

7 Churches

**Part 1:
Nicolaitans, Balaam,
Pharisees & Martyrs**

7 Warnings



**END
TIMES
BEREAN**

LAST DAYS HERALD



Turkey

Jesus warned the Seven Churches

- Jesus gave John seven warnings for the seven churches.
- *To Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea (Revelation 2 & 3).*
- They represent all churches, the ages of the church, and most importantly... they describe the condition of the churches in the last days.



The letters to the Seven Churches are
vital warnings in these Last Days
about key heresies that Satan is using
to attack and deceive Christians...

CAUTION: If you've been caught in any of these deceptions, you may not like this video, and you'll probably assume that I'm the one who's been deceived. But I pray that the Holy Spirit will give you ears to hear what He says to the churches in these letters.

The letters to the Seven Churches are
vital warnings in these Last Days
about key heresies that Satan is using
to attack and deceive Christians...

Part 1

- **Ephesus – The Pharisees**
- **Smyrna – The Martyrs**
- **Pergamum – The Nicolaitans and Balaam**

Part 2

- **Thyatira – The followers of Jezebel**
- **Sardis – The Zombies**
- **Philadelphia – The Faithful**
- **Laodicea – The Foolish**

First Warning: to the Pharisees

- The church of Ephesus: You're living right, but your heart is no longer fully with me.

I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. – Revelation 2:2-6

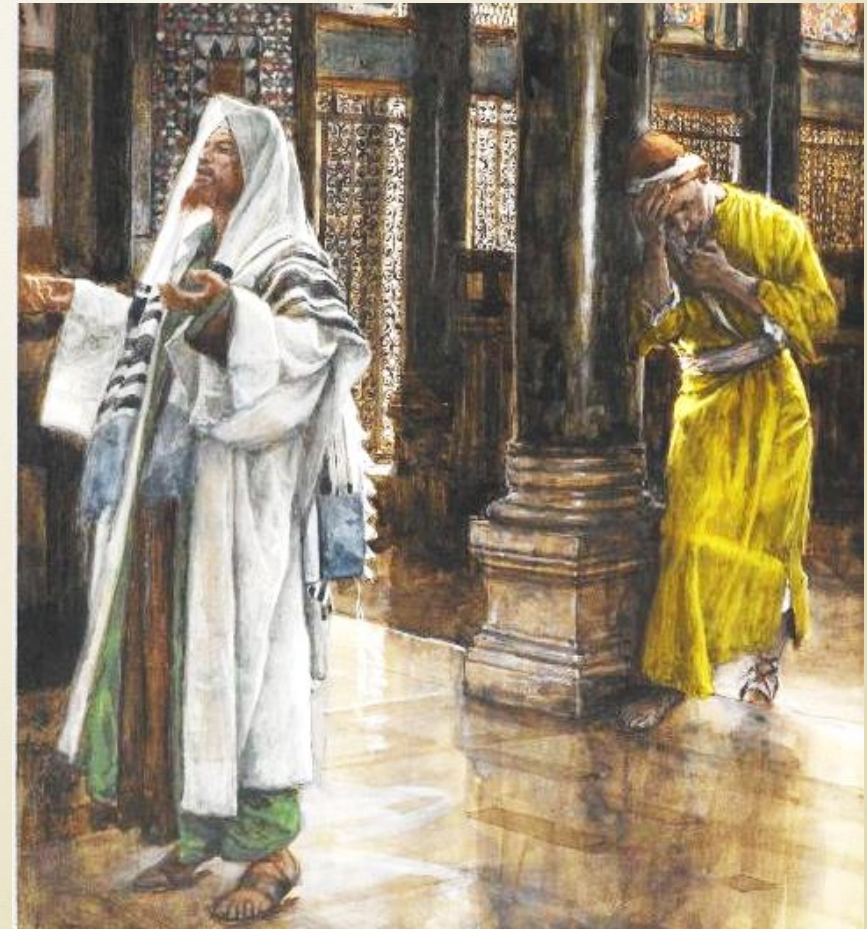
Can Christians be Pharisees?

“Solid” churches, good doctrine, but no love...?

- Pharisees knew Scripture but favored their own traditions and interpretations of God’s word—their hearts were far away.

The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.” – Isaiah 29:13

- Many Christians today are doing the same thing...



Is God your first love?

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. – Deuteronomy 6:5

If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. – John 14:15

This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. – John 15:12

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, **for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law**. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” – Romans 13:8-9

In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, **but also to all who have loved His appearing**. – 2 Timothy 4:8

If Jesus is not Your First Love

- If Jesus is not your first love, then something else is... that is idolatry.

Because of the increase of wickedness, the love (*agape*) of most will grow cold (*apostasy*). – Matthew 24:12

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. – 1 John 2:15

For Demas deserted me, since he loved the present age, and he went to Thessalonica. – 2 Timothy 4:10

Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. – 1 John 5:21



Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. –

Matthew 23:27

But in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commands of men. – Matthew 15:9

The Pharisees knew the prophecies but rejected the Messiah...

Could many modern-day Christian "pharisees" make the same mistake?

Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter into the kingdom of heaven - only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. On that day, many will say to me, "Lord, Lord, **didn't we prophesy in your name, and in your name cast out demons and do many powerful deeds?**" Then I will declare to them, "I never knew you. Go away from me, you lawbreakers!" – Matthew 7:21-23



Proliferation of Prophets

Prophets that don't believe in Prophecy...?

- Kim Clement repented of Replacement Theology and an ammillennial perspective that ignores Bible prophecy before he died.



3 Things Kim Clement Repented of Before He Died 🔥

602K views • 1 year ago

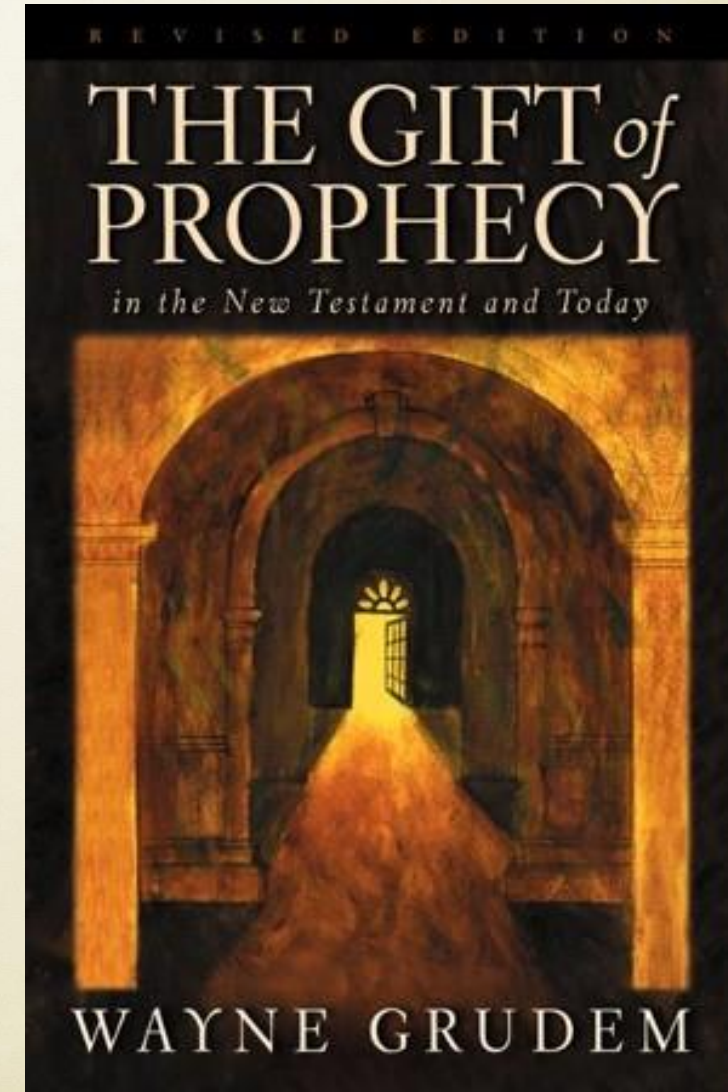


Encounter Today

Was Kim Clement's Life a prophetic parable that is calling modern day prophets to repentance? In this video, you will hear how ...

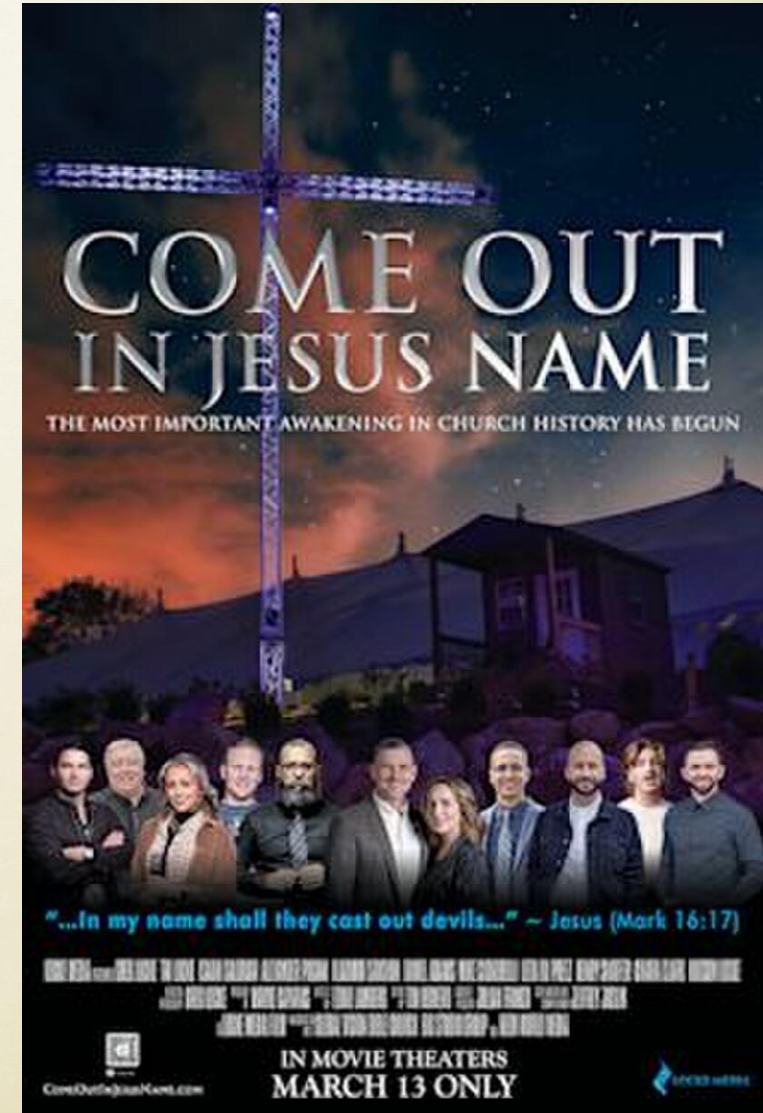
Alan Didio comments on Kim's discussion with Chuck Missler

- Many "prophets" today need to repent of that as well...
- Demons also give prophecy. Test the spirits.



Growth of Deliverance Movement

- Are demons real? ABSOLUTELY!
- But there are some cautions for the deliverance movement today:
 1. You better be called to it.
 2. Not everything is real and not everyone is doing it for the right reasons.
 3. Knowledge about demons that doesn't come from the Bible is probably demonic.



“Powerful Deeds”

- The Greek word is *dynameis* (Strong's G1411): power (77x), mighty work (11x), strength (7x), miracle (7x)
- It applies both to miracles and great feats/mighty works/powerful deeds, i.e., it can be natural or supernatural.
- **Could this also apply to someone who built a large Christian ministry, established a large charity, made a Christian movie, wrote Christian books, or evangelized the nations, but Jesus Christ was not really their first love?**



Wrong motives

Be careful not to display your righteousness merely to be seen by people. Otherwise you have no reward with your Father in heaven. – Matthew 6:1-4

... people corrupted in their minds and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a way of making a profit. – 1

Timothy 6:5

... holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. – 2 Timothy 3:5

Repent therefore!

- It's not too late to change.

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? – 2 Cor. 13:5

- Watch my video about getting ready for Jesus, our bridegroom...



YouTube and Rumble: End Times Berean Channel:
Coming Soon! Are You Ready for Jesus to Return?

Second Warning: to the Martyrs

- To the church of Smyrna: Some believers are going to face fierce persecution, and it is already happening.

Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. – Revelation 2:10

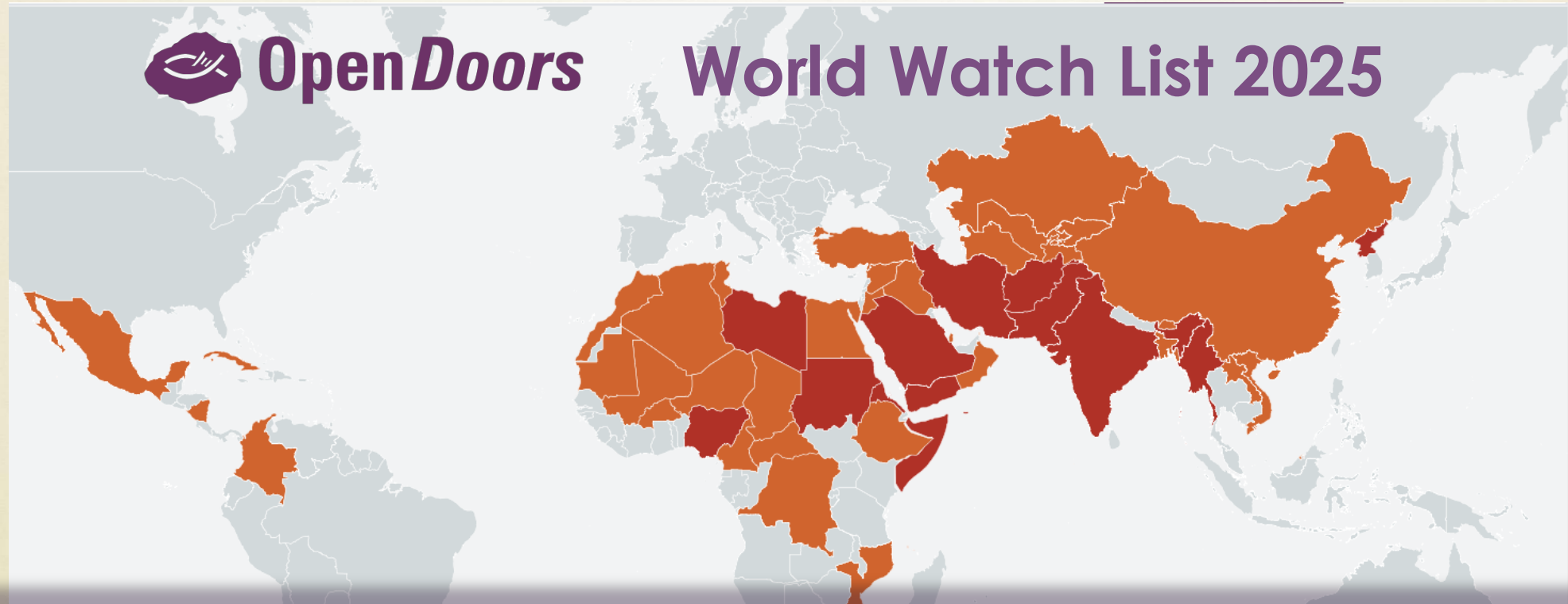
Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. – 2 Timothy 3:12

Christian Persecution rising

- In 2024, at least 4,476 Christians were martyred. That is 1 follower of Christ killed every 2 hours for the entire year!



380 Million Christians worldwide are facing persecution right now



Remember those in prison as though you were in prison with them, and those ill-treated as though you too felt their torment. – Hebrews 13:3

HIGH LEVELS OF PERSECUTION

VERY HIGH LEVELS OF PERSECUTION

EXTREME LEVELS OF PERSECUTION

NEWS

The 50 Most Dangerous Countries for Christians Get More Violent in 2025

FRANCO IACOMINI

Around the world, believers increasingly confront the threat of murder, unlawful detentions, abductions, and property destruction.

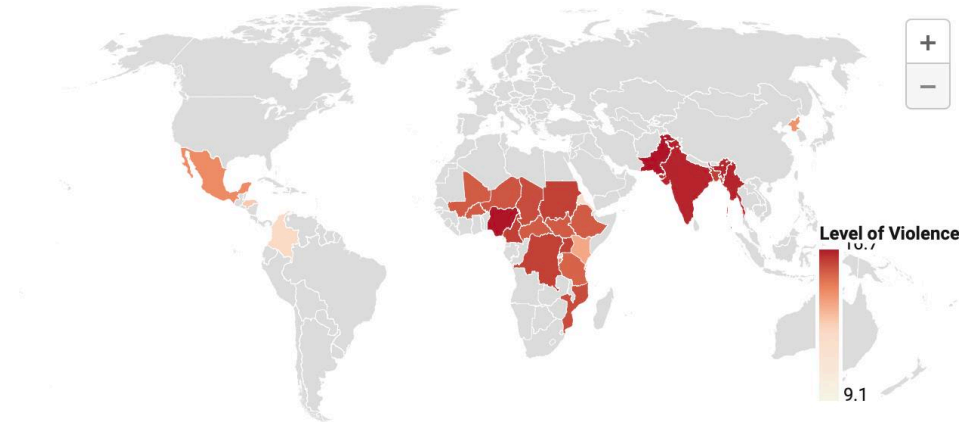


The 10 most dangerous places to be a Christian in 2025

1. North Korea
2. Somalia
3. Yemen
4. Libya
5. Sudan
6. Eritrea
7. Nigeria
8. Pakistan
9. Iran
10. Afghanistan

Where Christians Faced the Most Violence in 2024

The top 25 nations where the persecuted church suffered violence.



Map: Christianity Today • Source: Open Doors World Watch List 2025 • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Abducted Seminarian Murdered in Nigeria; Priest Released After 10 Days in Captivity

Insecurity is rife in Nigeria, where kidnappings, murder, and other forms of persecution against Christians remain rampant in many parts of the West African country, especially in the north.



Andrew Peter (left), a seminarian, and Father Philip Ekweli (right) were abducted March 3, 2025, from a parish rectory in Nigeria's Docese of Auchi. Andrew Peter was mured, though Ekweli was released and is receiving medical attention. (photo: Courtesy photo / Catholic Diocese of Auchi)

Beheadings

- Beheadings have returned in these last days in the name of Islam

And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. –
Revelation 20:4

ENGLISH 한글판



CHRISTIANITY DAILY

Saturday, 01 March 2025

US WORLD CHURCH MISSION MINISTRIES SOCIETY LIFE ENTERTAINMENT OPINION



Tragic Massacre: 70 Christians Beheaded in DRC Church Attack

BY CHRISTIANITY DAILY

FEBRUARY 21, 2025 07:33 EST

2/21/25



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Families who have lost loved ones due to the ongoing civil war between government forces and rebels in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) are holding protests. | Screenshot: WION Channel via YouTube

Is there more to come?

The beast was permitted **to go to war against the saints** and conquer them. – Revelation 13:7a

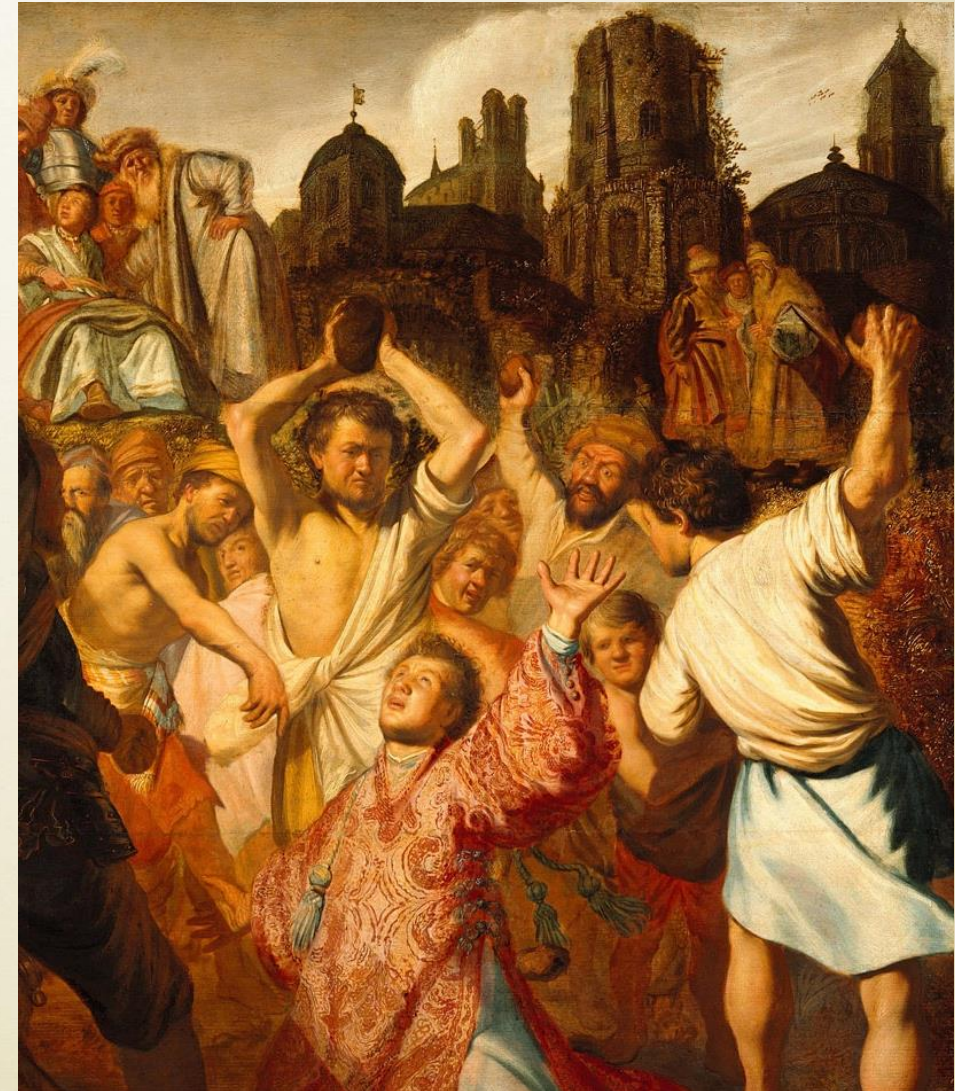
If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he will go. If anyone is to be killed by the sword, then by the sword he must be killed. **This requires steadfast endurance and faith from the saints.** – Revelation 13:10

Then I saw thrones and seated on them were those who had been given authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. **These had not worshiped the beast or his image and had refused to receive his mark on their forehead or hand.** They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. – Revelation 20:4

Don't Fear!

I say to you, my friends, **don't fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more.** – Luke 12:4

You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. Everyone will hate you because of me. But **not a hair of your head will perish.** Stand firm, and you will win life. – Luke 21:16-19



Third Warning: to the Deceived

- To the church of Pergamum: I know you live in a place that is hard pressed on all sides.

I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. – Revelation 2:13

- Although God loves them and they have been faithful, there are some things they need to change...

But I have a few things against you, **because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam... you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.** – Revelation 2:14-15

Two Last Days Deceptions

1. The teachings of Balaam
 2. The teachings of the Nicolaitans
- Certainty about these two heresies has been lost to the modern church, but John's letters to the seven churches were to guard against deception and heresy, particularly in the last days.

But I think we were meant to understand the true meaning of these warnings in the last days...

With some detective work, logical deduction, and a look at current deceptions in the church today, I think the true meaning of these warnings can be restored.

What was the sin of Balaam?

But I have a few things against you: You have some people there who follow the teaching of Balaam, **who instructed Balak to put a stumbling block before the people of Israel** so they would eat food sacrificed to idols and commit sexual immorality.

– Revelation 2:14

- This could easily be interpreted to only be about food sacrificed to idols and immorality, i.e., Gnosticism.
- BUT, Balaam's main sin was that he told Balak how to make the Israelites stumble so that he could profit from their demise...



Against Israel, For Palestine

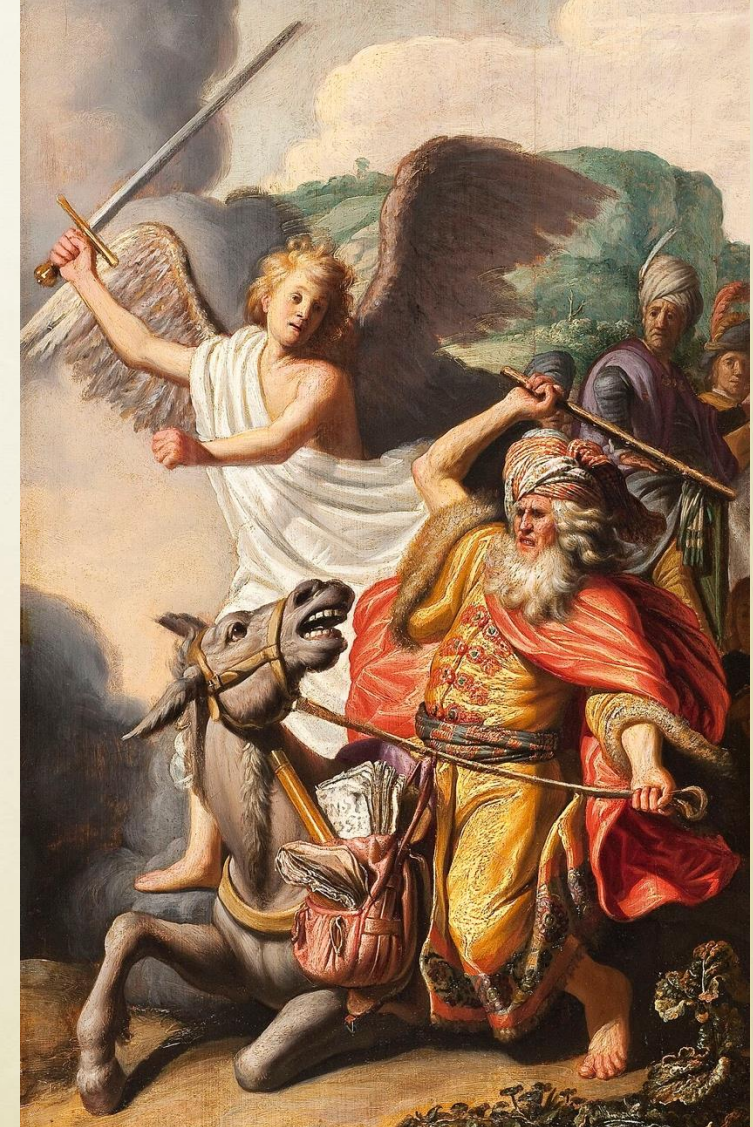
- Balaam was a Gentile believer in God who set himself against the nation of Israel. Don't make Balaam's mistake, today.

➤ **Don't follow Replacement Theology**

➤ **Stand for Israel, not against her.**

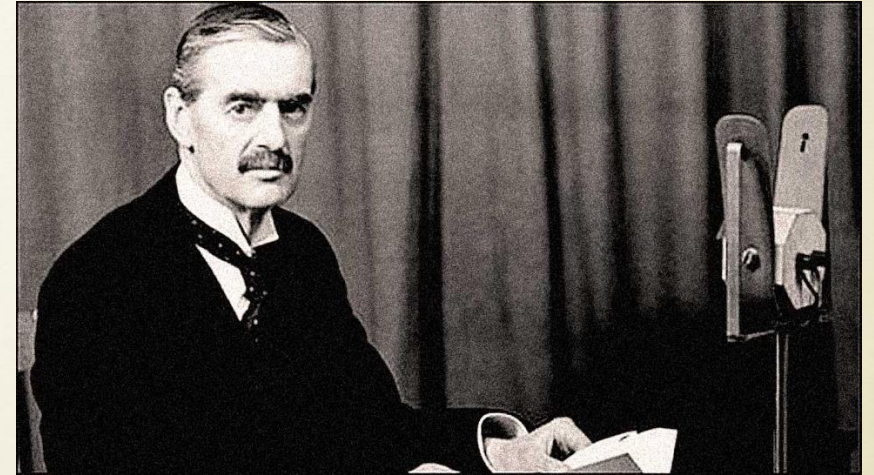
I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

– Genesis 12:3



Examples of the sin of Balaam

- The British government led by Neville Chamberlain institutes the “White Paper Policy” in 1939 to appease the oil-rich Arab states, severely limiting the immigration of Jews to Israel.
- The Catholic Church agrees to turn a blind eye to the plight of the Jews at the hands of the Nazi party to protect and enhance their own interests.



It may be a problem of “facts”

- Have you been deceived about Israel?
- If you are on the side that is supported by Hamas and most of the UN, that's a clue you have been sold a false narrative and are on the wrong side...



- Don't fall for it.
Reject Replacement Theology.



<https://soundcloud.com/benshapiroshow/the-history-of-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict>

Who were the Nicolaitans?

- Most sources say they taught Gnosticism and promoted sexual immorality.
- It was also reported by Irenaeus (within a century of John the Apostle) that the Nicolaitans followed Nicholas, one of the seven deacons appointed by the Apostles.
- **The Nicolaitans are the followers of that Nicolas** who was one of the seven first ordained to the diaconate by the apostles. (see I. xxvi. 3.)

“Brothers, **choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.** We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose **Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit;** also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, **and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.** – Acts 6:3-5

Overlooked Scriptural Clues into the Nicolaitans

1. Nicholas was a Gentile who converted to Judaism...
 2. Nicholas was also from Antioch, where the question about Gentiles keeping the law first came up (Acts 15:1-5)...
- Divinely given these details, it begs the following question:

Did Nicholas continue to follow the Jewish law after coming to faith in Christ, rather than experiencing the freedom granted to the Gentiles, which then later influenced other Gentiles to do likewise?

Acts 15: Should Gentiles Keep the Law?

Certain people came down from Judea to **Antioch** and were teaching the believers: **“Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved.”** This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question... When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them. Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, **“The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses.”** – Acts 15:1-2, 4-5



Many people are still wrongly teaching this ...

The Answer was no

The apostles and elders met to consider this question. After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: “Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? ... **It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements:** You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. Farewell.— Acts 15:6-10, 28-29

Were these new reduced requirements now to be taken as commandments for Gentiles?

- You are to abstain from
 1. Eating food sacrificed to idols
 2. Eating blood
 3. Eating the meat of strangled animals
 4. Sexual immorality

Look at #1: food sacrificed to idols

With regard to food sacrificed to idols, we know that "we all have knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. If someone thinks he knows something, he does not yet know to the degree that he needs to know. But if someone loves God, he is known by God. **With regard then to eating food sacrificed to idols**, we know that "an idol in this world is nothing," and that "there is no God but one." ... But this knowledge is not shared by all. And some, by being accustomed to idols in former times, eat this food as an idol sacrifice, and their conscience, because it is weak, is defiled. Now food will not bring us close to God. We are no worse if we do not eat and no better if we do. But be careful that this liberty of yours does not become a hindrance to the weak. – 1 Corinthians 8:1-4, 7-9

Not new Christian laws

- So, what can we conclude if the first item (food sacrificed to idols) is clearly NOT a commandment?
- Then we understand the things listed by the Jerusalem Council for Gentiles to avoid were not "laws," *per se*, because they said: *"You will do well to avoid these things..."*
- **They were given for the promotion of unity among the believers**, both Jew and Gentile, those weak and strong in faith, and for unity within the family.

"All things are lawful for me" - **but not everything is beneficial.**

"All things are lawful for me" - but I will not be controlled by anything. – 1 Corinthians 6:12

A missed clue from Irenaeus

- And once you know what to look for, there is a major clue about the sin of the Nicolaitans in *Against Heresies* by Irenaeus.

John, the disciple of the Lord, preaches this faith, and seeks, by the proclamation of the Gospel, **to remove that error which by Cerinthus** had been disseminated among men, **and a long time previously by those termed Nicolaitans...** (see III. xi. 1.)

- This means that things Cerinthus taught were influenced by what the Nicolaitans believed...

Connecting Cerinthus to the Nicolaitans

- Irenaeus in *Against Heresies* describes the heresies of Cerinthus
- **This tells us about the Nicolaitans, too, when we understand that Cerinthus was continuing their heresies...**

[speaking of Cerinthus] They use the Gospel according to Matthew only, and repudiate the Apostle Paul, maintaining that he was an apostate from the law.

As to the prophetical writings, they endeavor to expound them in a somewhat singular manner.

They practice circumcision, persevere in the observance of those customs which are enjoined by the law, and are so Judaic in their style of life that they even adore Jerusalem as if it were the house of God. (see I. xxvi. 2)

the return of old heresies

1. They only followed Matthew, the most “Jewish” of the Gospels
2. They rejected the writings of Paul.
(This error is growing like cancer today.)

Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our **dear brother Paul also wrote you** with the wisdom that God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. **His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.** – 2 Peter 3:15-16

3. They took a selective and narrow view of prophecy.
4. They practiced circumcision and kept the Jewish law zealously.

Don't follow the Nicolaitans

- It's great to rediscover the Jewish roots of our faith, and to learn about the seven Feasts of the Lord, the richness of the Old Testament in Hebrew, to connect with the land of Israel, etc.
- But it is another thing to get led into obeying the dietary laws, keeping the sabbath (Saturday), and observing the feast days as a commandment, i.e., trying to be a Torah observant Christian.

What's more likely? The Church has had its core doctrines wrong for 1,700 years or more and "true" Christians are just now figuring it out, **OR**, that the deceptions we were warned would come in the last days have now arrived...?

Weren't Nicolaitans about immorality?

- It also seems clear from early Church testimony that they were also marked by depravity and sexual immorality.

But how can it be both?

The lesson of Colossians chapter 2 is that trying to keep the law and appear extra righteous ultimately just leads to even more depravity...

Colossians 2 – Needed in the Last Days

- In Colossians 2, warns about Paul specifically mentions the Laodiceans (End Times warning), and all those who have not seen his face in the flesh...

(v.4) So that no one will delude you with persuasive argument...

(v.8) See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

- In verses 9-15, we read that the requirements of the law, like circumcision, are spiritually fulfilled through faith in Christ.

Colossians 2 – Trying to keep the Law

- Therefore, don't be fooled when false teachers try to convince you that the whole law must still be kept.

Therefore, no one is to judge you in food and drink, or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day—things which are only a shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement... – Colossians 2:16-18a

- Christ is the fulfillment of the law.

Colossians 2 – Legalism leads to indulgence

If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world, why, as if you were living in the world, do you submit yourself to decrees: “Do not handle, nor taste, nor touch”? Which deal with everything destined to perish with use, which are in accordance with the commands and teachings of men. – Colossians 2:20-22

- Is Paul promoting immorality here? No, he is attacking legalism and any attempt to make believers try and keep the old law. Why? Because trying to do so leads to immorality (v.23)...

Even though they have the appearance of wisdom with their self-imposed worship and false humility achieved by an unsparing treatment of the body - a wisdom with no true value - **they in reality result in fleshly indulgence.** – Colossians 2:23

The sin of the Nicolaitans

Thus, while the expression of the heresy of the Nicolaitans may have ultimately arrived at licentiousness and sexual immorality, it most likely began with legalism and trying to keep the Jewish law (Judaizing), which is a growing error and heresy in these last days that Paul tried very hard to warn the Colossians, the Laodiceans, and End Times believers about...

Last Days Deception & Legalism

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. They forbid people to marry **and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.** For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. **If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus,** nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. – 1 Timothy 4:1-6

But God Doesn't Change!

- One argument for keeping the law is that if God doesn't change, then He can't change his law, either. But that is counter to Scripture.

For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also. – Hebrews 7:12

- God Himself never changes, but He has changed things with mankind many times, including His law.

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! – Romans 6:14-15

Freed from the Law

But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter. – Romans 7:6

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. – Romans 10:4

- But the law remains in effect for those who are not saved.

To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law. – 1 Corinthians 9:20

Don't miss part 2 of this series

- Learn about the last four warnings to:

1. Thyatira
2. Sardis
3. Philadelphia
4. Laodicea



THIS VIDEO WILL BE EVEN MORE CHALLENGING...

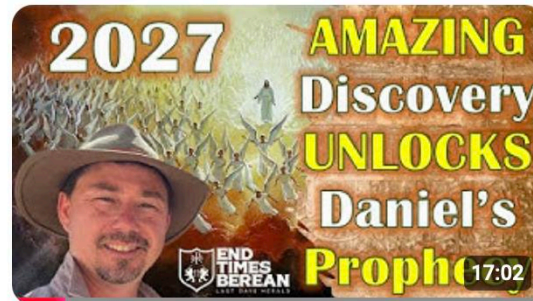


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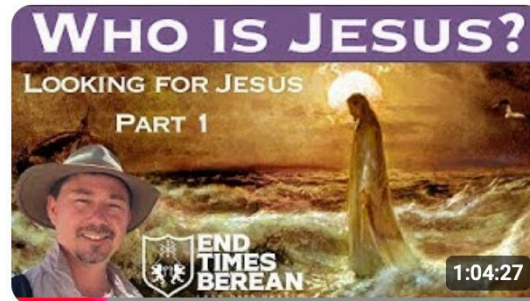
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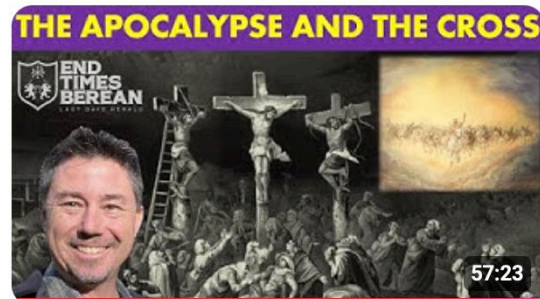
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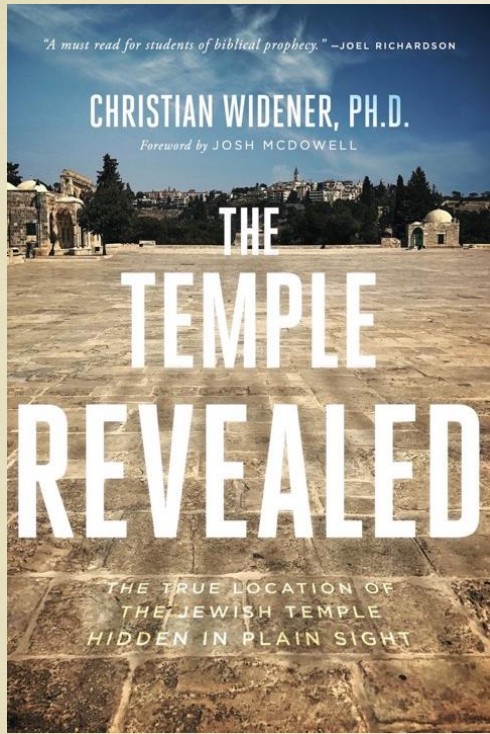
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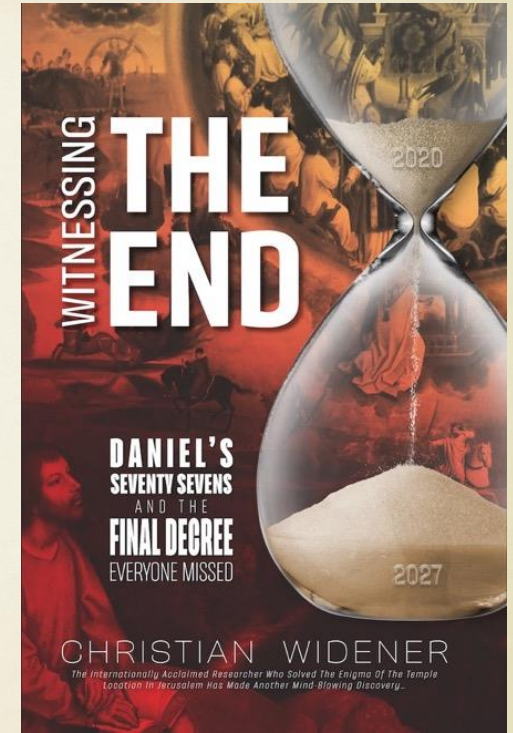
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7 Churches

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7 Warnings



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Turkey

Jesus warned the Seven Churches

Part 1

- **Ephesus – The Pharisees**
- **Smyrna – The Martyrs**
- **Pergamum – The Nicolaitans and Balaam**

Jesus gave John the Apostle seven warnings for the seven churches (*Revelation 2 & 3*).

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- **Sardis – The Zombies**
- **Philadelphia – The Faithful**
- **Laodicea – The Foolish**



The letters to the Seven Churches are
vital warnings in these Last Days
about key heresies that Satan is using
to attack and deceive Christians...

CAUTION: If you've been caught in any of these deceptions, you may not like this video, and you'll probably assume that I'm the one who's been deceived. But I pray that the Holy Spirit will give you ears to hear what He says to the churches in these letters.

The letters to the Seven Churches are
vital warnings in these Last Days
about key heresies that Satan is using
to attack and deceive Christians...

Fourth warning: Followers of Jezebel

- To the church of Thyatira: You are doing some things right, but you've been led astray by Jezebel.

I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that **your deeds of late are greater than at first.** But I have this against you, that **you tolerate the woman Jezebel**, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. – Revelation 2:19-20

Methodist Church's First Drag Queen Pastor: 'God Is Nothing'

In a new poem, a gender-bending minister for the nation's third-largest denomination says that queerness is divine.

by ELLIE GARDEY HOLMES

May 31, 2022, 11:04 PM



Issue: Stinson delivers a virtual sermon on May 23, 2022, for Pentecost Sunday while dressed as "Ms. Penny Cost" (United Methodist Video/YouTube)



What does it mean to follow Jezebel?

- Have you tolerated false teaching, false prophets, accepted women pastors, degrees of sexual immorality, etc.?

But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep. – 2 Peter 2:1-3

Don't let the Truth offend you

And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me.

– Matthew 11:6

“A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”; **for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word,** and to this they were also appointed. – 1 Peter 2:8

- And speaking of being offended by the truth, that happens when we have been deceived and led astray, because:

It is easier to fool someone than to convince them that they have been fooled...

Women in ministry

- It's not about what makes sense to us. What does God's word say?

A woman must learn in quietness, in all submission. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. For it was Adam who was first formed, and then Eve. And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into trespass. – 1 Timothy 2:11-14

- **There are many positions scripturally open to women:** Teaching other women and children (**not men**), music ministry, missionary, prophetess, administrator, and deaconess (1 Timothy 3:11).
- What about pastor or elder? No, because elders hold the same position of authority as a pastor (1 Peter 5:1-2 & Titus 1:6).

Aren't elders and deacons the same office?

- No, not at all, and the Apostles told us so.

Now in those days, while the disciples were multiplying in number, there was grumbling from the Hellenists against the Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, **“It is not pleasing to God for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.** Therefore, brothers, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this need.” – Acts 6:1-3

- Elders teach—Deacons serve.

Are there exceptions?

- Yes, I think there are times where a man is unavailable or unwilling to step up, and God may indeed call a Deborah for such a time.
- But even Deborah was in the time of the Judges, when “everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25).
- But in the West, we are trying to change God’s standard and make women in leadership and teaching men a normal occurrence. (*And again, we are doing what is right in our own eyes...*)

The history of women pastors

- There is **NONE** – *at least before the late 1800s, and even then, mainly in the past 50 years.*

If there is over 3,200 years of history against women in those roles, why do we think it is suddenly okay?

- FYI – The ordination of women began in United States in denominations like Unitarian Universalist, Mennonite, Congregational, Nazarene, etc.



"THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS
A WOMAN WHO DELIGHTS
TO BE IN SUBMISSION TO
JESUS, WHO READS HIS
WORD WHO COMES AWAY
THINKING I'M THE ONE
WHO SHOULD BE
PREACHING HIS WORD."



0:08 / 0:52



HD



Two Qualifications for Women Preachers | Rachel Jankovic



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The role of women in church is different from men

- These are hard verses for us to accept today, but they've been understood and accepted since the early church.

The women should be silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak, but are to submit themselves, as the law also says. If they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home, since it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church. Or did the word of God originate from you, or did it come to you only? **If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, he should recognize that what I write to you is the Lord's command. If anyone ignores this, he will be ignored.** – 1 Corinthians 14:34-38

a Jezebel spirit in the last days?



Trump advisor Paula White-Cain promises 'supernatural blessings' for \$1,000 donation ahead of Passover

Spokesperson tells CP accusation is a 'deceptive smear;' 'donations to ministry don't directly benefit' pastor

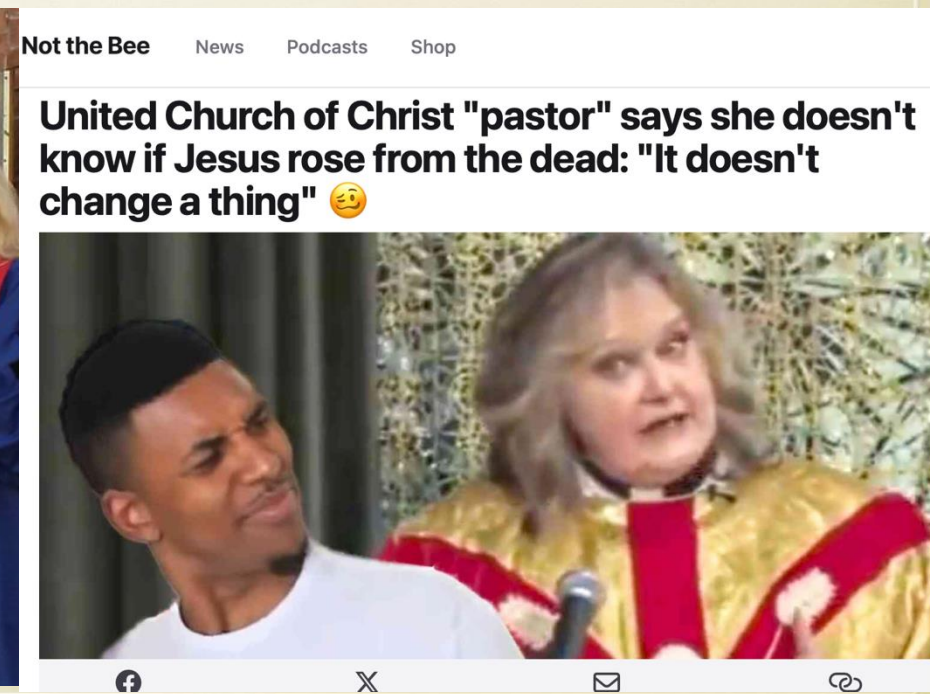
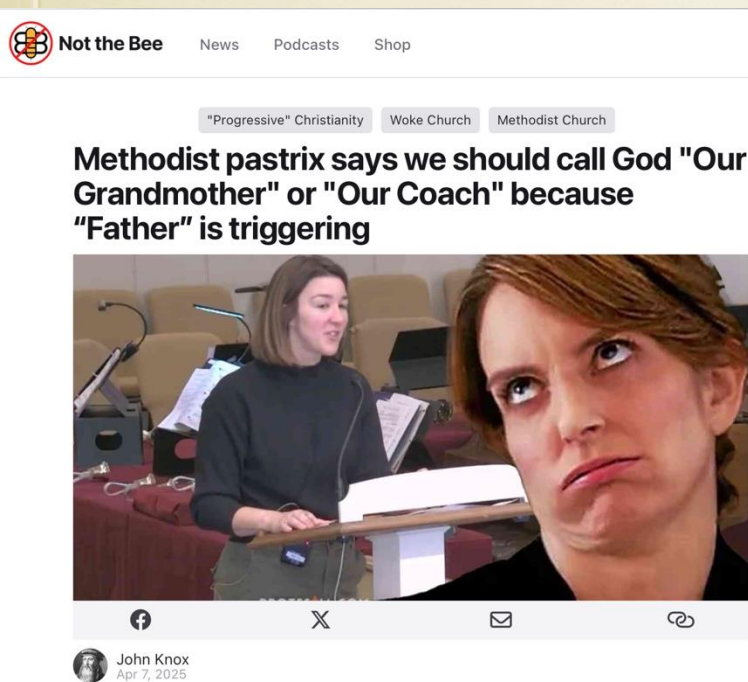
By Ian M. Giatti, Christian Post Reporter | Thursday, March 27, 2025



Elevating the role of women to spiritual headship is a modern deception and heresy, and Jesus warned the Church of Thyatira not to follow it...

No monopoly on false teaching, but...

- It's not just women pastors who are promoting sexual immorality in the church, but there is a common progression from supporting women in ministry to accepting sexual sin.
- It is quite evident in the most progressive denominations...



Apostate Teachers

To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

– Titus 1:15-16

Rick Warren shares 3 Bible passages that changed his mind on women pastors

By Michael Gryboski, Editor | Thursday, March 09, 2023  **THE CHRISTIAN POST**



Pastor Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest speaks at the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in Anaheim, California, on June 14, 2022. | Baptist Press/Adam Covington

Former Saddleback Church pastor and founder Rick Warren recently laid out three passages from the Bible that led him to conclude that it is acceptable for women to serve in the office of pastor.

NewSpring Church to leave Southern Baptist Convention over women pastors debate

By Michael Gryboski, Editor | Wednesday, April 02, 2025  **THE CHRISTIAN POST**



NewSpring Church, a multisite megachurch based in South Carolina. | NewSpring Church

NewSpring Church has announced that its leaving the Southern Baptist Convention over the South Carolina-based megachurch's support of women serving in pastoral leadership roles.



From the beginning of the Levitical priesthood (c. 1400 BC) to the establishment of the New Testament Church, women were not to be the spiritual leaders...

Why is this so difficult?

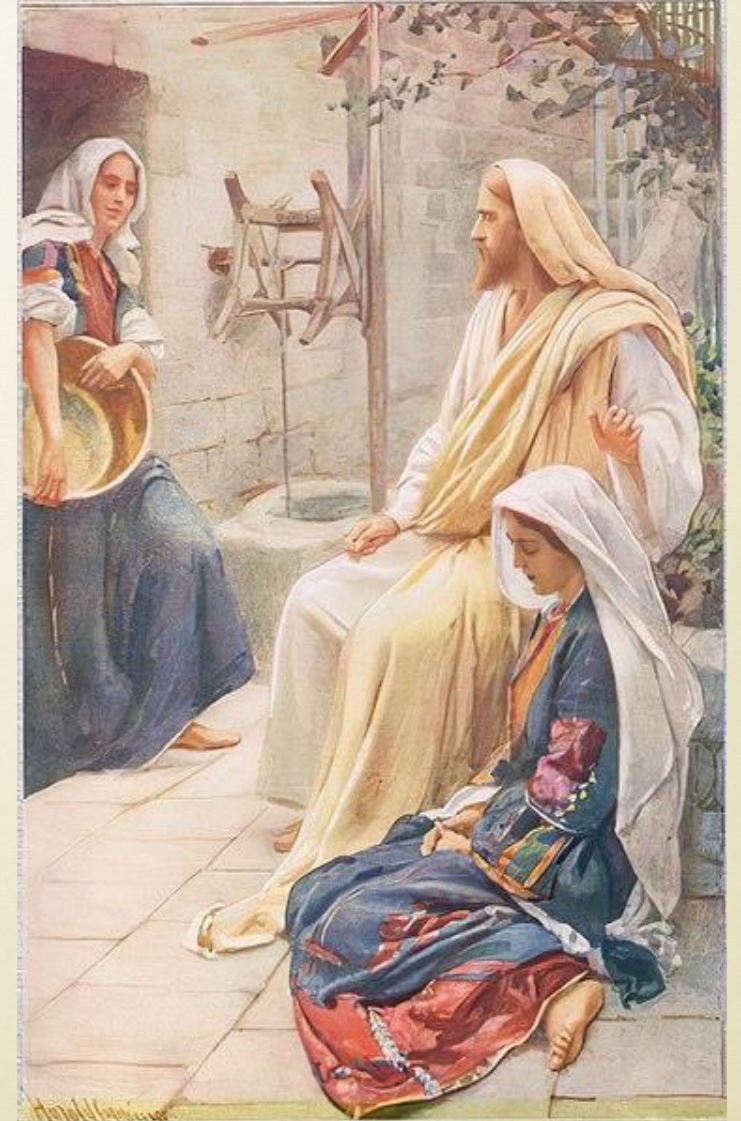
“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.” – Genesis 3:15-16

1. Satan will target women
2. There will be pain in childbirth
3. Women will be challenged with submission to men and their husbands
4. The Messiah will come from a woman (It's not all bad). 😊



God has special roles for women

- Eve
- Sarah
- Rebecca
- Leah & Rachel
- Jochebed
- Miriam
- Rahab
- Ruth & Naomi
- Deborah
- Hannah
- Bathsheba
- Esther
- Elizabeth
- Mary
- Mary Magdalene
- Martha & Mary



Women's Liberation Movement

“Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” – Psalm 2:3

- The Women's Liberation Movement that began in the 1960s in the United States infiltrated American Churches and the rest of the world in two short decades.

Thousands of adherents joined the movement which began in the United States and spread to Canada and Mexico. In Europe, movements developed in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Wales. The liberationist movement also was active in Australia, Fiji, Guam, India, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan. -- Wikipedia

We need to Restore a biblical worldview about Men and Women

- “Wokeness” first arrived in the **Women’s Liberation Movement**.
- **It totally rejected biblical roles and definitions for women.**
- After 50+ years, the understanding of many Christians about women and their roles today is largely secular, not biblical.

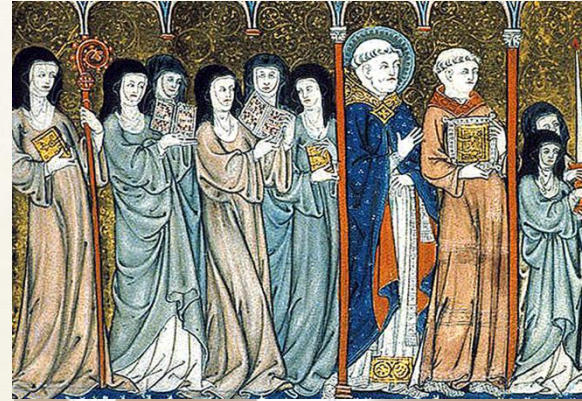


Where did head coverings go?

- As an example, many women no longer wear head coverings in church... But men mostly still remove their hats in church and before praying (*see 1 Corinthians 11:1-16*).

Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head.(v.4-5)

WHEN and WHY did women stop wearing head coverings? It was the Women's Liberation Movement...



Legalism or Obedience?

- *Each one should be firmly convinced in their own mind but suggesting that we obey these Scriptures is not legalism.*
- Especially when the command is simple and historically supported.

But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, nor have the churches of God. – 1 Corinthians 11:16

IS CALLING FOR OBEDIENCE THE SAME AS LEGALISM?



 **CHARLESSTANLEY.COM**

<https://www.charlesstanley.com/is-calling-for-obedience-the-same-as-legalism/>

This deception leads to immorality

And I gave her time to repent, and she does not wish to repent of her sexual immorality. Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. – Revelation 2:21-23

- The fruit of Jezebel's deceptions will end in immorality.
- Those who do not repent will join the foolish virgins in the Great Tribulation.
- And her children will suffer, too, *i.e., fall from the faith...?*

Accepting Immorality

- Epidemic of pornography
- Professing Christians living together with their partners
- Sexual intimacy is the norm before marriage
- Sexual abuse of minors
- Divorce
- Same sex relationships



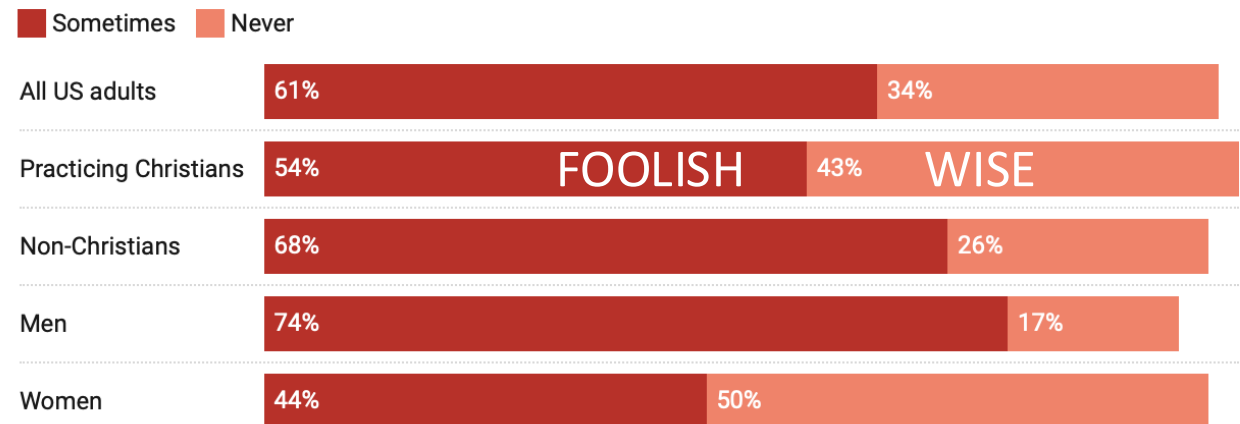
More Christians Are Watching Porn, But Fewer Think It's a Problem

MARIA BAER

CHRISTIANITY TODAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

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How Often Americans Watch Pornography



Practicing Christians are those who say faith is important to them and have attended church in the last month.

Chart: Christianity Today • Source: [Barna and Pure Desire Ministries](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

The Catholic Church's grim history of ignoring priestly pedophilia – and silencing would-be whistleblowers

Published: October 9, 2018 6:42am EDT



The Southern Baptist Church Ignored Its Abuse Crisis. She Exposed It.

By Sarah Stankorb

January 4, 2023, 11:00am



Tolerating Jezebel

NEWS

Report details 17 cases of abuse by IHOPKC founder Mike Bickle

(RNS) — 'His actions not only violated the sanctity of his role but also caused profound harm to those he was meant to guide and protect,' the report said.



Mike Bickle in a video on the Mike Bickle App. (Video screen grab)

By Kathryn Post and Bob Smietana
February 5, 2025



Culture of cover-ups: Tucson church has ignored child sexual abuse allegations for decades

From the Twisted Message: A prophet's unchecked global sect series

Alleged sexual abuse of minors has been covered up in a Tucson church for decades, an investigation finds. The pastor dismissed allegations, blamed victims and screamed at police.

Emily Hamer , Tim Steller Nov 13, 2024 Updated Nov 21, 2024

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Former Church of England leader says scale of abuse scandal was 'overwhelming'

By Catarina Demony

March 29, 2025 10:44 AM MDT · Updated 4 hours ago

🔖 Aa 🔄

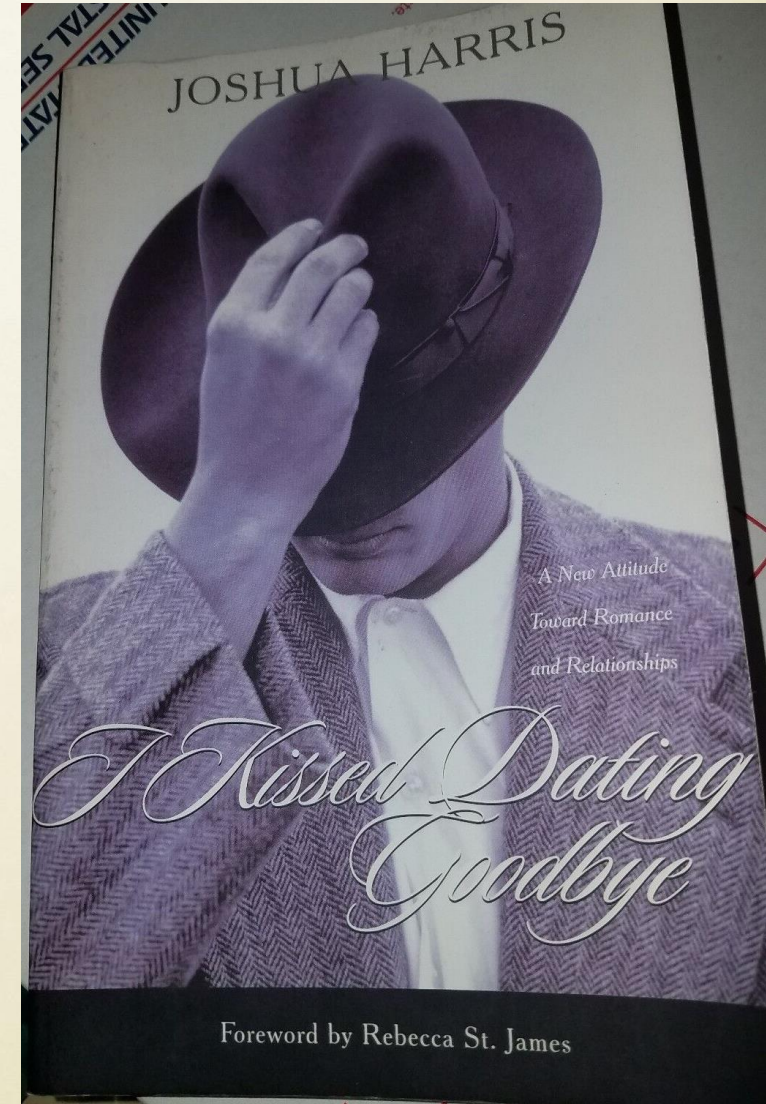


From immorality to full departure

- Many take the path from indulgence of sin to full apostasy and leave the Faith.

There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death. We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin. – 1 John 5:16-18a

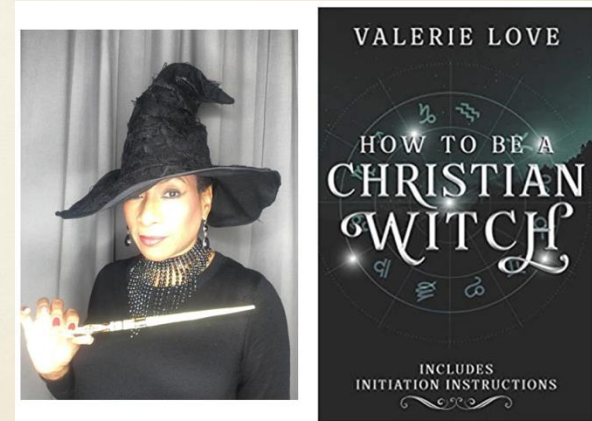
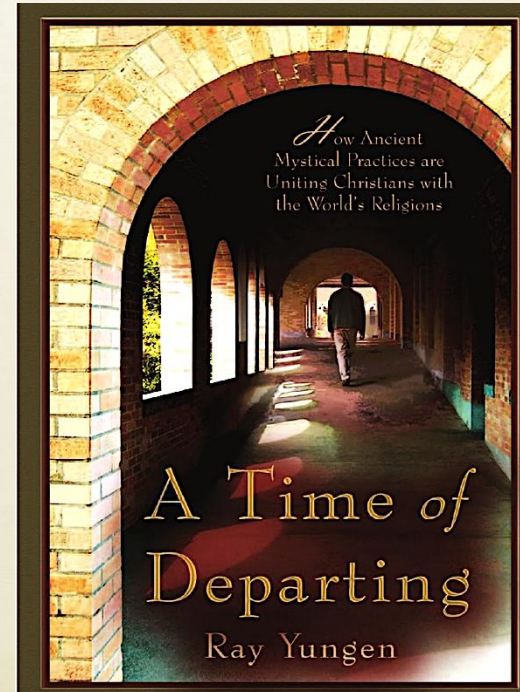
Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? – Romans 6:16



The deep things of Satan

But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not have this teaching, who have not known **the deep things** of Satan, **as they call them**—I place no other burden on you. Nevertheless, what you have, hold fast until I come. – Revelation 2:23-25

- They follow things they call “deep” (*secret, ancient, mystical, etc.*), which are really of Satan.
- **What are these things?** Gross immorality, Christian mysticism, eastern meditation as “ancient prayer practices,” (ex. contemplative prayer), seeking “spiritual experiences” and supernatural encounters, “lost” or ancient heretical books, etc.



Rev. Valerie Love

Rev. Valerie Love (aka KAISI) is an ordained minister of spiritual consciousness, a practicing Christian Witch and the founder of the Covenant of Christian Witches Mystery School in the Solomonic Tradition.

Books for Christian Witches

There are a plethora of books now on how to be a practicing Christian Witch, as well as how to initiate oneself into the Magickal Arts & Sciences as a Christian Witch.

Do good, but don't leave out the Gospel

- And yet, God commended them for the good they are doing and for their love.
- Many of the Thyatira churches are strong on a social gospel that does a lot of good but often leaves out The Gospel.

If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself. – James 2:15-17



It's about the heart

- Ephesus believed the right things, but they had a heart problem. They needed to return to the deeds they did at first...
- Whereas Thyatira still loved the Lord, and even more so than they did at first!
- But they are deceived by the spirit of Jezebel.
- They need to be careful about: 1) false teaching, 2) false prophets, 3) immorality, 4) elevating women above the positions God instituted, and 5) a feel-good social gospel.



Fifth Warning: to the zombies

- Sardis received one of the most frightening warnings...

And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: This is what He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says: “I know your deeds, that **you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.** Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. **So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent.** But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.” – Revelation 3:1-3

“Christians” as zombies?!?!

Is your Christian walk lifeless?

Did you once believe the Bible, but now you think it's been changed, corrupted, or just made up?

Were you raised going to church, but now you're not sure you believe in God anymore?

Does your faith seem dead?



Do you know God, or just about Him?

- One can “feel” Christian, but have no true love for God or His Son, Jesus Christ, and no indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
- It’s time to start reading the Bible, going back to church, and getting right with God, before it’s too late.

Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.
– Revelation 3:3b



I'm a cultural Christian in the same way many of my friends call themselves cultural Jews or cultural Muslims.

— Richard Dawkins —

AZ QUOTES

Parable of the Soils: Choked Out

Other seed fell among the thorns;
and the thorns grew up with it and
choked it out. – Luke 8:7

The seed which fell among the
thorns, these are the ones who have
heard, and as they go on their way
they are choked with worries and
riches and pleasures of this life, and
bring no fruit to maturity. – Luke 8:14



Parable of the Soils: No Root

Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. – Luke 8:6

Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; **they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away.** – Luke 8:13

- It's not enough to just believe for a little while...



The Remnant

But you have a few people in Sardis who have not defiled their clothes, and they will walk with me in white, because they are worthy. In the same way, the one who conquers will be dressed in white clothes, and I will never erase his name from the book of life but will acknowledge his name before my Father and before his angels. **Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.** – Revelation 3:4-6

- God always preserves a remnant, even in churches that appear dead.
- Look for the wheat among the tares (weeds). (Matthew 13:24-30)



Sixth Warning: to the Faithful

- To the Church of Philadelphia: You need to persevere and hold fast to what you have. Use the open doors God's given you.

I know your deeds. Behold, **I have put before you an open door which no one can shut**, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name. 'Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.

Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, **I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world**, to test those who dwell on the earth.

I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown. – Revelation 3:8-11

An open door no one can shut

Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut...

- The faithful church will continue to have an open door to share the Gospel.
- America has entered a period of grace with the election of Donald Trump that is holding open a door for the Gospel.
- *America's declaration of independence was signed in the city of Philadelphia...*
- And there are others around the world...



Jews will thank faithful Christians

Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you...

- Faithful Christians are the greatest friends Israel has today.
- The people of Israel are recognizing and appreciating this more and more...



Touching Jewish hearts

Israelis moved to consider Jesus and the New Testament thanks to Christian support.

By [Charles Gardner](#) | Oct 18, 2024 at 9:30 am | Topics: [CHRISTIANS](#), [Jesus](#)



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Thousands of Christians march through Jerusalem bringing "good news" to Zion. Photo by Yonatan Sindel/Flash90



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Jewish Atheist Changes Her Mind After Hearing the Gospel

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SO BE IT!

by JEWS FOR JESUS

Kept from the hour of testing

I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth...

- There are at least two possible ways to understand Jesus' promise.
 1. They will be the wise virgins who will be gathered by the Bridegroom.
 2. God will protect them during the Tribulation.



Either way, we need to hold fast

I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown...

- Until He comes, we need to faithfully and patiently wait, watch, and hold fast.
- Be a LIGHT.
- Be a STRONG TOWER in the storm.
- Be a REFUGE for those in need.
- Be a GUIDE to those that are lost.



Brotherly love must continue. Do not neglect hospitality, because through it some have entertained angels without knowing it. **Remember those in prison as though you were in prison with them, and those ill-treated as though you too felt their torment.** Marriage must be honored among all and the marriage bed kept undefiled, for God will judge sexually immoral people and adulterers. Your conduct must be free from the love of money and you must be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you and I will never abandon you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" – Hebrews 13:1-6

Seventh Warning: to the Foolish

- To the church of Laodicea: Are you lukewarm towards Jesus Christ and His return, living a life that is neither for Him or against Him? Is it time to make up your mind and stop sitting on the fence? *You can be rich and successful and seem to be a "good person" but remain lost.*

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. – Revelation 3:15-17



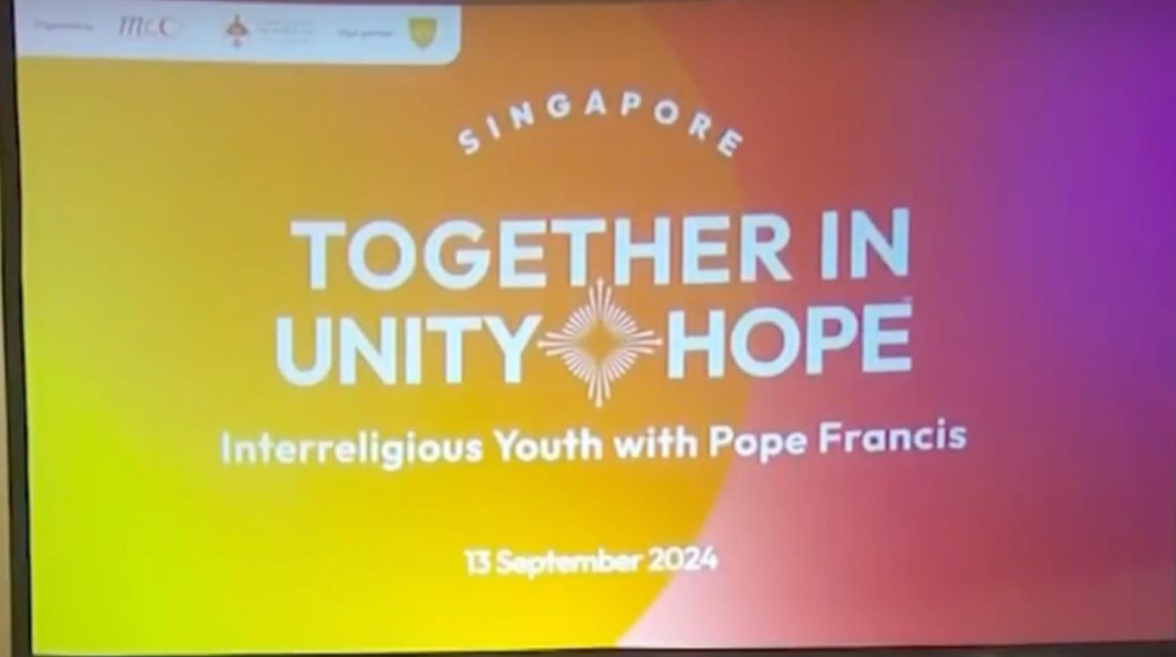
The Last Days Church

- The seventh and last church, Laodicea, represents the general state of the last days church and foolish virgins.
- Wretched, blind, and naked indicates the Laodiceans were not truly born again.

Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked...



ER IN
HOPE
Pope Francis



Pope says, “All religions are paths to God...”

But I'm a Good Person!

Are you trying to be look good and even to be good, but you're doing it in your own strength?

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags. – Isaiah 64:6a

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. – Romans 3:20

Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins. – Ecclesiastes 7:20



Why is it hard for many to believe?

- We are in a spiritual battle and the road is narrow, not broad, that leads to life.

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. – 2 Corinthians 4:4

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. – Matthew 7:13-14

And, “If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” – 1 Peter 4:18

The Narrow Door

And someone said to Him, “Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?” And He said to them, “Strive to enter through the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, ‘Lord, open up to us!’ then He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know where you are from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.’ And He will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you are from; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU WORKERS OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.’ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth...” – Luke 13:23-28a



Hope for Foolish Virgins

Will many “Christians” be left behind because their hearts weren’t truly ready for Jesus?

- Many, based on Matthew 25:1-13

Then does that mean it will be too late for them?

- Not if they repent.

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. – Revelation 3:19



Samson's Redemption

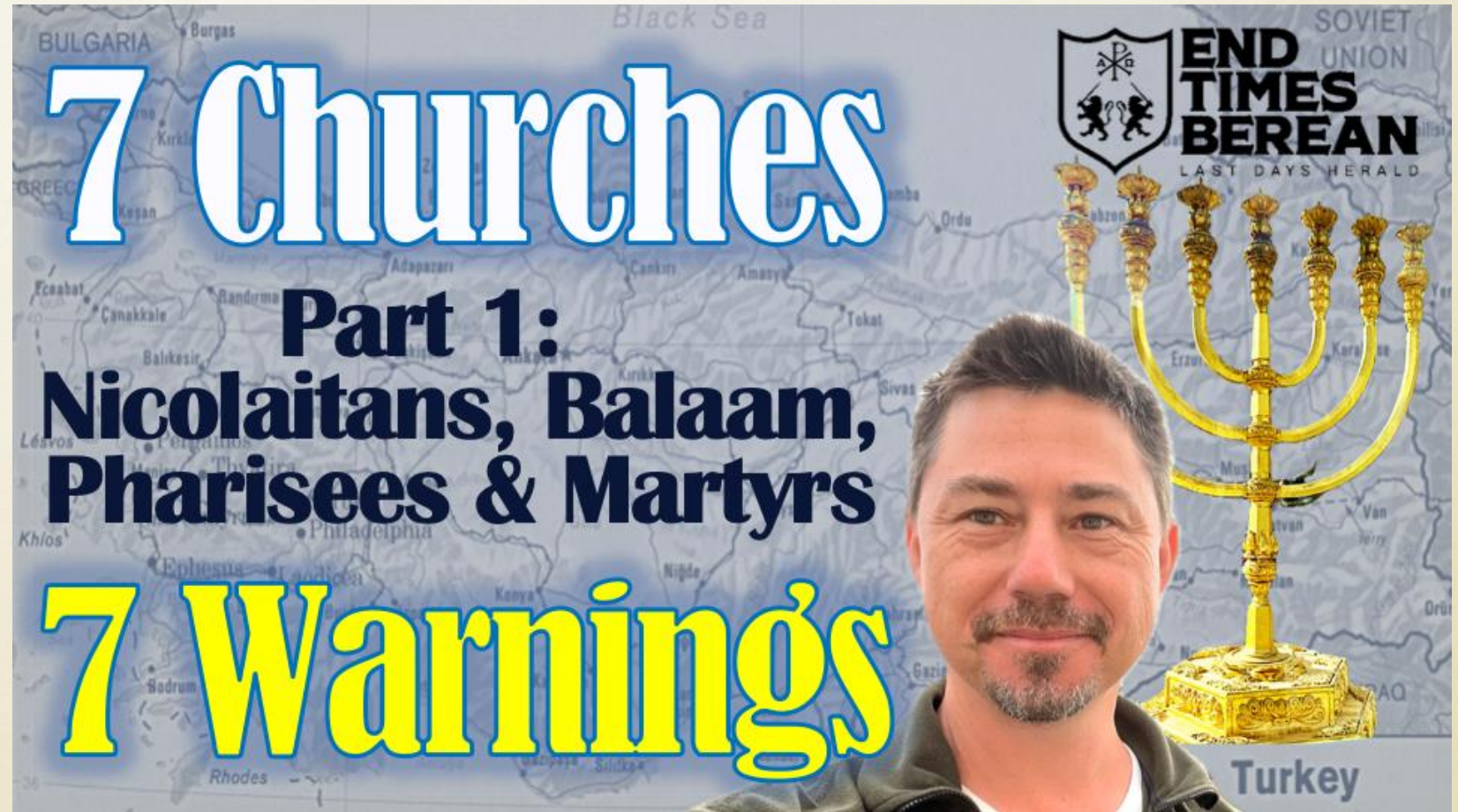
- Samson was led astray by a harlot (*like Jezebel*). He didn't follow the Lord with his whole heart and was delivered into the hands of the Philistines.
- But Samson repented. He prayed to God and was delivered through his death (Judges 16 & Hebrews 11).
- Is that so different from Christians deceived by Jezebel, the great harlot of Babylon, or other heresies?



Don't miss part 1 of this series

- Learn about the first three warnings to:

1. Ephesus
2. Smyrna
3. Pergamum



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BALAAM and the NICOLAITANS ...

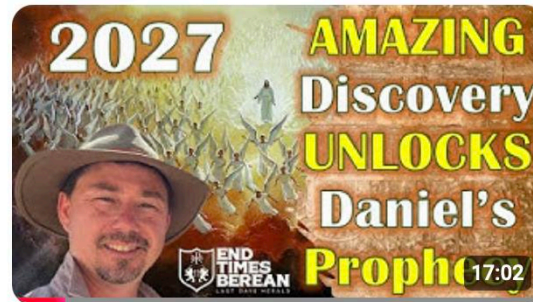


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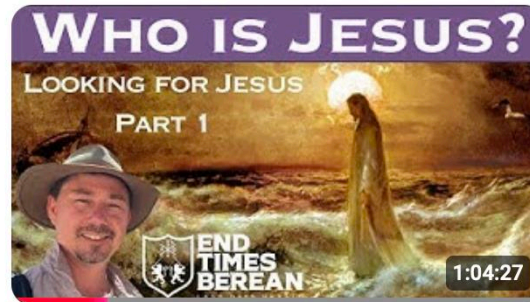
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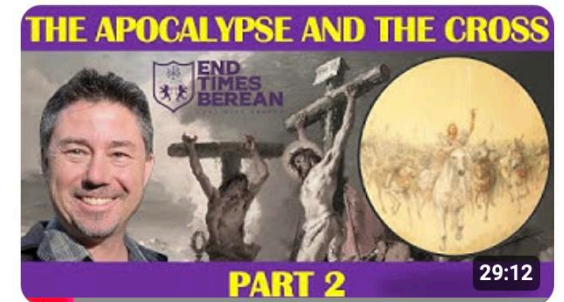
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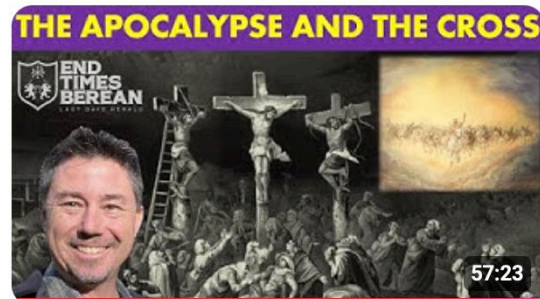
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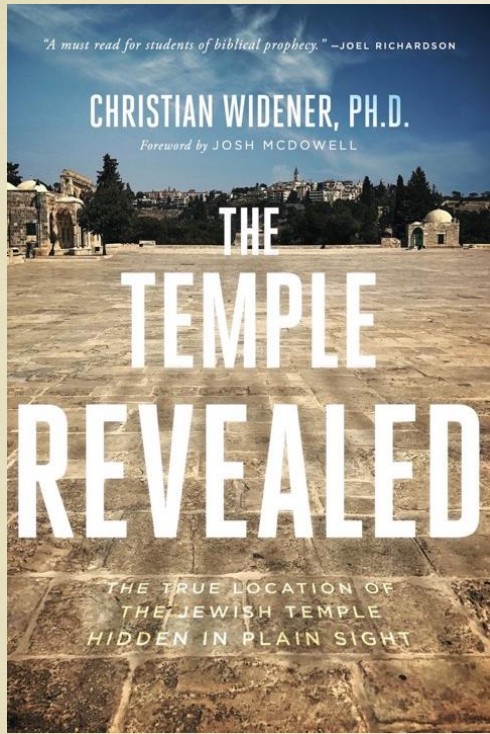
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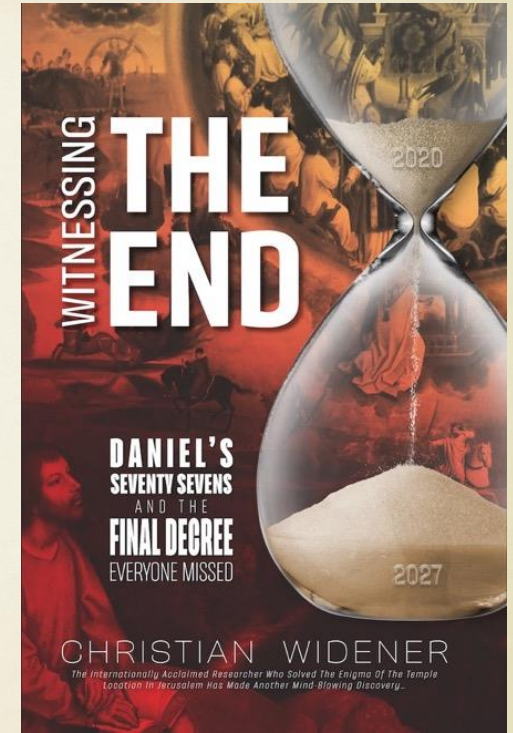
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