

## **Matthew 24 Series - John 11:26**

### **Part 15 in the Series - Death Has Been Destroyed**

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I have said many times now that I do not take my preaching lightly, nor do I take my listeners for granted. I realize what an awesome responsibility it is to preach the Word of God knowing that the Word has the power to change men's lives and it has the power to change the course of history. I appreciate those of you who listen every week and I want you to know that what I am preaching - I am living, also.

Last week, I encouraged you to write in with questions. I am always pleased and blessed when I hear from you - but this week - I received one of those emails that was so encouraging, I feel that I need to interrupt the Matthew 24 series and deal with an issue that I would have dealt with when the series was over - but I feel like I need to go ahead and deal with it now.

Many years ago, when I was young, probably no more than 13 or 14 years old, there was a new song that was written and it had a great melody - but it also had very stirring lyrics. As I have told you before, for as long as I can remember, I've been singing and when I was 13 or 14, I was part of a trio with a boy my age who sang baritone, a girl who sang the alto, and my voice hadn't changed yet, so I was singing the melody - in the upper register. Anyway, this new song that was becoming popular was called, For Whatever it Takes.

I wanted to sing that song, the harmony was excellent and fit our voices very well.

The young lady who sang alto for us, also played the piano. So, when we would get together to practice, we'd practice at her house. Her mother was talented and was our best critic - always in a very positive manner. She'd sit and listen as we would practice our songs for our next performances.

Back then, I often wondered why she would sit there the way she did and listen. Now, that I have my own children, it's easy. When I get my girls to sing, I could just sit there and listen for as long as I could get them to sing. I'm sure Debby's mother was just as pleased as could be to hear these 3 young people singing and praising Christ. As we began to learn For Whatever it Takes, Debby's mother stopped us. And in fact, we never did sing that song.

She was so concerned at the lyrics of the song, she actually scared us into NOT singing

that song.

The song goes like this:

There's a voice calling me  
From an old rugged tree  
And His whispers draw closer to me  
Leave this world far behind  
There are new heights to climb  
And a new life in me you will find

For whatever it takes to draw closer to you Lord  
That's what I'll be willing to do  
For whatever it takes to be more like you  
That's what I'll be willing to do

Take the dearest things to me  
If that's how it must be  
To draw me closer to You  
Let the disappointments come  
Lonely days without the sun  
If through sorrow more like You I become  
I'll trade sunshine for rain  
Comfort for pain  
That's what I'll be willing to do  
For whatever it takes for my will to break  
That's what I'll be willing to do  
That's what I'll be willing to do

To this day, I will never forget sitting in that living room around the piano and having Debby's mother caution us about singing this song. Her reasoning was that if we sang this song, God might bring something into our life to see if we meant what we were singing.

As I am reliving this today, I am getting somewhat emotional because that song was all I wanted in my life then as a young boy - and today - it's still all I want in my life.

I want you to know that I am not stupid. I realize that these prosecutors, cops and judges in Lawrence County, Missouri are doing everything they can to separate me from

my belief and my faith in Christ and His Word - but this is not a game with me.

I have concerns. Absolutely. I'd be lying to you if I said I didn't. My sons are grown up and have their own places and families now. My two oldest daughters are gone and have their own families now - and my wife and my 15 year old baby girl are still home. If these evil men get their way - I do not know what will become of my wife and daughter.

I am not rich. This cop has gone around the community lying to people in order to demonize me and destroy me in public. People in the community have told me that the cop said that "he makes hundreds of thousands of dollars, and doesn't pay taxes."

That is a lie from the pit of hell. If I bring 1,000.00 in a month to my family, I've done really well. The truth is - if I was a tax-payer in the U.S. system - I make so little - the state and the federal government would owe me money every single year.

Agents for the Missouri State highway patrol forged a tax form and alleged that it showed income and a supposed tax liability on it. The truth is again, from their very own forged document - had they been truthful - the state and the federal government would have owed me several thousands of dollars if I was a tax payer in their system.

I have been married to the same woman for almost 30 years. At the time they forged their phony tax document - I had 4 children still living at home. Their forged document states that I have no children and that I am not married, either. It's ridiculous.

In what they call "discovery" which is where the state is supposed to provide you with the "evidence" they have against you - they admitted that in the years 2010 - 2015 - I supposedly brought in as little as \$9,000.00 in one year. Yet, they continue with their basely persecutions. And as I have told people over and over - the cop said - the reason he had arrested me was because of the books on my website.

The elected prosecutor for Lawrence County told a mutual friend of ours - quote - "This is about my god versus Charlie's God."

They have already tried to kill me. And I believe their consciences are so seared, they wouldn't lose a wink of sleep if they succeeded. The first time they arrested me, they kept me in their jail for 12 days. When I was in the jail, I fasted the entire 12 days.

There is a reason why I fasted in those 12 days. Many many years ago, while studying the life of Daniel, when I read that Daniel had purposed in his heart that he would not

defile himself with the king's meat - that spoke to me in such a way - that from that day and for the rest of my life - I took that as a principle in my life and vowed that I would take nothing from man's government. And I have kept my vow. I have not taken one penny from any government.

So, when I was in jail, I took nothing from them, except for water.

Knowing that I fasted in jail, they tried and were successful in getting me put back in the jail again. This time, they kept me in there for 43 days. I went in that jail at 250 pounds and came out at 194. In the Lawrence County jail, there are really no good mirrors of any kind. I did not think I looked bad - but when I got out of the jail - and got back home - I looked at myself in the mirror and saw something like what you would see in a concentration camp picture.

I'm not saying any of this for pity from any of you. I'm saying it because my testimony is that when I gave my life to Christ, I understood that I was giving my life away. My life was not my own any longer. I was an am willing to do Whatever it Takes to Draw Closer to My King.

Why? Why in this day and age would someone seem to be so foolish or care free?

It's because I believe that Christ is King. I believe that Christ is King - right now. I do not believe that He is a coming King. I believe that all governments that are in place today are in place for one main purpose - and that is to keep men and women, boys and girls from finding the true Kingdom of God and walking therein.

The governments of men will spare no amount of money and manpower to prevent even one man from living his conviction that Christ is King.

They claimed that one of the years that I supposedly owed a tax - the tax amount was around \$500.00. Again, that's not even true. As I said earlier, if I was a tax-payer in their system, they would owe me thousands of dollars every year.

But for this supposed \$500, one day they had, as best I counted, 15 armed agents in our home for almost 4 hours. This has nothing whatsoever to do with taxes, or licensing, but it has everything to do with trying to destroy a man who teaches that Christ is King and ought to be obeyed.

Am I afraid of what they may end up doing to me? I am not. I am concerned for who

will take care of my precious family, but I am not afraid of what they may do to me.

I said all that to say this, I am not afraid, because the last enemy of Christ to be destroyed - has already been destroyed - and that enemy is death.

When you do not fear death, they can't beat you.

This week, I received an email from a listener who was asking me about death. This would have been the first topic I would have covered once the Matthew 24 series was over - but I think I will go ahead and share with you my thoughts on this now.

I believe that death has been destroyed. I believe that death was the last enemy that Christ put under His feet and I believe I have all authority from the Scriptures to make this statement.

A couple weeks ago, I heard a man say that he could not accept the Kingdom Now belief because he could see death all around him. Fair enough. Let's look at God's Word.

Open your Bibles with me or follow along to John 11.

We'll begin in verse 1. Letting the Scriptures speak for themselves,

[1] Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

[2] (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

[3] Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

Mary and Martha were not in the same place where Jesus was - so they sent word to Him that Lazarus was sick. They were respectful of Christ. They were trying to be tactful in letting Him know the urgency of the situation. Remember, Lazarus, your friend, your really good friend, the one that you love? He's sick. Can you come and heal him?

[4] When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

[5] Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

[6] When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

So, this Jesus, Who Mary and Martha knew full well that He had the power to heal Lazarus from whatever ailment he had - sat there and waited two more days before deciding to go see Lazarus. Jesus was getting ready to make a statement - a HUGE statement. It wasn't just an act of healing that Christ was getting ready to do - He was going to make a statement. And it was going to be an earth shaker.

[7] Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.

[8] His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

[9] Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.

[10] But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.

Jesus is planting seeds of understanding with His disciples. He's saying not everything is the way it seems. And, the Jews want to kill me? Yeah, right. It isn't time for that to happen - so it's not going to happen. They are powerless to take me when it's not the Father's time.

[11] These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

[12] Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.

Everyone knows that when your sick, one of the best things for you is rest. But Jesus let the 2 extra days go by - knowing that it was long enough for Lazarus' sickness to overcome him and go on and cause him to die.

[13] Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

[14] Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.

[15] And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.

Here we go - statement time. He flat out says, I let Lazarus die because I am going to show you something that is going to rock your world!

[16] Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.

Man, this Thomas, do you ever have that individual in a crowd that you'd like to just say, "Would you please just shut up?" Thomas had a role though. I get the feeling he was somewhat like Eeyore, maybe, in the Winnie the Pooh series - except we are taking about something way way more important.

[17] Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.

[18] Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off:

[19] And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

[20] Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house.

Why do you suppose Mary sat in the house and didn't come to greet Jesus? Humanity. It was pure humanity. Mary was the one who had put the ointment on Jesus' feet and had wiped it with her hair. She knew that Jesus could have healed her brother and she was disappointed that Jesus had not come in time. Healing her brother was the least that Jesus could do after what Mary had done for Jesus.

The lesson here is to never give up on Jesus. You may think you have given a lot for Him and you are waiting for something in return. That's our humanity and it's part of our makeup - God made us that way. But the lesson is stay faithful to Christ, and wait. Be patient, He knows what He's doing.

[21] Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

[22] But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

Now Martha's faith is an example for all of us. Martha knew that Lazarus' death was not over until Christ said so. There is a very important reason why Martha's great faith is not shown in Hebrews 11, though. It's because Martha had seen Christ. Those in Hebrews 11 had faith but had not seen Christ.

I'm not discounting Martha's faith because of her time and place - but she had an advantage that none of us after Christ or before Christ ever had. Nonetheless, she is a great example of faith.

[23] Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

[24] Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

[25] Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

[26] And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

Today, I ask you, those of you hearing my voice today, Jesus said, Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Do you believe this or not?

If you say, Yes, I believe. Then death has been destroyed. Jesus said to Martha, Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

If we do not believe this, we make Jesus a liar. Today, if you do not believe that Jesus did away with death for all those who believe in Him, then Jesus Christ was not Who Moses in the Law and the prophets wrote concerning.

Some will still say, but death is still all around us. If you are a believer in Christ, then you must stop saying things like this. Death may be around us today - but it is NOT for the believer.

If this passage alone was all I had to point to the fact that Christ destroyed death - then I would be satisfied. But it isn't. There's more. A lot more. Continuing with John 11.

[27] She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

[28] And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.

[29] As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him.

[30] Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.

[31] The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.

[32] Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

[33] When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,

[34] And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.

[35] Jesus wept.

[36] Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!

[37] And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind,

have caused that even this man should not have died?

[38] Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

[39] Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.

[40] Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

[41] Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

[42] And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

[43] And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

[44] And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

Did Martha and those closely watching what the Messiah had done believe that Christ had conquered death?

After seeing Christ raise Martha's brother from the dead, when Christ said to Martha, And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

What do you think her answer was now?

We can sit here and say all we want to that because death is all around us, Jesus didn't do away with death for the believer, but if you do that, I'm telling you, you are making Jesus a liar. Apparently, we don't understand the meaning of death. Our understanding and Christ's understanding are different. If that's the case, then we better ditch our understanding as fast as we can and adopt Christ's.

I've looked into caskets just like everyone of you have. I've seen a lifeless body there.

But I'm telling you that Jesus said Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die and that's what I'm going to believe. My eyes may close one day, and breath might leave this body, but I am never going to die because I live and believe Christ the King, and Christ alone. Continuing with verse 45.

[45] Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.

[46] But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things

Jesus had done.

[47] Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many miracles.

Do you see that this is what the preachers did? They recognized that Christ did many miracles - but rather than believe themselves - they were immediately worried about what following Christ would do to their relationship with Caesar.

[48] If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.

Look at this closely. If the people believe on Jesus - Caesar - man's government is going to destroy us. That's what the Scriptures say. The choice was God's Government with King Jesus - or man's government. And it was the preachers of the day who were taking sides.

It's the same today. It's exactly the same today. If you choose to follow Christ - man's government is going to have a big problem with you.

Christ knew this. This is why He made such a big deal out of raising Lazarus from the dead. He was trying to remove the one thing that He knew people were the most scared of - and that was death.

As I said above, if this was the only passage of Scripture I had available to me to argue against death, then should be enough. But it's not.

Turn to Hebrews chapter 2, please. We are going to begin reading in verse 1 and we are going to see Fulfilled Bible Prophecy in these verses. Hopefully, you'll see them, as you well know, I couldn't read them without pointing them out - so you'll get a double portion here.

[1] Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

Why should they give the more earnest heed to the things which they heard? Because the time was at hand. Judgement was at the door.

[2] For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;

[3] How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

How shall we escape what? This is a direct reference to the impending judgement that was soon coming on Jerusalem and on all those that refused to accept Christ as Messiah and King. This is a direct reference to Matthew 23. This is also a direct reference to Peter's message in Acts 2 regarding salvation from the coming judgement and wrath of God against those who killed the Prince of life.

[4] God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

Again. Fulfilled Bible Prophecy to that generation - time, place, people.

[5] For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.

The world to come. Exactly. That generation - time, people and place that was reading the book of Hebrews were living in the end of the world. There was a new world coming and they were referring to it.

[6] But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him?

[7] Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:

[8] Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

The final end of the Old Covenant age was coming. The Old Covenant age was in the process of passing away, but it was not completely finished yet. We will at some point deal with this because in this final generation - there are aspects of the Old and aspects of the New that were taking place simultaneously. For example, this is why we see Paul in the book of Acts going into the temple and offering a sacrifice.

[9] But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Alright. Now we getting a foundation laid for us again concerning death. By the grace of

God, Jesus tasted death, the word tasted here in the Greek means experienced. Jesus experienced death for every man. Why? So that whosoever liveth and believeth in Him should not die.

[10] For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

[11] For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

[12] Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the assembly will I sing praise unto thee.

Again, if you are following along. Notice, and I hope that I was very conspicuous in that I did not say the word church in verse 12. The word should not be in our English Bibles, except for one time where the temple of the pagan goddess Diana was discussed.

[13] And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.

Now, please watch this closely.

[14] Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

[15] And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

It is the fear of death that prevents men and women boys and girls from following Christ. Taking up the cross of Christ in the Old Covenant and taking up the Crown of Christ in the New Covenant - depending on our circumstances - can be life threatening.

We live in a time where the hatred of Christ, the hatred of His Word, the hatred of His Laws, are at an all time high in America. It hasn't always been this way - but it is right now.

The open blood sacrifice of the wicked has been performed on millions and millions of helpless babies - done legally in America.

Wickedness and perversion on unprecedented levels takes place and is actually praised under the lie that this is what freedom means in the greatest, freest country the world

has ever known. Pornography, sodomy, drunkenness and all manner of sin is accepted as the price of freedom.

I'm not in anyway promoting the Muslim religion, but when Muslim countries enforce anti-sodomite laws - they are met with the harshest of criticism from Americans who say that these countries should be eliminated from the face of the earth.

The biggest majority American quote unquote "christians" are the biggest flag wavers and warmongers in society and cry persecution when their bakeries are attacked.

Living and believing in Christ the King among such a society as this one will absolutely bring about persecution - and it's our own fault. It's our fault because we have not believed in Christ the King. It's our fault because we have not believed His words concerning fear and death.

I'm telling you today that the reason the apostles turned the world upside down for Jesus Christ the King is because they did not believe in death any longer. The last enemy of Christ to be destroyed was death - and it was done - and they did not fear death.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

[15] And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

If this passage of Scripture was all I had to rely on as the disposition of death by Christ - this would be all I needed. But this passage, taken with John 11, taken with the resurrection of Christ Himself, should be more than we would ever need.

Would to God that we could get even just a little bit of what these first century believers had.

I watched in amazement again, as I do each election cycle, as people think that their politician is going to be their saviour. If we can just get our person elected, we can turn things around, we can make America great - again.

We are so far from what the Will of God is, it's just amazing. I'm going to get off the subject just a little bit right now because I think it's very important.

I've been talking about the present day reality of the Kingdom of God. Ted's messages that precede mine, he constantly talks about the present day reality of the Kingdom of God and implementing God's Laws in society.

Last week, I briefly touched on marriage in America. I hope you were listening to what I said. Marriage in America today, since the middle 1800s, has become not only against the Laws of God, concerning a man and woman - now it is even more rebellious to the Laws of God in that the same quote unquote "authority" that issues a "license" for marriage between a man and a woman - that same "authority" issues a "license" for sodomites. And we still can't figure it out.

If you were contemplating marriage. A man and a woman. And you went down to the local marriage license branch, and you got in line with your beautiful bride. Then, right behind prances in a couple of flamers, holding hands and laughing and carrying on. Are you telling me that with a clear conscience, you could stay standing in that very same line to get the very same piece of paper that the flamers were going to get?

I just don't get it. I just don't understand how we can't see the abomination in that.

I don't believe in "elections" for politicians as we see in America today. The whole process is not only against the Scriptures, but it is open rebellion to Christ.

First off, the very thing that so many Americans think is so great - is actually one of the most condemning aspects of the whole process - and that is the secret ballot.

Did we learn nothing from the words of Christ when He said that men love darkness rather than light, why? Because their deeds are evil.

I found this online and thought it was worth including in this message.

It's called Public Voting: Before the Secret Ballot

For most of America's history, elections were noisy, well-attended public events. There was no secrecy and no private voting booths with curtains and stillness; voting was conducted in the open before interested spectators. Voters stood in line or came forward from the crowd to vote, often times climbing steps to a platform where election officials sat to do so. Whether they emerged from the Election Day scum or stood in a line, always they voted one by one and were always observed.

In some states, those that are the focus of this website, voters (all men in those days) called out the names of the candidates they wanted for the offices being contested. Election clerks would enter their choices in the official poll book. State election law required votes to be given in this manner; it was called voting viva voce – by voice. About sixteen percent of national presidential votes at the middle of the 19th century were made this way. Each of those votes was heard.

In most states the voters came to the polling place and selected one party's "ticket" which listed all of its official candidates and then voted by depositing that ticket. The tickets, often colorful and decorated with distinctive images, were handed at booths, one per party, out by party workers. Standing in a line or before the crowd, the voter deposited a highly visible ticket in a box or transparent jar or handed it in to an election clerk. Almost every one of those votes was seen.

In both systems secrecy was made deliberately difficult if not impossible and in both systems the voters voted one by one, and in both systems onlookers could hear or see for themselves the party and candidates their fellow citizens were supporting.

End of quote. The public voting system I just read to you about is 1,000 times better than what goes on today - but even that system was not Biblical. We're so far away from the Mind of God today - even what was 1,000 times better than today - was still against the Laws of God.

The method of choosing is not nearly as important as making sure that the candidates are Biblically qualified. In America, since 1787, there has not been a single candidate Biblically qualified for any position - any where in America - because America's "lawmakers" demanded that all religious tests for office be removed.

The ONLY thing that God is concerned about as far as an election is concerned is that candidate be Scripturally qualified for the position.

In America, today, every national election has controversy. This is the result of not implementing the Will of God in a society.

I dare say there's not one person in ten million that would think about this. But in America, married women are allowed and encouraged to vote. This is an abomination in the sight of God and we are so far from the Will of God - that not only do we not see it - but that is a statement that would probably get me arrested again.

According to the God, when a man and woman get married - they become one. How then could there be 2 votes? And what if the man votes for someone and the woman votes for someone else?

Amos 3:

[1] Hear this word that Yaweh hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

[2] You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

[3] Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

The secret ballot is a tool that can and is used to drive a wedge between a man and his wife. It's not the Will of God.

As I said earlier, the whole election system in America is against the Will of God - and the details of the system display a complete lack of understanding of the Will of God and/or total defiance against the Will of God.

In closing, let's get back on the subject.

Hebrews 2:

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

[15] And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Now, I know I'm going to open a can of worms here, but you are just going to have to wait for the greater details, but as some of you are going to figure out on your own - I do not believe in the quote unquote devil. I do not believe that Satan exists today. I do not and I believe that no one knows exactly what - the devil or Satan was - but I can tell you assuredly that Christ destroyed whatever that entity was.

There are some preachers that do not believe in the devil or Satan - and they do not believe that the devil or Satan was an actual entity. The Greek word for devil is actually diabolos which means adversary and in several passages of Scripture the word is not translated as devil.

But, for me, in my understanding, it doesn't really make a lot of difference because whatever it was - it was one of the enemies of Christ - and it was destroyed.

Hebrews 2 is a good passage for dealing with this. But there is another, I believe, that is even stronger.

Look with me to Romans chapter 16. We are going to read the whole chapter. We are going to purposely read the names of some of the saints who were called by name - to make sure we make no mistake as to who this letter was written to and when it was written. Once again proving - not one single word of this entire book was written to us - I don't see my name listed here in this chapter - so not one word was written to us - but every word was written for us. Hence, the major elements described are for a specific time and a specific people. This was written to the generation - nation, time, place of the first century. The same generation - nation, time and place where our Lord said - This generation shall not pass till ALL these things be fulfilled. Keeping that in mind, let's begin in verse 1.

[1] I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the ecclesia / assembly it is 100% wrong to insert the word church here - it is wrong - which is at Cencrea:

[2] That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer (an assistant, a helper) of many, and of myself also.

[3] Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:

[4] Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the assemblies of the Gentiles.

[5] Likewise greet the assembly that is in their house. Salute my well beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ.

[6] Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us.

[7] Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

[8] Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord.

[9] Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stachys my beloved.

[10] Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of Aristobulus' household.

[11] Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that be of the household of Narcissus, which are in the Lord.

[12] Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis,

which laboured much in the Lord.

[13] Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

[14] Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren which are with them.

[15] Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them.

[16] Salute one another with an holy kiss. The ecclesias / the communities / the representatives of the Kingdom of Christ salute you.

How can we possibly read this text and not see the painstaking detail that the writer is going through to show not only those who were reading the letter - 2,000 years ago - but for those of us reading it later - who this was written to? This was not a letter to you and me. This is not a futuristic letter. This was to those first century saints - 2,000 years ago.

[17] Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

[18] For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Who is he talking about here? One of the best explanations I can provide you is this one. Remember the story we began with of Mary, Martha, Lazarus and Jesus? After Christ raised Lazarus from the dead, the Scriptures said many people believed on the Lord Jesus Christ at that time. But then, the story was delivered to the chief priests of the day - to the 501(c)(3) government preachers - who immediately began doing whatever they could do to discredit Christ.

The preaching that Christ WAS King, Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven WAS at hand - was considered by the preachers of that day to be a declaration of war against Rome - and they did not want Rome to think they were a part of it. And, it's the same today.

The preaching that Christ is King today is NOT a declaration of war against anyone or anything then or today - it is an offer of salvation and it is for whosoever will may come.

If you are a participant in the governments of men today - yes - that offer of whosoever will is available to you, too - but it requires total and complete allegiance to Jesus Christ

the King - exclusive of all others.

Continuing in verse 19 of Romans 16.

[19] For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.

Their obedience is come abroad unto all men? Their obedience to what?

I have shown in my messages over and over and over that the preaching - beginning with John the Baptist, continued by our Lord, then preached relentlessly without fear or hesitation from the apostles was - the hope of Israel - the Kingdom of God. Their obedience was to the Kingship of Christ and His Kingdom - exclusive of all others.

They had the promise that death could not harm them. And even if their eyes closed and their breath stopped - they were immediately in the presence of God waiting shortly for the imminent return of Christ to gather those that were alive and remaining unto the coming of the Lord.

They were confidently taught that (I Corinthians 15):

[51] We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

[52] In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

[53] For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

[54] So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

[55] O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

[56] The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

[57] But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

[58] Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

The consummation of all this was soon - was going to happen in their generation - and they knew it - because they had seen the resurrection of Christ - they had the prophets

revealed and preached to them - and they knew that God would bring about the things which had been promised to them because of their obedience to His Kingdom.

Back to Romans 16: verse 20;

[20] And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

What did that just say? Hebrews 2 told us that the devil had the power of death. Here we see Satan, also called the devil in Revelation 12 and Revelation 20 - and here we see in Romans 16:20 that Satan was getting ready to be bruised - the Greek word for bruise here is to crush completely. It's not a healable wound - it is complete destruction - and who was going to witness it? Under their feet! And when was it going to happen? Shortly.

Friends, this either happened - or God is a liar. If this did not happen to these people just like it was stated - then they were purposely deceived and God allowed it. Is this the kind of God you serve? Not a chance.

I'm telling you today that the modern preacher, the modern christian so-called loves the concept of the devil. The concept of the devil is a huge money-maker for them. It gives them something to blame their own shortcomings on, also. Flip Wilson hit it right on the head when he mocked the preachers with his famous comedy skit called, The Devil Made Me Do It. It's actually quite funny and you can find it easily on Youtube.

Continuing now with verse 21 - hopefully - prayerfully - you have seen verse 20 and realize the awesome implications of what was said in that verse.

[21] Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you.

[22] I Tertius, who wrote this epistle, salute you in the Lord.

[23] Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

[24] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

[25] Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept

secret since the world began,

Again, I ask you, what was that preaching? It was the Kingdom of God and the Kingship of Christ. It was that ALL power and ALL authority had been given to preach the whole counsel of God in heaven and in earth.

[26] But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

Look at Fulfilled Bible Prophecy right here! When was it made manifest? But now, but now, but now is made manifest and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

What is the obedience of faith?

**36]** Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

He's King - now. He's not a king to come. It was this obedience that was for ALL THE NATIONS - that was preached without fear and without hesitation by the apostles. And they preached it with all confidence because they had no fear of death. It had been taken away.

Would to God we could get just a glimpse of that faith today in our lives.

[27] To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.