Jesus Christ was murdered by the state.

What John the Washer was doing and the people who were doing what he said were doing - was fulfilling the Law God gave Moses for the remission of sins in the Old Covenant World. To point to what John the Washer was doing - and demand the same in the New Covenant World displays a clear ignorance of the Word of God. And again, I'm not using that word in a derogatory manner. I'm using it in its purest sense. Lack of understanding. Lack of knowledge.

There have been lots and lots of well-meaning people who do not or did not understand this - what should be and should have been - such an easily understood concept. One of the reasons why it was not understood is because of what the KJV translators did. By inventing a brand new English word - the transliterations of bapto, baptismos, baptisma, baptizein, etc., and creating baptism, baptize, and Baptist - they led people - whether they intentionally did it or not - we'll never know until Jesus

Himself tells us - but they made people think that John brought something entirely new onto the scene at the beginning of the first century.

That is absolutely false. John would have been a Law breaker in the extreme had he brought something new and added it to the Law God gave Moses. He had no authority to do so. This is why there is no explanation from the Word of God as to what John was doing. The people knew full well what John was doing. "Baptism" to use a horrible word - but to help make a point - was not new. The people knew what he was doing. It was washing in fulfillment of the Law God gave Moses for the remission of sins.

Also, do not overlook the fact that the "baptism of John" which by all indications from the text tell us it was with physical H₂O water - and most of the time in the Jordan River - is called - for the remission of sins.

This proves again what I am saying about the blood and the water requirements in the Law God gave Moses. It wasn't just the blood. It was the blood and the water. And, if you recall, I made a statement a while back that an argument could be made - though I am not willing to make it - that the water could have been *more* important or at least equally important - than the blood. Where do you find John the Washer commanding a blood sacrifice? You do not. You find John commanding water for the remission of sins. And again - and again - and again - why the water? Because the water pointed to the Messiah - which was the Living Water. The Water from which if a man or woman drinks - he shall never thirst again. Because that water points to the Water of Life flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

The water elements of the Law God gave Moses were huge - and very few people know about it. This is why mikveh is noticeably absent from the "church world." Deceivers do not want people to know about mikveh in the Old Covenant world because if they knew about mikveh - they might just find the key to understanding the role water actually has in the Bible - and their whole water "baptism" churchology would be revealed for exactly what it is. It is leading people to a false understanding of what it means to be "baptized into Jesus Christ." It is the application of physical water to the flesh as a means of "salvation" as opposed to placing their trust in the faith - in the system of belief - that Jesus Christ is the Son of God - the King of Israel.

It's a faith - a system of belief - that allows a man to pretty much live any way that man wants to live - because - after all - once he's applied physical water to his flesh - he's "under the blood" and - as the Catholics say - "No sin or failure to produce fruit can

separate him from what his 'baptism' has done.”

One of the most ironic things I've ever seen in all my years of ministry is a man who is a flaming CONstitutionalist, constantly sings its praises, constantly demands people to obey “American jurisprudence” - then claims water “baptism” by a man who calls the CONstitution an idol - says it “saved” him. So strange.

The physical application of H2O water to the flesh is a diversion. It has led people by the billions into a false sense of security that they are “in Christ” - when the reality is - they have never even been taught what it means to be “in Christ”.

When I first began trying to let people know what mikveh is, I simply asked them to go to the internet and type in the word mikveh. Do your own study as to what it is. Click on images and look at the pictures of what mikveh is. You will find that in the religious world, mikveh is claimed by one religion.

[https://www.google.com/search?
rlz=1C1OKWM_enUS856US856&q=mikveh&tbm=isch&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=2ahUKEwjsh8
W9sPD_AhUfplkEHR5BDxUQ0pQJegQIDBAB&biw=1207&bih=614&dpr=1.5](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1OKWM_enUS856US856&q=mikveh&tbm=isch&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=2ahUKEwjsh8W9sPD_AhUfplkEHR5BDxUQ0pQJegQIDBAB&biw=1207&bih=614&dpr=1.5)

That is Judaism. Mikveh is required for conversion into Judaism. If you will take the time to study, read their writings, they're easy to find. They are all over the internet. I read this to you before, in the early days of the Water series, but listen to this again. This is taken from an article on the Haaretz Jewish World:

[https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/2015-11-01/ty-article/why-jews-immense-in-the-
mikveh/0000017f-e8fe-dc7e-adff-f8ffd8350000](https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/2015-11-01/ty-article/why-jews-immense-in-the-mikveh/0000017f-e8fe-dc7e-adff-f8ffd8350000)

The human body, according to Judaism, can attain lower or higher states of spiritual purity, and a Jewish man or woman should always seek to elevate that level. One means of doing so is through full-body immersion in water.

One need only take a glance at certain chapters of the Bible to see that many of the commandments prescribe a specific cure for impurity: “ he/she should immerse himself/herself/his garments in water, and he/she/it will remain impure until the evening.” This formula is reiterated dozens of times in the Torah.

What's interesting about that? I'm telling you that I have been noticing what you call

“evangelical, protestant preachers” for pretty much my entire life - and I there has not been any significant teaching from any of them that shows the water in the Old Covenant Law God gave Moses. Yet, the Jew says - just take a glance at the Bible and you'll see many of the commandments prescribe water as a specific cure for impurity.

There is a reason why the “protestant, evangelicals” want people to believe that water did not arrive onto the scene until John the Washer. And I'm telling you it is for the purpose of deceiving people into believing a Gospel that is not the Bible Gospel. It is a gospel of their own creation which is not a gospel at all - because it is not good news. It is not Good News that a Deliverer came, a Saviour came to save His people from their kings and queens that would not follow the King. It is not Good News that men have a choice in Whose Government they will be a Citizen of. It is not Good News that Jesus did away with the heretical “divine right of kings” and men are not only free to choose His Perfect Government - but they are commanded to. That's the Good News Gospel of the Son of God, the King of Israel.

The article continues:

Initially, the Israelites were told to immerse in water, and in some cases, in “living water.”

Well imagine that. They were told to immerse in living water. How come the unbelieving Jews have that right - but some “evangelical, protestant preachers” say - when asked about what type of water their physical H₂O water “baptisms” requires - they respond by saying, “The Bible is silent on the issue.” That's pretty said when a Jew knows more Bible than a professing “Christian”.

The physical washings of the Law God gave Moses were typically performed in living water - because the physical H₂O living water of the Old Covenant world was a picture, it was a symbol of the Living Water that Jesus described Himself with.

The rabbis of the late Hellenistic period (circa 1st century BCE) sought to institute norms for this purification rite. They defined “living water” as any permanent body of water, such as ocean, lake, river or stream, but a cistern directly fed by rainwater was also deemed acceptable. A mikveh – literally “collection” – that contains piped-in water is unfit for use.

I hope you got that. The mikveh that had piped-in water was considered unfit for use.

Think “baptistry” for this.

Who is supposed to use the mikveh? In the days when the Temple still existed, this water purification rite was mainly used for eradicating the “death impurity”: if you had touched a corpse, or touched someone who had touched a corpse, there was a set procedure for purification.

In our studies, we went through every instance of this in the Law God gave Moses and showed how clear this was from the Law. It's all through the Law. Doesn't take hardly any study at all to see it.

But in post-Temple times, there is no way to do so. Similarly, pilgrims to Jerusalem used to engage in the ritual immersion before walking up to the Temple. Without a Temple, this, too, has become anachronistic.

Why? Because in the Law God gave Moses, no uncleanness could enter into the temple. This is what we are seeing in the Book of Acts when we see the early Christians going daily into the temple. The KJV translators called it “baptized.” They had no authority to do that. It should have been translated as washed. Then, people would have been able to see a lot easier that they were fulfilling the washing requirements in the Law God gave Moses prior to entering the temple. But, the early Christians were then doing it under the Authority of, in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Nowadays, the main clientele for mikveh immersion are Orthodox or Conservative women who take a monthly dip following the end of their menstruation in accordance with the laws of “family purity,” as set down in the Talmudic tractate Niddah. The same applies for women who have given birth.

This, too, is taken right from the Law God gave Moses. And, on one occasion, while reading the Law God gave Moses concerning this, I was blasted by a man who said “he didn't want to hear about this stuff anymore”. Amazing. The reading of the Law of God - but don't want to hear about it anymore.

Most Jewish brides attend the mikveh on the eve of their wedding; in Sephardic circles in particular, this is often the occasion for a women’s party in honor of the bride.

Men also attend the mikveh – some Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox Jewish men go after having sexual relations, or even every Friday before Sabbath.

Immersion in a mikveh involves much more than attaining physical cleanliness. An individual must be entirely naked; even rings and earrings must be removed. Immersion must be full-body. Once completed, the proper blessing must be recited, with intent.

Friends, aside from the entirely naked part, the Jew just described “churchian baptism.” I'm not sure why this is so difficult for some people to grasp. I realize it's a state of denial. But we are reading directly from the Jews. This is what the Jews do in Judaism. They full body immerse in physical H₂O. Their own words.

This is meant to be more than simply a device for reversing a state of impurity. It is a means of infusing the soul with spirituality. It is no wonder that mikveh immersion is the final requisite for converting to Judaism – a spiritual rebirthing. This use of the mikveh, for the conversion of both men and women, is common to every religious movement in Judaism.

Yeah, and it's common to churchianity, too. The Jews continue the practice today because they do not believe that Jesus Christ was the Messiah. Churchians continue it today because they do not believe that Jesus Christ was the Messiah. Friends, if people truly believe that Jesus Christ was the Messiah - they would be “in Christ.” Instead of being in the world. Instead of being citizens of the world - identifying with their leaders like Ted Cruz, Joe Biden and others. They'd be “in Christ” instead of in the world. But their false concept of what it means to be in Christ - by being full body immersed like a Jew - has kept them from understanding what it means to be in Christ.

Interestingly, archaeologists have found almost no mikveh installations from the biblical period. Most of those that have been found in Israel date to the 1st century BCE and later.

Understand here that the Jew is not including the first century as in the century of Christ - he's not including that in the Biblical period as in the century of Christ.

Perhaps the highest incidence of mikvehs per capita was unearthed at Qumran along the shore of the Dead Sea, the assumed home base of the ascetic Essene sect of Judaism in the Roman era. Nine mikvehs were found at Qumran, which were meant to serve a population that historians estimate at no more than 200. The Essenes were incredibly stringent on matters of purity and impurity. According to the sect's literature (see the Dead Sea Scrolls), they would immerse twice daily.

The purist Essene sect may have had a profound effect on early Christianity and its own purification rites. Matthew 3 reports that John the Baptist was living an austere lifestyle in the Judean Desert near the Jordan River. John vilifies the Pharisees and Sadducees, and then baptizes Jesus and other Jews in the living waters of the Jordan. All of which indicates a smooth evolutionary transition from mikveh immersion in Judaism to baptism in early Christianity.

Again, that's exactly what I've been saying. The early Christians were fulfilling the Law God gave Moses - but - doing so in the name of, in the Authority of Jesus Christ.

Given the primeval link between the basic elements of water, body and spirit, it is only natural that mystical Judaism latched onto the mikveh as a tool for spiritual expansion. The Kabbalah teaches that the living water can remove forces of negativity in the individual. The kabbalists of Tzfat would frequently immerse themselves in the cold spring waters of Rabbi Issac Luria's mikveh as part of a meditative regimen, a practice that continues to this day.

The Talmud lists ten institutions that every good-sized Jewish community needs to have, such as synagogue, ritual slaughterer and mikveh. The latter is of primary importance, so much so that the rabbis decreed that a community should even sell its synagogue building in order to finance the construction of a mikveh.

Friends, just go online and type in mikveh. M-i-k-v-e-h. Then click on images. The Jewish mikveh is the churchian baptistry. The "church" is veiled Judaism.

Applying physical water to the flesh is Judaism. This is why when you progress into the writings of the apostle Paul - he starts to go into great detail on explaining that salvation by Christ is a matter of faith. It is belief. It is not the works of the Law. By the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.

Being in Christ does not happen when someone undergoes a ritual that was integral to the Law God gave Moses. Those things were done away with. They ended when the temple came down and that happened sometime towards the end of the first century.

We are not to keep the Law God gave Moses. That was temporal. It was fleshly, it was physical. The temporal, fleshly, physical aspects of the ceremonial Law were things that pointed to the coming Messiah - which was Jesus Christ.

Mikveh - the Hope of Israel - a name of God - was physical water from the Law God gave Moses - that was there for the purpose of pointing people to Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Living Water Mikveh. It is belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Messiah, the King of Israel, the Living Water that flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.