

Spiritual Ammunition Sermons – 1

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Spiritual Ammunition Sermons – Introduction

Locked. Loaded. Aimed at the Enemy.

Welcome to **Spiritual Ammunition Sermons** — not another devotional series, not a coffee-shop Bible chat, not a feel-good, seeker-sensitive pat on the head — but **war sermons for the last-days remnant**.

If you came looking for soft religion, polished performances, and sermons that make sinners feel safe, you're in the wrong bunker. These messages aren't inspirational quotes for Instagram. They're **spiritual bullets** — forged in Scripture, fire-tested in battle, and delivered with the same unapologetic force the apostles preached with before the world learned to tame Christianity.

Every sermon in this series is a **round in the chamber** — designed to pierce deception, expose apostasy, and wake up sleeping saints who forgot we're still in a war zone. We are not here to entertain, negotiate, or blend in with a world headed for judgment. We are here to **fire truth into the darkness**.

This series exists for the believer who's tired of plastic preaching, watered-down doctrine, and pastors who smile at wolves instead of swinging the sword. For the Christian who still believes the Bible is a weapon (Hebrews 4:12), prayer is artillery, and the pulpit is not a stage — it's a **command post**.

We are living in a generation where churches have swapped out armor for costumes, preaching for performances, conviction for comfort, and fire for fog machines. Meanwhile, hell isn't taking a day off, the devil isn't retiring, and the war for souls hasn't paused just because the church wants to “rebrand Jesus.”

So these sermons aren't written for the crowd — they're written for the **called-out**.

Not for the curious — but for the committed.

Not for the audience — but for the army.

If the Word of God offends you, good.

If truth makes you uncomfortable, good.

If the sermons in this series hit you hard, **they're supposed to**.

Because nobody makes it through the last days with soft skin, silent lips, or unloaded faith. These sermons are meant to **arm you**, not amuse you. To strengthen your hands for war, not fold them in religious comfort. To get you off the sidelines and back into the trench where real Christianity still bleeds, fights, and stands.

So holster your feelings.

Sharpen your sword.

Tighten the armor.

The enemy is not asleep — and neither should you be.

Welcome to **Spiritual Ammunition Sermons — Series 1**.

Where every message is a shot fired.

Where the church stops being a hospital for the wounded and becomes a **barracks for the warriors**.

Lock in. Load up. And don't just listen — **return fire**.

The Book Judges You, Not the Other Way Around

Man doesn't critique the Bible; the Bible critiques man.

Introduction

Alright, folks, listen up. I'm not here to stroke your ego or pat you on the head. I'm here to tell you the truth straight, and it'll burn if you've got any carnality left hanging on you. You've been told all your life that man is the standard—that his intellect, his reason, his education, his science, his religion—can sit in the judge's chair and weigh God's Word. You've been told that you can analyze the Bible like it's a dead frog in a high school biology class. You cut it open, poke at it, write notes in your little textbook, and then close it up, smug as ever.

But let me tell you something loud and clear: *That Book isn't on trial—you are.*

That Book isn't a specimen under your microscope. That Book is the blazing, holy, two-edged sword of Almighty God. And when you crack it open, it cracks you open. It's not you sitting in judgment over the Word—it's the Word sitting in judgment over you.

Hebrews 4:12 says it like this: *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”* That's

not you judging the Book—that's the Book splitting you wide open, laying you bare, showing what's inside.

Point 1: The Audacity of Modern Man

Now let's deal with the arrogance of this modern world. These high-minded scholars strut around with their degrees like peacocks, thinking they're smarter than the Author of Scripture. They say, "*Well, the original manuscripts say...*" You ever notice how none of them has ever seen the originals? They died and turned to dust centuries ago. But boy, they sure can run their mouths about what they never saw.

They get in their classrooms and declare, "*This verse should be rendered differently... This passage is outdated... That word is unfortunate.*" Listen, mister, the only unfortunate thing is your pride in thinking God needs your red pen to clean up His eternal Word.

Who do you think you are? You can't keep your own house in order. You can't even keep your country from going down the sewer. You can't keep your own family straight, but you're going to correct God Almighty? You're going to tell the Holy Spirit He mistranslated Himself?

Psalm 12:6 says: "*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.*" That Book has been through the fire, brother, and it came out pure. It doesn't need a scholar's scalpel. It doesn't need your opinion. It doesn't need your cultural adjustments. It's settled forever in heaven. And when you sit down and act like you've got authority over it, you're a fool sitting in judgment against the Judge of all the earth.

Point 2: The Real Judge in the Courtroom

Picture a courtroom. Everybody's seen one on TV. You've got the lawyers, the jury, the spectators, the defendant—and then the judge walks in. When the judge walks in, everybody stands. Why? Because authority just walked in the room.

Now let me tell you something: when you open that Book, the Judge just walked in. That's not you in the black robe slamming the gavel—that's the Word of God taking the bench. You're the one standing before Him.

Romans 3:4 says: "*Let God be true, but every man a liar.*" That's the courtroom setup. God's Word is the truth, and everybody else—including you, including me—is a liar when we contradict it.

People say, “*Well, I don’t agree with that verse.*” Who cares? Your agreement or disagreement doesn’t move one comma in the Book. You could burn every Bible on earth tonight, and the Word of God would still stand tomorrow, unshaken, untouched, unaltered. You know why? Because you don’t hold it up—it holds you up.

And in that courtroom, when the Judge speaks, you don’t critique His decision. You don’t edit His sentence. You don’t bargain with His ruling. You bow your head, shut your mouth, and say, “Yes, Lord.”

Point 3: The Book Reads You

You ever notice how the Book reads you? People say, “*I’ve read the Bible through ten times.*” That’s good, but I’ll tell you what’s better—the Bible’s read you through ten thousand times.

You don’t just read it; it reads you. That’s why folks don’t like to pick it up. That’s why it collects dust on coffee tables across this country. That’s why professors tear it apart in lecture halls. Because when you read it, it looks back at you. It exposes your sin. It calls you out. It names your disease and prescribes the cure, and man doesn’t like being told he’s sick.

You open to Exodus, and it tells you God demands holiness. You turn to Proverbs, and it nails you for being a fool. You flip to Romans, and it says you’re guilty before God. You land in Revelation, and it warns you of the lake of fire.

And people don’t like it, so they say, “*Well, the Bible is just an ancient book, full of contradictions.*” Contradictions? The only contradiction is between your sinful lifestyle and the holy standard of the Word of God.

James calls it a mirror. A mirror doesn’t lie. It shows the dirt on your face, the wrinkles, the gray hairs. And this Book shows the dirt on your soul.

Point 4: The Fool’s Game of Critiquing God

Man thinks he’s sophisticated when he critiques the Bible. He writes his little blog posts, publishes his books, holds his debates. And people clap for him. They say, “*Oh, what a brilliant mind! What a modern thinker!*”

But let me tell you the truth: he’s a fool juggling knives he doesn’t even understand. He’s blind, poking at light he can’t comprehend.

Job 40:2 says: *“Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.”*

You really think you can reprove God? You can't even keep your heart beating without Him. You can't draw your next breath unless He allows it. And you're going to tell Him His Book is wrong? Son, you're crazy. You've lost your mind.

That's like a mud puddle critiquing the ocean. That's like a candle critiquing the sun. That's like a worm critiquing the eagle flying above it. It's insanity.

Point 5: The Authority of the Book

Now let's talk about authority. Every man on this planet has an authority. You either bow to the Book, or you bow to yourself. You either take God's Word as final, or you make yourself the final authority. And let me tell you something: when you're your own final authority, you're already damned, because you're leaning on a rotten stick that'll snap in the day of judgment.

The authority of this Book doesn't come from seminaries. It doesn't come from church councils. It doesn't come from publishers. It comes from God Himself. 2 Timothy 3:16 says: *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God.”* Not some, not the parts you like, not the “originals only”—*all scripture*.

And it's profitable. For doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction. You know what that means? It tells you what's right, what's not right, how to get right, and how to stay right.

So when you approach that Book, you'd better approach it on your knees, not with your nose in the air.

Point 6: The Judgment to Come

One day, brother, that Book's not just going to judge you in your conscience—it's going to judge you in eternity.

John 12:48: *“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”*

You catch that? The very words of Jesus Christ will be your judge at the Great White Throne. You stand there, and the Book will be opened. You mock it now, but you'll face it then. You laugh at it now, but you'll tremble then. You critique it now, but you'll confess it then.

That Book will be the standard. Not your opinions. Not your religion. Not your professor's lecture. Not your grandma's tradition. *The Book*.

And in that day, every critic will shut his mouth. Every skeptic will bow his knee. Every mocker will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Conclusion: Bow Before the Book

So here's the bottom line, folks: Stop putting the Book on trial. Stop sitting in the judge's chair. Stop thinking your brain, your intellect, your culture, your science, your politics—can weigh the eternal Word of God.

It's the other way around. The Book judges you.

You want freedom? You want life? You want joy? Then bow before the Book. Receive its rebuke. Take its medicine. Obey its commands. Trust its promises.

But if you stiffen your neck, if you keep critiquing, if you keep treating it like a specimen in your lab—then don't be surprised when it rises up in judgment against you, now and at the Last Day.

You don't critique the Bible. The Bible critiques you. You don't judge the Book. The Book judges you. And you'd better believe it before it's too late.

When Scholarship Becomes Idolatry

Why trusting professors over Scripture leads to apostasy

Introduction

Let me tell you something straight: the devil doesn't have to get you drunk, get you high, or drag you into a whorehouse to ruin you. He can ruin you in a seminary classroom with a Greek lexicon on the desk and a professor with a puffed-up ego standing in front of you. That's right—Satan wears a tie, sports glasses, and waves around “the originals” he never saw. He doesn't need to tempt you with the gutter when he can tempt you with the ivory tower.

The idolatry of this age isn't just statues of Mary, or golden calves, or crystals on a yoga mat. The idolatry of this age is **scholarship**—worshiping the human brain, bowing down to letters after a man's name, treating the seminary professor like the voice of God.

I'm not against education. I'm not against learning. But when scholarship takes the throne over the Scriptures, you've just set up an idol. You've traded the infallible Word of God for the fallible opinions of flesh. And let me tell you something: *that's the road to apostasy.*

Point 1: The Subtle Shift from Bible to Brains

Every apostasy in history starts with a shift of authority. Adam and Eve had the Word of God straight from the mouth of the Creator—*"Thou shalt not eat..."*—but the serpent introduced a question: *"Yea, hath God said?"*

That same hiss echoes in seminaries, pulpits, and classrooms today. *"Does the Bible really say...?" "The Hebrew actually means..." "The Greek is better rendered..."* And like a bunch of fools, Christians nod their heads because the man talking has a Ph.D. or wrote a commentary.

What happened? The authority shifted from God's Book to man's brain. From revelation to speculation. From certainty to doubt.

The professors stand there like little popes with chalk in their hands, correcting the Bible that corrected them long before they were born. They strut around as if their education gives them the right to rewrite Scripture. But scholarship is not authority. God never said, *"All scholars are given by inspiration."* He said, *"All scripture is given by inspiration."*

The subtle shift is all it takes: you stop asking, *"What saith the Scripture?"* and you start asking, *"What does Dr. So-and-so think?"* That's idolatry. You've made an altar to scholarship and put the Book on the shelf.

Point 2: The Golden Calf of Academia

Do you remember Exodus 32? Moses was on the mountain, getting the law from God. Down below, Israel couldn't wait. They gathered gold, melted it down, and made a calf. Then they pointed to that dumb idol and said, *"These be thy gods, O Israel!"*

Well, the church has done the same thing. They've melted down God's words into academic jargon, forged a golden calf of scholarship, and now they bow to it. Instead of the

Word of God, it's "*the consensus of modern scholarship.*" Instead of, "*Thus saith the Lord,*" it's, "*The best manuscripts omit this verse.*"

It's idolatry. It's spiritual adultery. You've taken the pure words of the living God and swapped them for the dead speculations of men.

And don't kid yourself—these professors aren't neutral. They've got an agenda. They want to be the authority. They want the final say. And Christians are dumb enough to let them. They quote professors the way a Catholic quotes the Pope: blindly, reverently, fearfully.

That golden calf of academia has stolen the worship due to God's Book. And while the dance goes on around the calf, the glory of God is up on the mountain—ignored, rejected, silenced.

Point 3: Professors as Priests of a False Religion

Scholarship, when it replaces Scripture, doesn't just corrupt truth—it creates a religion. Professors become priests. Degrees become relics. Peer review becomes the magisterium. Journals become the canon.

And what's the result? Apostasy.

Paul warned Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:20: "*O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called.*" You hear that? *Science falsely so called.* That's your modern scholarship. They parade their ignorance as enlightenment, and the church eats it up.

The scholars laugh at your simple faith in the Book. They pat you on the head like a child, "Well, that's cute, but the Greek really says..." And you cower, afraid to look "uneducated." So you trade the Sword of the Spirit for a butter knife of human reason.

But God didn't call scholars to be mediators between Him and man. He gave you a Book. He put it in your hands. He told you to read it, believe it, obey it. When you hand that authority to a professor, you've just stepped into idolatry.

Point 4: How Apostasy is Born

Apostasy never starts in the barroom. It starts in the classroom. It starts in the pulpit that no longer says, "*Turn in your Bible,*" but says, "*In the Greek...*" or "*The oldest manuscripts...*"

The moment a man exalts scholarship over Scripture, he's planting seeds of apostasy. The people who hear him learn to doubt the Book. They learn to put trust in man's word instead of God's Word. And within a generation, the church is filled with Bible agnostics who can't tell you where the Word of God is.

That's why denominations collapse. That's why seminaries become cemeteries. That's why churches turn liberal. It's not drugs, it's not rock music, it's not even money—it's the idolatry of scholarship. The worship of man's brain over God's Book.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 warns of a falling away before the man of sin is revealed. And that falling away is fed by pulpits that bowed to professors, churches that idolized Ph.Ds, and Christians who thought scholarship was safer than Scripture.

Point 5: The Vanity of Scholars

Let's talk about the vanity of scholars. The Bible says in Ecclesiastes 12:12: *"Of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh."*

Professors love to write books. Shelves upon shelves. Commentaries stacked a mile high. Each one contradicting the last. Each one claiming "new insight." And God sits in heaven laughing. Because His Book hasn't changed one word.

Scholarship is a merry-go-round. You can ride it for forty years and never get anywhere. One professor tears down the theory of another. One commentary replaces another. One critical text revises the last. And all the while, the Bible stands unchanged, untouched, eternal.

You know what that is? Vanity. Absolute vanity. Chasing the wind. Worshiping your own intellect.

Psalm 119:89: *"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."* Scholarship changes like the wind, but the Word is settled. The man who trusts scholarship builds on sand. The man who trusts Scripture builds on the Rock.

Point 6: The Cure for Idolatry

So what's the cure? It's simple. Smash the idol. Grind it to powder. Just like Moses did with that golden calf. Take the authority away from the professors and put it back where it belongs—in the Book.

When a professor says, “*The Bible is unfortunate here,*” you say, “No, you’re unfortunate. Sit down.” When he says, “*The earliest manuscripts omit this verse,*” you say, “That verse was there before you were born and it’ll be there after you’re in the grave.” When he says, “*We don’t really know what the text says,*” you say, “Speak for yourself. I know exactly what it says.”

The cure for idolatry is to take the crown off the scholar’s head and put it back on the Scriptures. Trust the Book. Preach the Book. Stand on the Book. Quote it, live it, die on it. Because when heaven and earth pass away, that Book will still be standing.

Point 7: A Final Warning

Let me give you a sobering truth. Apostasy doesn’t happen out there in the world. It happens in the church. It happens in seminaries. It happens in pulpits.

When scholarship becomes idolatry, churches die. Souls starve. Preachers compromise. Apostasy takes root. And all because Christians bowed to the golden calf of academia instead of bowing to the Lord of the Book.

Revelation 22:18–19 warns about adding to or taking away from the Word. Professors with their pens and translations are guilty of both. And God said He’d blot their names out of the book of life. That’s not me talking—that’s Him.

So here’s the final warning: stop trusting scholars over Scripture. Stop quoting professors like they’re prophets. Stop worshiping letters after a name. Smash the idol. Return to the Book.

Conclusion

The Word of God is your authority—not scholarship, not seminary, not a man in a suit with a fancy degree. When scholarship becomes idolatry, it always leads to apostasy. Always.

So I’m telling you, with every ounce of conviction I’ve got: cling to the Book. Love it. Read it. Obey it. Defend it. Preach it. Don’t let any man, no matter how smart he thinks he is, take that authority away.

Because when you stand before God, He’s not going to ask you what Dr. So-and-so said. He’s going to ask you what you did with His Word.

You’d better make sure you chose the Book over the brain.

The Devil's First Question: "Yea, Hath God Said?"

Every modern deception starts here

Introduction

The most dangerous question in history wasn't asked in a courtroom. It wasn't asked in a seminary. It wasn't even asked in a political debate. It was whispered in a garden, under the shade of paradise, by the slickest liar who ever lived. Genesis 3:1: "*Yea, hath God said...?*"

You don't need a seminary degree to understand that question. You don't need Hebrew or Greek. You just need to recognize the hiss of the serpent. That's his tone, that's his strategy, and that's his first weapon. And let me tell you something—it's still his weapon today.

Every deception, every cult, every false religion, every modern apostasy—trace it back, and you'll find that one question. "*Yea, hath God said?*" Did God really say that? Is the Bible really true? Can we really trust the Book?

That's the devil's starting point, and most of this world has already swallowed the bait.

Point 1: The Serpent's Strategy

Notice how the devil works. He doesn't march in with a neon sign saying, "I'm here to deceive you." He doesn't kick down the garden gate, horns blazing. No, he's subtle. Genesis says he was "*more subtil than any beast of the field.*" Subtle. Slick. Cunning.

His first move wasn't to deny God's Word. His first move was to question it. That's the seed. He knew if he could get Eve to doubt, the fall was inevitable. And so he asked, "*Yea, hath God said?*"

That's exactly what's happening today. The devil doesn't walk into the classroom and say, "Children, I'm here to turn you into atheists." He just says, "Are you sure the Bible is reliable?" He doesn't tell the preacher, "Stop believing in God." He just whispers, "Maybe this verse is translated wrong. Maybe the oldest manuscripts read differently."

The devil knows that if he can make you question the Book, he can control the outcome.

Point 2: Modern Variations of the Old Question

Now let's drag this serpent out from behind his fig leaves and show you what he's up to today. The same question is asked, just in different clothes.

- *"The Bible is inspired only in the originals."* That's the same hiss. Who's seen the originals? Nobody. But scholars puff their chests and talk about them like they've got them hidden in a vault somewhere.
- *"A better rendering would be..."* That's the same hiss. The implication? The words in your Bible aren't quite right. The professor has the authority to fix them.
- *"We can't be sure what this verse means."* Same hiss. Casting doubt, planting uncertainty, undermining faith.

Every time you hear one of those lines, you're hearing the serpent. The garden hasn't changed. The tactic hasn't changed. Just the setting. Instead of a tree in Eden, it's a pulpit or a classroom. Instead of Eve, it's the church. Instead of fruit, it's scholarship, science, philosophy.

Point 3: The Consequence of Doubt

Eve entertained the question. That's the danger. The second she gave the serpent a platform, she was halfway gone. She should've shut him down the second he opened his mouth. She should've said, "Yes, God hath said it, and that's the end of it." But she didn't. She entertained the question.

That's the tragedy of Christians today. They give the devil's question room in their minds. They sit in pews where preachers question the Book. They sit in classrooms where professors dissect the Word. They let doubt linger. And when doubt lingers, sin follows.

Genesis 3:6 shows the progression: doubt led to desire, desire led to disobedience, disobedience led to death. That's the chain. And it all started with the question.

You wonder why churches are dying? Why denominations collapse? Why Christians compromise? Because they entertained the serpent's question.

Point 4: Science and Philosophy Join the Chorus

It's not just preachers and professors. Science and philosophy have joined the choir. They all sing the same song: *"Yea, hath God said?"*

Science says, “*God didn’t create the world. Evolution did. Are you sure Genesis is literal?*” That’s the hiss.

Philosophy says, “*Truth is relative. Can you really be certain of anything?*” That’s the hiss.

Religion says, “*The Bible is just one holy book among many. Are you sure it’s the only Word of God?*” That’s the hiss.

And Christians lap it up like thirsty dogs because it sounds intellectual. It sounds sophisticated. It sounds tolerant. But it’s the same old serpent, peddling the same old doubt, dressed up in a new suit.

Point 5: Jesus Versus the Question

Now contrast that with the Lord Jesus Christ. Every time Satan came at Him in the wilderness, He didn’t debate. He didn’t speculate. He didn’t entertain the question. He said, “*It is written...*”

That’s the answer. You want to shut the serpent up? Quote the Book. Stand on it. Don’t waver. Don’t blink. Don’t apologize. Don’t dance around it with Greek and Hebrew. Say, “*It is written,*” and let the chips fall where they may.

The devil asked, “If thou be the Son of God...” That’s another form of, “*Hath God said?*” He questioned the identity, the authority, the truth. And Christ shut him down with the Book.

That’s the model for you and me. When the question comes—and it will—you don’t argue on man’s terms. You don’t fight with reason or scholarship. You go to the Book.

Point 6: The Ultimate Outcome

Let me tell you where this question ends. Revelation 20 shows the final judgment. The serpent who started the question will end in the lake of fire. But notice—before he gets there, he drags multitudes with him. Nations deceived, religions corrupted, souls damned—all because they entertained the question.

At the Great White Throne, there will be no questions. The books will be opened, and the Judge will speak. All the questions will die in the face of His authority. But for those who doubted, who mocked, who followed the hiss—their end is eternal separation.

It all started with, “*Yea, hath God said?*”

Point 7: The Church's Responsibility

So what's the responsibility of the church? To shut the serpent up. To answer the question with confidence, not compromise. To stand in pulpits and declare, "*Yes, God hath said—and here it is!*"

But too many pulpits today are echo chambers for the hiss. Instead of silencing doubt, they amplify it. Instead of preaching the Word, they critique it. Instead of strengthening faith, they sow skepticism.

You want to kill a church? Let the serpent's question live in the pulpit. You want to destroy a generation? Let the serpent's question live in the classroom. You want to ruin a family? Let the serpent's question live in the home.

Our job is to answer the question with authority. With Scripture. With boldness. Without apology.

Point 8: A Warning to the Critics

Let me say something to the critics, the scholars, the professors, the smooth talkers who make a living doubting the Book. You're not clever. You're not original. You're not sophisticated. You're just parroting the serpent's first line. You've joined the oldest deception on earth.

And God isn't impressed with your Ph.D. He isn't intimidated by your books. He isn't swayed by your arguments. He laughs at your wisdom.

Psalms 2 says: "*He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.*" You think you're smarter than the Author of the Bible? You're a joke in heaven. You're a clown with a robe on.

The devil's first question will be your undoing, unless you repent and believe the Book.

Conclusion: Answer the Question Once and For All

Here's the bottom line: you've got to answer the serpent's question in your own heart. "*Yea, hath God said?*" What's your answer?

If your answer is, "*Well, maybe, I'm not sure, I'll wait for the scholars,*" you're already in trouble. If your answer is, "*Yes, but only in the originals,*" you're already deceived. If your

answer is, “*Yes, but we need science and philosophy to help interpret it,*” you’re already poisoned.

There’s only one safe answer: “*Yes, God hath said—and I believe every word.*”

That’s the line you draw in the sand. That’s the fortress you stand in. That’s the sword you wield.

Because the devil’s first question never changed. And neither has God’s Word.

The Sword, Not the Scalpel

God’s Word is meant to cut, not to be dissected to death

Introduction

Take your Bible and open it up. No, don’t grab a commentary. Don’t go looking for a Greek lexicon. Don’t ask your professor what he thinks. Just take the Book and open it. You know what you’ve got in your hands? Not a textbook. Not a science experiment. Not a dead relic for “dissection.” You’ve got a sword. A living, breathing, razor-sharp, Spirit-forged, heaven-sent weapon that cuts through the garbage of this world and exposes the truth.

The Bible calls itself “*the sword of the Spirit*” (Ephesians 6:17). Hebrews 4:12 says it’s “*sharper than any twoedged sword.*” That’s the language of battle, not the language of the lab. God didn’t give you His Word so you could poke at it with tweezers like some dried-up specimen under a microscope. He gave it to you so you could wield it like a soldier in a war.

But here’s the tragedy: today’s Christianity has traded the sword for the scalpel. The preachers stand in pulpits like lab technicians, dissecting the Book to death, bleeding it dry, pulling it apart, and then wondering why nobody in their churches has any power, conviction, or holiness. They’ve taken the weapon of God and turned it into a science project.

And let me tell you something: when you trade the sword for the scalpel, you’ve already lost the battle.

Point 1: The Nature of the Sword

Let's start with the obvious: a sword is made for fighting. A scalpel is made for tinkering. You don't storm enemy lines with a scalpel. You don't defend your family with a scalpel. You don't face down devils and demons with a scalpel.

A sword cuts deep. It pierces. It divides. It separates light from darkness, truth from error, holiness from sin. That's what the Word of God does. It doesn't ask for your opinion. It doesn't need your edits. It doesn't wait for your approval. It cuts whether you like it or not.

That's why people are scared of it. That's why churches avoid preaching it. That's why scholars bury it under mountains of "alternate renderings." Because it hurts. It convicts. It wounds the pride. It lays bare the heart.

Psalms 119:130 says, "*The entrance of thy words giveth light.*" Light exposes. Light hurts the eyes of those who've been living in darkness. The sword exposes the lies men love to hide behind.

You can't domesticate a sword. You can't turn it into a lab tool without robbing it of its purpose. That's what the modern church has done: dulled the edge, blunted the blade, wrapped it in bubble wrap so nobody gets offended. And now what do you have? A powerless religion with no authority and no bite.

Point 2: The Scalpel of Scholarship

Now let's talk about that scalpel. Oh, the scholars love their scalpels. They walk into the pulpit like surgeons, ready to "operate" on the Bible. "Now, in the Greek, this word could mean..." Snip. Slice. Cut. Dissect. "This verse is unfortunate." Slice. "That passage isn't found in the best manuscripts." Snip.

Pretty soon, the patient is lying dead on the table. The life is gone. The Spirit is gone. The Book that once thundered with authority is reduced to a cadaver, sliced into little pieces for academic amusement.

That's scholarship today. Not all scholarship, mind you—there's nothing wrong with studying. But when study becomes surgery, when learning becomes lording, when scholarship becomes scalpel instead of sword, you've turned the living Word of God into a corpse.

The scalpel belongs in a hospital, not in the pulpit. God didn't call preachers to be surgeons dissecting the Book—He called them to be soldiers swinging it.

Point 3: Why Men Prefer the Scalpel

Why do men prefer the scalpel to the sword? Easy. The sword makes you bleed. The scalpel makes the Book bleed.

If you take the Book as a sword, it'll cut you to pieces. It'll expose your sin, it'll strip your pride, it'll nail you to the wall. Men don't like that. They'd rather be the ones doing the cutting. They'd rather take control.

So the preacher grabs his scalpel and starts slicing the Book instead of letting the Book slice him. He feels safer that way. The Bible becomes his patient, not his judge.

But here's the problem: once you start cutting at the Bible, you've set yourself above it. You've made yourself the authority. You're no longer under the Word—you're over it. And that's the fastest way to apostasy.

Man wants control. He doesn't like a Book that tells him what to do, how to live, how to believe, how to preach. So he pulls out his scalpel and says, "Let me fix that." And in trying to fix it, he kills it.

Point 4: The Sword in Action

You want to see what the sword does? Look at Acts 2. Peter stood up and preached, and the Bible says the people were "*pricked in their heart.*" That's the sword. They didn't walk away analyzing Greek verbs. They walked away crying out, "*What shall we do?*" That's conviction. That's the cut of the sword.

Look at Acts 7. Stephen preached to the council, and they were "*cut to the heart.*" So cut, in fact, that they gnashed on him with their teeth and stoned him to death. That's the sword in action. It doesn't win popularity contests. It doesn't stroke egos. It cuts.

Look at Hebrews 4:12 again. It doesn't say the Word is like a scalpel for academic dissection. It says it pierces, divides, discerns. That's not surgery—that's swordplay.

And let's not forget Revelation 19. When Christ comes back, He's not carrying a scalpel. He's not returning to perform an autopsy on the nations. He's riding a white horse, and "*out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations.*" That's the final swing of the blade, brother. That's judgment day.

Point 5: The Tragedy of Dead Religion

Now you see why modern churches are dead. They've got scalpel religion instead of sword religion. They've got pulpits filled with surgeons instead of soldiers. The Book is on the operating table, not in the battlefield.

So what do you get? Congregations that analyze instead of evangelize. Christians that dissect instead of discern. Sermons that apologize instead of convict.

It's tragic. The very weapon God gave us to fight hell itself has been neutered, dulled, wrapped in tissue paper, and locked in the lab. No wonder the devil's running wild. No wonder the saints are powerless. No wonder sin goes unchecked.

The tragedy is that men actually think this makes them "deep." They think because they can slice the Book apart in Greek and Hebrew, they're spiritual. No—they're spiritual corpses playing with a scalpel in a morgue. The life's gone. The Spirit's gone. All that's left is the ego of man dissecting what he no longer believes.

Point 6: The Call to Wield the Sword

So what's the call? Simple: drop the scalpel and pick up the sword.

Preachers, stop dissecting the Book and start preaching it. Christians, stop analyzing it to death and start applying it to life. Students, stop bowing to professors who question it and start standing on it as it is.

The Word of God was never meant to be dissected to death. It was meant to be believed, preached, lived, obeyed, and wielded.

Paul didn't say, "Preach the text-critical apparatus." He said, "*Preach the word.*" Jeremiah didn't say, "Your word was interesting to dissect." He said, "*Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart.*"

You don't nibble on a sword—you wield it. You don't dissect it—you swing it. You don't apologize for it—you proclaim it.

Point 7: A Warning to the Scalpel Crowd

Let me issue a warning to the scalpel crowd. You're playing with fire. Revelation 22:18-19 warns about adding to or taking away from the words of God. That's what the scalpel does. Every slice is an addition or subtraction. Every "better rendering" is an edit. Every "oldest manuscripts" comment is a cut.

And God said if you add, He'll add plagues to you. If you take away, He'll take away your part out of the book of life. That's serious business. That's not just "scholarly disagreement." That's damnation.

The scalpel crowd doesn't see it. They think they're sophisticated. They think they're helping. But they're killing themselves, their churches, and their students.

You better put the scalpel down before it cuts you in half at the Judgment.

Point 8: Final Application

So here's the application. You've got two choices in your hand: the sword or the scalpel.

Pick up the sword, and it'll cut you, but it'll also cut your enemies. It'll wound your pride, but it'll save your soul. It'll hurt your flesh, but it'll sanctify your spirit. It'll strip you bare, but it'll clothe you in righteousness.

Pick up the scalpel, and you'll feel powerful for a moment. You'll feel in control. But all you'll do is dissect the Book until nothing's left but pieces on a table. And when you're done, you'll realize the scalpel cut you out of eternity.

Which one are you holding today?

Conclusion

God's Word is not a specimen. It's not a corpse. It's not a patient on an operating table. It's a sword. Alive. Sharp. Deadly. Meant to be wielded, not dissected.

The church doesn't need more surgeons—it needs soldiers. It doesn't need more scholars with scalpels—it needs saints with swords.

So I say to you today: put down the scalpel, grab the sword, and fight. Let the Word of God cut where it must. Let it wound where it must. Let it expose and divide. Because in the end, that Sword is the only weapon that will stand when every scalpel has rusted away.

You want victory? You want truth? You want life? Then wield the sword. Don't dissect it to death—let it cut you alive.

Which Authority? Man's Word or God's Word?

Only one can stand when the fire comes

Introduction

Authority. That's the issue. It always has been, and it always will be. Don't let the slick professors, the religious phonies, or the Bible-correcting crowd fool you—it all boils down to authority. Not your opinion, not your denomination, not your grandma's tradition.

Authority.

Who gets the final word in your life? Who sits in the judgment seat when push comes to shove? Who do you answer to? Man's word, or God's Word?

You can dress it up in Greek and Hebrew. You can camouflage it in scholarship and science. You can baptize it in philosophy and tradition. But when you boil the stew down, there's only two choices on the menu: man's word, or God's Word. One is sinking sand. The other is the Rock of Ages. One is hay, wood, and stubble. The other is gold, silver, and precious stones. One burns up when the fire comes. The other stands forever.

So I ask you this simple question today: Which authority?

Point 1: The Garden Test

The very first temptation in human history was a question of authority. Genesis 3. God spoke. His Word was clear. *"Thou shalt not eat of it."* That was authority. Period. End of story.

Then here comes the serpent, slithering in with the oldest trick in the book. *"Yea, hath God said?"* That wasn't about fruit, brother—that was about authority. Who do you trust? Who do you obey? Whose word is final?

Eve had two choices: God's Word or man's (well, in this case, the devil masquerading as wisdom). She chose the wrong authority. She put her confidence in the hiss of the serpent instead of the voice of the Lord. And the world's been paying for it ever since.

Don't miss the lesson: every deception, every apostasy, every cult, every false religion begins right there—someone deciding that man's word trumps God's Word.

Point 2: The Tower of Babel Test

Fast forward to Genesis 11. Men get together to build a tower “whose top may reach unto heaven.” You know what that is? That’s man’s word against God’s Word.

God said to multiply and replenish the earth. Man said, “No, let’s stick together and make a name for ourselves.” Man said, “We can climb up to heaven on our own terms.”

You see the pattern? Whenever man rejects God’s Word, he substitutes his own. He crowns himself as the authority. And what happens? God comes down and smashes the whole thing into rubble.

Listen to me: every time man exalts his word above God’s, judgment follows. The tower falls. The language scatters. The plans crumble. Why? Because man’s word can’t hold up when the fire falls.

Point 3: Israel’s Test

The Old Testament is one long courtroom drama about authority. God gave Israel His law, His prophets, His Word. Over and over again, He said, “*Thus saith the Lord.*”

And what did Israel say? “*We will not walk therein.*” They traded the authority of God’s Word for idols, traditions, and human kings. They listened to the false prophets who told them what they wanted to hear instead of what God said.

And what happened? Captivity. Exile. Judgment. Jerusalem burned to the ground. The temple reduced to ashes. Why? Because they chose man’s word over God’s Word.

Jeremiah 23:36 says, “*Ye have perverted the words of the living God.*” That’s the issue. Authority perverted. Truth traded for lies.

Point 4: Christ and the Word

Now look at Jesus Christ. You know what made Him different from the scribes and Pharisees? Authority.

Matthew 7:29: “*For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*” The scribes quoted each other. They leaned on tradition. They hedged their bets. But Jesus said, “*It is written.*” He wielded the Word with authority, not apology.

And that’s why they hated Him. Because He didn’t bow to their authority. He didn’t cater to their traditions. He stood flat-footed on the Word of God and let it cut.

The devil tried to trip Him up in the wilderness. Three times he tempted Him, and three times Jesus answered the same way: *"It is written."* Authority. Not philosophy. Not opinion. Not compromise. The Word.

That's your model, Christian. That's how you answer the serpent's hiss, the world's lies, the professor's doubts. You hold up the Book and say, *"It is written."*

Point 5: The Apostles and the Word

The apostles knew the issue, too. Acts 4:19—Peter and John are dragged before the authorities and told to shut up about Jesus. Their answer? *"Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye."* Translation: God's Word trumps man's word. Case closed.

Acts 5:29: *"We ought to obey God rather than men."* That's the battle cry. That's authority settled once and for all.

You see, the apostles didn't lean on their education. They didn't appeal to Rome. They didn't bow to the Sanhedrin. They stood on the Word of God and let the chips fall. And that's why the church exploded in power while the scholars and rulers wrung their hands in confusion.

Point 6: The Modern Battle

Now let's drag this down to today. Same battle, same question: Which authority?

The scholars say, "The Bible's inspired only in the originals." That's man's word. God said, *"All scripture is given by inspiration."* That's God's Word. Which one are you going to believe?

The scientists say, "The universe came from a big bang and billions of years of evolution." That's man's word. God said, *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."* Which authority?

The religious leaders say, "All religions are basically the same. All paths lead to God." That's man's word. Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* Which authority?

The culture says, "Follow your heart. Do what feels right." That's man's word. Jeremiah 17:9 says, *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked."* Which authority?

You see it? Every issue, every controversy, every deception boils down to one thing: Whose word stands?

Point 7: The Fire Test

Now here's the real test. It's easy to spout opinions in peacetime. It's easy to hold debates in classrooms. But what happens when the fire comes?

1 Corinthians 3:13 says, *“Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.”*

Fire doesn't care about your degrees. Fire doesn't respect your tradition. Fire doesn't bow to your feelings. Fire tests authority.

When the furnace was heated seven times hotter, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to choose. Bow to the king's word, or stand on God's Word. They chose the latter, and the fire couldn't touch them. Authority settled.

When Daniel was told not to pray, he had to choose. Obey man's word, or obey God's Word. He chose God's Word, and the lions went hungry. Authority settled.

When the martyrs faced Rome, they had to choose. Caesar's authority or Christ's? They chose Christ, and their blood became the seed of the church. Authority settled.

Brother, when the fire comes—and it's coming—you'd better know which authority you stand on.

Point 8: The Folly of Man's Authority

Let's be honest: man's word is a joke. It changes every five minutes. One year the scientists tell you eggs will kill you. Next year they're the secret to long life. One year the scholars say Mark was the earliest gospel. Next year it's Matthew. Next year it's Q. The theories change like the wind.

Isaiah 40:8 says, *“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”* That's the difference. Man's word withers. God's Word stands.

Man's word is sinking sand. God's Word is the Rock. Man's word burns up. God's Word endures forever. You'd have to be out of your mind to put your trust in the shifting opinions of men when you could stand on the eternal Word of the living God.

Point 9: A Warning to the Critics

Let me issue a warning to every critic, every professor, every preacher who dares to put man's word over God's Word. You're on dangerous ground.

You may strut in the classroom, you may win debates, you may impress fools with your jargon. But when the fire comes, your words will burn. When you stand at the Judgment, your scalpel won't save you. When the books are opened, your opinions won't matter.

Revelation 20:12 says, "*The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books.*" Not the journals. Not the lexicons. The books. God's Word will be the standard, not yours.

You mock it now, but you'll bow to it then. You doubt it now, but you'll confess it then. Better settle the authority issue before it's too late.

Point 10: Final Application

So let me bring it home. Which authority rules your life? Man's word, or God's Word?

If it's man's word, you're already on shaky ground. You're trusting in sinking sand. When the fire comes, it'll crumble. When the storm blows, it'll collapse. When the Judge sits, it'll condemn you.

If it's God's Word, you're safe. You're secure. You're standing on the Rock that can't be moved. When the fire comes, it'll refine you, not destroy you. When the storm blows, it'll shelter you. When the Judge sits, it'll vindicate you.

But you can't straddle the fence. You can't have both. You can't serve two masters. You can't cling to man's word and God's Word at the same time. One will burn. One will stand.

So I ask you one last time: Which authority?

Conclusion

Authority—that's the dividing line. Not denomination. Not personality. Not preference. Authority.

The world says man's word is final. God says His Word is final. Only one will stand when the fire comes.

So drop the dead weight of man's opinions. Forget the scholars, the skeptics, the critics, the compromisers. Plant your feet on the Book. Believe it. Obey it. Preach it. Die on it if you have to.

Because when the smoke clears and the fire dies down, there'll be one authority still standing: *"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven"* (Psalm 119:89).

That's the authority I'm betting my soul on. That's the authority I'll preach till my dying breath. That's the authority you'd better stand on too.

So I ask you, one last time: **Which authority? Man's word or God's Word? Only one can stand when the fire comes.**

Pet Sins Become Pet Devils

What you coddle will soon control you

Introduction

You ever seen a fella raise a lion cub in his backyard? Looks cute at first. Everybody says, "Aww, what a sweet little kitty." He feeds it milk, plays with it, takes pictures for social media. But one day that thing grows up, and guess what? It ain't a kitty anymore. It's a beast with claws, fangs, and a hunger for blood. And nine times out of ten, it eats the fool who raised it.

That's exactly what sin does. It starts small, manageable, innocent-looking. You pet it, feed it, keep it in a cage. You tell yourself you can handle it. You tell yourself it's under control. But sin never stays small. Sin grows. Sin mutates. Sin takes over. And before long, that "pet" sin turns into a devil with a leash around your neck, dragging you straight into destruction.

Don't miss the lesson: pet sins become pet devils. And what you coddle will soon control you.

Point 1: The Nature of Sin

Let's start with what the Bible says about sin. James 1:15 lays it out plain: *"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."*

Notice the process. Sin doesn't come full-grown. It conceives. It's born. It grows. It matures. Just like that lion cub, it looks harmless at first. A glance. A thought. A word. A compromise. But give it time, and it grows teeth.

Sin is never static. It's progressive. It moves from thought to action, from habit to bondage, from bondage to death. You don't play with it. You don't pet it. You don't negotiate with it. You kill it before it kills you.

Romans 6:23 says, "*The wages of sin is death.*" That's the paycheck. You coddle sin, you pay with your life, your peace, your joy, your family, your testimony.

Point 2: The Lie of Control

The devil's favorite lie is this: "You can control it." That's how he sells sin. He whispers, "It's just one time. It's just a little thing. Nobody will know. You've got this under control."

But you don't control sin—sin controls you. Jesus said in John 8:34: "*Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*" You think you're holding the leash, but the truth is, the leash is around your neck.

Think about the drunkard. He didn't start with a bottle a day. He started with "just a drink." The gambler didn't start by losing his house. He started with "just a little bet." The adulterer didn't start by blowing up his marriage. He started with "just a harmless flirtation."

Every addict, every backslider, every casualty of sin thought they had it under control. But the cub grew into a lion, and now it's running the show.

Point 3: Biblical Examples of Pet Sins

Let's take a stroll through Scripture and see how this plays out.

- **Cain's Anger:** Genesis 4. God told Cain, "*Sin lieth at the door.*" Cain nursed his anger, coddled it, petted it. He thought he could control it. Next thing you know, his brother's dead in the field and Cain's a fugitive. Pet sin, pet devil.
- **Samson's Lust:** Judges 16. Samson thought he could toy with sin. He flirted with Delilah, played games with the Philistines, and treated his calling like a joke. What happened? His eyes were gouged out, his strength gone, and he ended up grinding in the prison house. Pet sin, pet devil.

- **David's Idleness:** 2 Samuel 11. David should've been at war, but he stayed home. A little idleness. A little coddling. One glance at Bathsheba turned into adultery, lies, and murder. The sword never left his house. Pet sin, pet devil.
- **Judas' Greed:** John 12. Judas had a little pet sin of stealing from the treasury. Just a coin here and there. He thought nobody noticed. That pet sin grew until the devil himself entered him, and he sold the Son of God for thirty pieces of silver. Pet sin, pet devil.

The pattern is undeniable. What you coddle will soon control you.

Point 4: How Pet Sins Become Pet Devils

Now let's break down the process. How exactly does a pet sin turn into a pet devil?

1. **You Conceal It** – You hide it from others. You put it in a cage, feed it when nobody's looking.
2. **You Justify It** – You tell yourself it's not that bad. "Everybody's got flaws."
3. **You Excuse It** – You blame your circumstances, your upbringing, your stress.
4. **You Protect It** – You guard it from exposure. You get defensive if anyone gets close to it.
5. **You Serve It** – Before long, it's dictating your actions, controlling your thoughts, ruling your life.

By the time you realize what's happened, that "cute little pet" is a devil with his claws sunk deep into your soul.

Point 5: The Cost of Pet Sins

Pet sins don't just stay in your cage—they break out and destroy everything around you.

- **They Rob You of Peace** – David said in Psalm 32 that when he kept silent about his sin, his bones waxed old through roaring all the day long. Pet sins eat you alive from the inside.
- **They Destroy Families** – A husband's pet sin of pornography turns into adultery, and his marriage collapses. A wife's pet sin of bitterness turns into divorce, and the children suffer.

- **They Ruin Testimonies** – A preacher’s hidden sin explodes into public scandal, and the name of Christ is blasphemed.
- **They Invite Bondage** – 2 Peter 2:19: *“For of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”* That pet sin becomes your master, and you its slave.

The cost is always higher than you thought you’d pay. The stay is always longer than you thought you’d endure. The pain is always deeper than you thought you’d feel.

Point 6: Devils Behind the Pets

Don’t think for a second that sin is just “bad habits.” No, brother—it’s spiritual. Behind every pet sin crouches a devil.

Ephesians 4:27 says, *“Neither give place to the devil.”* That’s exactly what pet sins do: they give the devil a foothold in your life. You open the door a crack, and he wedges his foot in. You let him stay, and before long he moves in with a full army.

Bitterness isn’t just bitterness—it’s a devil. Lust isn’t just lust—it’s a devil. Pride isn’t just pride—it’s a devil. You feed them, you nurture them, you coddle them, and soon they’re running your life.

That’s why Paul warned in 2 Corinthians 2:11, *“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”* The devil’s device is to take your little pets and turn them into his servants.

Point 7: The Folly of Excuses

Now let’s deal with the excuses. People love to justify their pet sins.

- “It’s not hurting anybody.” Really? Tell that to Cain. Tell that to David. Tell that to Judas.
- “Everybody does it.” Broad is the way that leads to destruction, brother. The crowd isn’t your compass.
- “God understands.” Yes, He understands enough to send His Son to the cross for it. That’s how serious it is.
- “I can quit anytime.” That’s what every addict says, right before they hit rock bottom.

Excuses are just fertilizer for your pet devil. The more you excuse it, the faster it grows.

Point 8: The Only Cure

There's only one cure for pet sins: kill them. Don't cage them. Don't train them. Don't negotiate with them. Kill them.

Romans 8:13: *"If ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."* Mortify means put to death. Put that sin down like the rabid beast it is.

Colossians 3:5 says, *"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry."* You don't coddle these things—you crucify them.

Galatians 5:24 says, *"They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."* That's execution language, not pet language.

You want freedom? You want victory? Stop feeding your sin and start killing it. Drag it out of its cage, lay it at the foot of the cross, and drive the nails in.

Point 9: God's Power to Deliver

Here's the good news: you don't fight this alone. The same God who forgave your sin can free you from its power.

1 Corinthians 10:13 says, *"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."*

God always provides an exit. The problem is, we don't take it. We'd rather stay in the cage with our pet. But the door's open. The Spirit empowers you. The Word equips you. The blood of Christ cleanses you. You have no excuse to keep coddling that devil.

Point 10: A Final Warning

Let me leave you with a sober warning. Pet sins never stay hidden. Numbers 32:23: *"Be sure your sin will find you out."*

You may think you've got it under wraps. Nobody knows. Nobody sees. But sin always leaks out. The cub always grows up. The devil always demands more.

And if you won't kill your pet sin, it'll kill you. It'll kill your joy, your testimony, your relationships, your ministry. Worst of all, it'll harden your heart until you can't even hear God's voice anymore.

That's why Hebrews 3:13 says, "*Exhort one another daily... lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*" Sin deceives, sin hardens, sin kills.

Conclusion

Pet sins become pet devils. What you coddle will soon control you. That's the truth, whether you like it or not.

So the question is simple: what's in your cage? What sin have you been feeding, excusing, hiding, protecting? You think it's your pet, but it's your master. You think it's under control, but it's controlling you.

Drag it into the light. Kill it at the cross. Let the blood of Jesus cleanse it. Let the Spirit of God empower you. Wield the sword of the Word and cut it down. Don't wait until it grows too big to handle. Don't wait until it burns your house down. Don't wait until it drags you to hell.

Kill it now—or it'll kill you later.

The World's Toys Are the Devil's Traps

Entertainment is the anesthetic for the damned

Introduction

You ever watch a kid with a toy? They'll play with it until they're glass-eyed, drooling, oblivious to anything else going on around them. You could be yelling, "Fire! House is burning down!" and they wouldn't move, because they're hypnotized by that toy in their hand.

That's exactly what the devil's doing to this generation. He's put toys in the hands of men and women—shiny distractions, flashing lights, endless entertainment—and while they're staring at the screen, the house is burning down around them. The world's toys are the devil's traps.

Satan doesn't need to drag you into a brothel or a crack house. All he's got to do is sit you down with Netflix, TikTok, ballgames, video games, Hollywood movies, and a steady diet of junk entertainment. Keep you laughing, keep you scrolling, keep you playing—and you won't even notice you're walking off the cliff into hell.

Entertainment is the anesthetic for the damned. It numbs the soul, dulls the conscience, and rocks sinners to sleep while the flames lick at their feet.

Point 1: The Devil's Oldest Strategy

The devil knows men are restless. He knows you can't sit still. He knows the flesh hates quiet, hates reflection, hates facing God. So he gives you toys. He did it in the garden. He dangled fruit before Eve—something pleasant to the eyes, something “good for food,” something “to be desired.” He gave her entertainment for the senses, and she swallowed it.

Israel fell for the same thing. When Moses went up the mountain, they got restless. They didn't want to wait on God. So they made themselves a golden calf, cranked up the music, stripped off their clothes, and had a pagan party. Toys and traps. Entertainment as distraction from obedience.

And it's the same today. If Satan can keep you entertained, he can keep you enslaved.

Point 2: The Nature of Toys

What do toys do? They amuse. They distract. They keep you occupied so you don't have to think. That's exactly what entertainment does.

The word “amuse” itself means “not to think.” “*Muse*” means to think. Stick an “a” in front, and it cancels it—“amuse” means to stop thinking. You go to the amusement park, you turn off your brain. You watch the movie, you turn off your brain. You scroll for hours, you turn off your brain.

The devil loves that. He doesn't want you thinking about your soul, about eternity, about sin, about judgment. He wants you numb, pacified, distracted. So he shoves toys in your face until your mind is mush.

Point 3: Entertainment as Anesthetic

Think about what anesthetic does. It puts you to sleep so you don't feel pain while somebody cuts you open. That's what entertainment does to the soul.

You're headed for hell? Numb it with comedy shows. Your marriage is falling apart? Numb it with sports. You're empty inside? Numb it with music blasting in your ears. You're guilty before God? Numb it with endless scrolling.

Entertainment dulls the sting of conviction. It keeps you from facing reality. It lets you feel good while you're rotting inside. It's anesthesia for a surgery that never heals—because the real problem isn't cut out, it's covered up.

That's why Paul warned in 1 Thessalonians 5:6: *"Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."* The world's asleep, drugged by entertainment. The Christian is supposed to stay awake.

Point 4: Examples of the Devil's Toys

Let's get specific. What toys are we talking about?

- **Sports** – Nothing wrong with throwing a ball, but the world worships it. Stadiums are temples, athletes are gods, fans are disciples. People know more stats than Scripture. That's a toy that's become a trap.
- **Movies and TV** – Hollywood pumps sewage into living rooms, and Christians lap it up. Lust, fornication, violence, blasphemy—all in the name of "entertainment." Toys that rot your soul.
- **Music** – The devil was the anointed cherub that covered, the master of music. He knows its power. So he's filled the air with noise that glorifies sin and mocks God. People dance their way into hell with earbuds in.
- **Technology** – Phones, tablets, games. Nothing inherently evil in the device, but when you can't pray without checking your notifications, you're trapped.
- **Social Media** – Endless scrolling, likes, shares. Narcissism on steroids. A digital pacifier for adults. A toy that's turned into a prison.

The devil doesn't care which toy you pick, as long as you stay distracted and asleep.

Point 5: Biblical Warnings

The Bible's not silent about this. It warns against the very spirit of entertainment.

Luke 8:14: *“And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”* Pleasures of this life choke the Word. Entertainment chokes conviction.

2 Timothy 3:4 says men will be *“lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.”* That’s this generation. People will sit for three hours at a movie but can’t sit through a 30-minute sermon. They’ll binge ten hours of TV but won’t read ten verses of Scripture. Lovers of pleasure, not lovers of God.

Amos 6:1 says, *“Woe to them that are at ease in Zion.”* Verse 5 condemns those who “chant to the sound of the viol” and “invent instruments of musick, like David,” but with no heart for God. Entertainment without holiness brings judgment.

Point 6: The Traps Behind the Toys

Every toy has a trap. The devil’s toys are bait.

The sports trap is idolatry. The movie trap is lust. The music trap is rebellion. The technology trap is addiction. The social media trap is pride.

You think it’s just fun, just harmless. But behind the fun is a hook. Proverbs 7 describes the strange woman luring the fool with music, perfume, and flattery. She looks like fun, but verse 23 says, *“till a dart strike through his liver.”* Toys with traps. Entertainment with death.

Satan’s not stupid. He’s patient. He’ll let you play with the toy until the trap snaps shut.

Point 7: Why the Flesh Loves Entertainment

Why do people run to toys? Because the flesh hates truth. Truth demands repentance. Truth demands sacrifice. Truth demands facing God. Entertainment demands nothing. It lets you feel good without change.

That’s why the prophets were hated. They didn’t entertain—they exposed. That’s why Jesus was crucified. He didn’t amuse—He confronted. That’s why Paul was beaten and jailed. He didn’t tell jokes—he preached Christ crucified.

The flesh wants comedy, not conviction. It wants applause, not repentance. It wants fun, not holiness. That’s why the world packs out concerts but ignores revivals. The devil knows how to feed the flesh.

Point 8: The Church's Compromise

Now here's the real tragedy: the church has joined the entertainment industry.

- Preachers trade sermons for skits.
- Worship services look like rock concerts.
- Youth groups are amusement parks instead of boot camps for soldiers of Christ.
- Sanctuaries are lit like nightclubs, with smoke machines and flashing lights.

They call it "relevant." God calls it apostasy. They're entertaining goats instead of feeding sheep. They're anesthetizing sinners instead of awakening them. They've traded the Sword for a sideshow.

Ezekiel 33:32 says, "*Lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not.*" That's modern Christianity—music and entertainment, no obedience.

Point 9: The Fire Test

Remember this: toys burn. Traps fail. Entertainment dies. Only God's Word stands.

1 Corinthians 3:13 says every man's work will be tried by fire. What happens to your hours of Netflix, your endless scrolling, your stadium worship? It burns to ash.

Luke 12:19-20 shows the rich fool planning to eat, drink, and be merry. God says, "*Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee.*" Entertainment couldn't save him. Toys couldn't protect him. The trap snapped shut, and he went to hell.

That's the end of the world's toys—smoke, ash, judgment.

Point 10: The Christian's Call

So what do we do?

- **Wake up** – Stop sleeping under the anesthetic of entertainment. Watch and pray.
- **Lay aside weights** – Hebrews 12:1 says lay aside every weight and the sin that besets. Entertainment may not be sin itself, but it's a weight dragging you down.
- **Redeem the time** – Ephesians 5:16: "*Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*" Every wasted hour on toys is an hour stolen from eternity.

- **Seek first the kingdom** – Matthew 6:33. Put God first, not pleasure. His Word, not the world's toys.

This world's toys are devil's traps. Don't let them rob you of victory. Don't let them choke your fruit. Don't let them damn your soul.

Conclusion

The devil doesn't need to scare you if he can amuse you. He doesn't need to chain you if he can distract you. He doesn't need to drag you into open rebellion if he can rock you to sleep with toys.

Entertainment is the anesthetic for the damned. It's the lullaby of hell. It numbs the soul until the flames wake you up too late.

So throw the toys away. Smash the idols. Break the traps. Redeem the time. Seek God. Because when the fire falls, the toys will burn, but the Word will stand.

The world's toys are the devil's traps. Don't let them play you into perdition.

Drunk on Comfort, Sober on Judgment

God's people asleep while the house burns down

Introduction

Take a good, long look at the American church today and tell me what you see. You don't see soldiers. You don't see watchmen on the walls. You don't see prophets crying aloud and sparing not. What you see is a bunch of spiritual drunks, lying on recliners, sipping the liquor of comfort, fat on ease, half asleep while the house is burning down around them.

You can almost smell the smoke, but they're too drowsy to care. They've got their hands wrapped around their luxuries like a wino clutching a bottle, and they mutter in their sleep, "Peace and safety." But Paul already warned you in 1 Thessalonians 5:3: *"For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."*

That's where we are right now—**drunk on comfort, but about to be stone-cold sober when judgment falls.**

Point 1: The Drunkenness of Comfort

When the Bible talks about drunkenness, it's not just booze. Sure, the liquor bottle will knock you flat, but so will the intoxicating wine of prosperity, ease, and comfort. Revelation 3 paints the Laodicean church: "*Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.*" That's drunkenness, plain as day. They're staggering drunk on self-sufficiency.

You know what comfort does? It dulls the senses. It numbs the conscience. It puts you in a spiritual stupor. You don't pray when you're comfortable. You don't watch for the Lord's coming when you're comfortable. You don't preach hard when you're comfortable. You sit back, loosen your belt, belch, and say, "I'm fine."

And the devil smiles, because he doesn't need to fight a drunk army.

Point 2: Asleep in the Light

Romans 13:11: "*And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.*"

High time to wake up. You'd think Christians would read that and shake themselves awake. But no, they're asleep in the pews, asleep in their comforts, asleep in the light. They know the truth but they're too drowsy to live it.

You ever try waking up a drunk? You shake him, slap him, pour water on him—and he just groans, rolls over, and keeps on snoring. That's the church today. God's been shaking the world with earthquakes, wars, plagues, and signs, but the saints just roll over and hit the snooze button.

Asleep while the trumpet's at the lips of the archangel. Asleep while souls drop into hell every second. Asleep while Satan's setting the world stage for Antichrist. What a tragedy.

Point 3: Noah's Generation

Jesus said in Matthew 24:37-39 that the last days would be like Noah's. They were eating, drinking, marrying, giving in marriage—business as usual—until the flood came and took them all away.

What was their sin? Drunkenness on comfort. They weren't worried about judgment. They weren't worried about God. They were too busy having a good time, too distracted by their toys, too numb to the warnings of Noah.

And when the rain started falling, suddenly the fog cleared. Suddenly they were sober. But it was too late. The ark door was shut. The judgment fell. And the comfort-drunk generation drowned in their ease.

That's where we are, folks. This generation is drunk on Netflix, Amazon, football games, political sideshows, and self-help garbage. And just like Noah's day, the flood's at the door.

Point 4: Lot's Wife and Sodom's Ease

Ezekiel 16:49 tells you the real sin of Sodom before the fire fell: "*Pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness.*" That's comfort. They were stuffed, pampered, lazy, and entertained. And what did it produce? Abomination.

Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom because it looked comfortable. His wife loved it so much she couldn't even leave without looking back. And she got turned into a pillar of salt as a reminder of what happens when you're drunk on the ease of a wicked world.

Brother, if that doesn't sound like us, I don't know what does. The modern Christian has pitched his tent toward Sodom—entertainment, luxury, ease, convenience—and judgment is about to rain fire.

Point 5: Drunk on Comfort, Stone-Cold Sober in Judgment

Here's the thing about drunks: they always sober up. When the hangover comes, when the police knock, when the car wreck happens—suddenly reality slaps them in the face.

And that's how it'll be when judgment falls. The same Christians who snoozed through sermons will be wide-eyed in the Judgment Seat of Christ. The same sinners who mocked hell will be screaming in it. The same preachers who entertained goats instead of feeding sheep will stand tongue-tied before the Judge of all the earth.

Isaiah 28:7-8 says the priests and prophets "*are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink...For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness.*" That's a perfect

picture of the church wallowing in the puke of comfort. But the very next verses show judgment coming swift and sure.

When judgment hits, the fog lifts. And everybody's sober.

Point 6: The Devil's Anesthetic

The devil doesn't mind you going to church, as long as you stay drunk on comfort. He doesn't mind you owning a Bible, as long as it stays closed while you watch your shows. He doesn't mind you calling yourself a Christian, as long as you're too busy with toys to pick up a cross.

Entertainment, prosperity, ease—that's his anesthetic. It lulls you into a stupor so you don't hear the footsteps of judgment coming. It's anesthesia before the flames.

Proverbs 23:35 is chilling: *"They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again."* That's the drunkard—hurt but numb, dying but amused, beaten but laughing. That's the Christian world today, entertained into oblivion.

Point 7: The Example of the Early Church

Contrast that with the early church. Those Christians weren't drunk on comfort—they were drunk on the Spirit. Acts 2:15 records scoffers saying they were full of new wine. Why? Because they were on fire for God. They had joy in persecution, boldness in the face of death, and power in prayer.

You know what they didn't have? Recliners. Big screens. Air-conditioned sanctuaries. Their pews were prison cells, their pulpits were gallows, their sermons were written in blood. And the world turned upside down because they weren't asleep—they were wide awake for God.

That's the difference. Comfort dulls. The Spirit sharpens. Ease makes you drowsy. Affliction wakes you up.

Point 8: The Folly of Modern Christianity

Now look at us. We've traded fiery pulpits for padded pews. We've traded revivals for retreats. We've traded prayer meetings for potlucks. We've traded bold preaching for TED Talks.

The average Christian today thinks persecution is when Starbucks misspells their name on a cup. They think suffering for Christ is when the Wi-Fi goes out during their livestream. They're drunk—soaked to the gills on ease, entertainment, and self-importance.

And the house is burning down. Families collapsing. Churches apostatizing. Nations rotting. The smoke is rising. And God's people keep hitting snooze, drunk on comfort.

Point 9: The Wake-Up Call

Ephesians 5:14: *"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."*

That's the call. WAKE UP. Shake off the stupor. Throw away the bottle of comfort. Get sober before judgment slaps you awake.

- Wake up to the reality of hell. Souls are dropping into it by the second while you binge shows.
- Wake up to the lateness of the hour. Christ is at the door, and you're scrolling memes.
- Wake up to the Judgment Seat. Your wood, hay, and stubble are piling up while the gold gathers dust.
- Wake up to the battle raging. While you nap, the enemy's advancing.

Wake up, because the house is on fire, and every tick of the clock is one step closer to collapse.

Point 10: The Call to Sobriety

1 Peter 5:8 says, *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."*

Sobriety is the opposite of drunkenness. Sobriety is clear-eyed, awake, alert. Sobriety is knowing the devil's tactics and resisting them. Sobriety is trading entertainment for eternity, comfort for cross-bearing, ease for endurance.

Romans 12:1 says present your bodies a living sacrifice. You can't do that drunk on comfort. You can't lay yourself on the altar while you're sprawled on the couch of ease. You've got to sober up, shake off the world, and get serious about God.

Conclusion

Here's the truth in plain language: **the church is drunk, the world is burning, and judgment is coming.**

We're like a drunk driver swerving toward a cliff, laughing at the radio, while the passengers scream. But the sobering crash is inevitable. You don't play with fire without getting burned. You don't drink from the bottle of comfort without waking up to judgment.

So what's it going to be? Keep staggering through life on the booze of entertainment and ease? Or sober up in the fear of God, awake, watchful, ready for the trumpet?

Because judgment is coming, whether you're ready or not. And when it falls, the comfort will vanish, the toys will burn, and the drunken stupor will evaporate in the white-hot light of God's holiness.

Drunk on comfort today—sober on judgment tomorrow.

The house is burning. Wake up before it's too late.

The Devil Dresses Up Respectable

Sin doesn't always look like a crack pipe; sometimes it wears a suit.

Introduction

If you're looking for the devil, don't just peek into the alleys where the junkies are shooting up. Don't just glance at the barrooms where drunks stagger and curse. Don't just point your finger at the streetwalker on the corner or the gangbanger with his pistol. No, brother, the devil is slicker than that. He knows how to dress up. He knows how to shine his shoes, knot his tie, slap on a smile, and look respectable.

You think sin always comes with drool dripping down its chin, wild eyes, and the stench of rot? Think again. The devil knows you'd spot that a mile away. He knows some of you wouldn't touch a crack pipe or a whiskey bottle if your life depended on it. So he dresses sin up in a suit. He polishes it. He deodorizes it. He makes it look safe, smart, successful, clean.

Paul nailed it in 2 Corinthians 11:14: *"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."* There it is. He doesn't come to you like a cartoon devil with horns and a pitchfork. He comes to you as an angel of light—respectable, admirable, impressive. And if you don't have the Book as your guide, you'll fall for the costume every time.

Point 1: The Respectable Devil in Religion

The most dangerous devil is the religious devil. Always has been. Jesus didn't get crucified by drunks and prostitutes. He got crucified by Pharisees in robes. They tithed mint and cumin. They prayed long prayers. They looked squeaky clean. But Jesus said in Matthew 23:27: *"Ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness."*

That's respectable sin. It's the devil in a suit. It's pride polished with religion. It's self-righteousness sprayed with holy cologne. On the outside, they looked like the spiritual cream of the crop. On the inside, they were crawling with rot.

And the same devil is still in pulpits today. He doesn't always wear a leather jacket and curse God. Sometimes he wears a robe, holds a Bible (half the time a corrupt one), and says, "Trust me. I went to seminary." He talks smooth. He smiles wide. He collects tithes. But his doctrine damns souls. That's the devil in his Sunday best.

Point 2: The Respectable Devil in Business

The devil doesn't just haunt the red-light districts—he's on Wall Street. He doesn't just whisper in the ears of pimps—he sits in boardrooms. Respectable sin runs in three-piece suits and silk ties.

Proverbs 11:1 says, *"A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight."* You know what that is? Businessmen cooking the books, making shady deals, padding profits, crushing the poor—while wearing nice suits and driving fancy cars. Nobody calls that "sin" today. They call it "success." They call it "the American dream."

But it's just greed dressed up respectable. It's covetousness with a manicure. It's Mammon in a suit.

And Jesus warned you in Luke 16:15: *"Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."* The world calls it respectable. God calls it abomination.

Point 3: The Respectable Devil in Politics

Oh, here's one that'll ruffle feathers. Politics is one of the devil's favorite closets to hang his suits. Respectable devils run campaigns. They shake hands, kiss babies, and promise hope and change. They talk about "values," but their pockets are lined with blood money.

How many politicians sit in church pews for photo ops, then go back to passing laws that spit in God's face? How many wear a flag pin on their lapel but sell out their country to the highest bidder? How many thump a Bible for votes and then promote the very sins God calls an abomination?

They look respectable. They sound respectable. They dress respectable. But under the suit is the same old serpent, hissing lies. Isaiah 5:20 hits them square: *"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil."* That's respectable sin. That's the devil in politics.

Point 4: The Respectable Devil in Education

You think the devil's not in the universities? Think again. He's got tenure. He stands at the podium, adjusts his tie, and tells young minds that the Bible's a myth, man came from monkeys, truth is relative, and morality is outdated. And they call it "higher learning."

Romans 1:22: *"Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools."* That's the respectable devil in education. He doesn't look like a drug dealer. He looks like a professor with a Ph.D. He doesn't hand out crack—he hands out skepticism. He doesn't ruin your lungs—he ruins your faith.

And parents beam with pride, saying, "My son is at university!" while the respectable devil behind the podium dismantles every shred of Bible truth in his head.

Point 5: The Respectable Devil in Entertainment

Don't be fooled by the glitz and glamor. Hollywood may put tuxedos on the red carpet, but it's still a sewer underneath. The devil's respectable in entertainment, too. He takes lust, violence, perversion, greed, and wraps it up in slick production and calls it "art."

Psalm 101:3 says, "*I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes.*" But Christians today set wicked things before their eyes every night on their flat screens, and because it comes from well-dressed actors on fancy stages, they don't even blush.

It doesn't look like sin anymore. It looks respectable. But it's the same devil, dressed up and feeding poison through a screen.

Point 6: Why Respectable Sin is More Dangerous

Now let's cut to the chase: why is respectable sin more dangerous than the dirty kind? Because you see the dirty kind coming. Nobody mistakes a crack pipe for holiness. Nobody mistakes a barroom brawl for righteousness.

But when sin puts on a suit, people are deceived. They respect it. They admire it. They imitate it. That's the danger.

Jesus didn't warn you about wolves with bloody teeth. He warned you about wolves in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15). They look safe. They look good. But they're deadly.

The devil knows the best way to damn souls isn't always through the gutter. Sometimes it's through the pulpit, the office, the classroom, the stage.

Point 7: Respectable Sins Christians Excuse

Let's bring it home. You don't have to be a Pharisee or politician to fall for this. Christians have their own list of "respectable sins."

- **Pride** – We dress it up as confidence.
- **Greed** – We dress it up as ambition.
- **Gossip** – We dress it up as concern.
- **Laziness** – We dress it up as self-care.
- **Bitterness** – We dress it up as boundaries.

Hebrews 3:13 warns about "*the deceitfulness of sin.*" That's the respectable devil. He'll convince you your sin isn't really sin—it's respectable. It's fine. It's even virtuous.

But God sees through the suit.

Point 8: The Judgment of Respectable Sin

Here's the sobering truth: respectable sin burns just as hot in hell as the dirty kind. Revelation 21:8 puts liars, idolaters, whoremongers, and unbelievers in the same lake of fire. Respectable or not, it's the same end.

Matthew 7:22-23 shows the respectable sinners at judgment. *"Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?"* Respectable! Religious! Impressive! And Jesus says, *"I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."*

The suit doesn't save you. The reputation doesn't save you. The respectability doesn't save you. Only the blood of Christ saves. And if you hide behind the mask of respectable sin, you'll split hell wide open in your Sunday best.

Point 9: Exposing the Costume

So what do we do? Rip the mask off. Expose the costume. Don't let the devil fool you with his wardrobe.

1 John 4:1 says, *"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God."* That means measure everything by the Book. Don't fall for smooth words. Don't be dazzled by fancy titles. Don't be impressed by outward appearance. Check the fruit. Check the doctrine. Check the heart.

If it doesn't line up with Scripture, I don't care how respectable it looks—it's the devil in a tie.

Point 10: The Call to True Holiness

God isn't looking for respectability. He's looking for holiness. 1 Peter 1:16: *"Be ye holy; for I am holy."* Holiness isn't wearing a suit or impressing men. It's being clean inside and out, conformed to Christ, filled with the Spirit, guided by the Word.

So trade in the devil's costume for God's armor. Drop the act. Stop excusing respectable sins. Stop admiring respectable sinners. Stand on the Book. Walk in holiness. Preach truth no matter how unpopular.

Because when the fire falls, the suits will burn, the masks will melt, and every respectable sin will be laid bare before the Judge. Only the blood-bought, born-again, Bible-believing saint will stand.

Conclusion

The devil dresses up respectable. Sin doesn't always look like a crack pipe. Sometimes it wears a suit. Sometimes it preaches a sermon. Sometimes it runs a business. Sometimes it teaches a class. Sometimes it raises a family. But underneath the polish is the same old rot.

Don't be fooled. Don't be impressed. Don't admire the costume. Strip it off with the Sword of the Spirit, and call it what it is: sin.

Because respectable sin is still sin. And the devil in a suit is still the devil.

Why Does God Sometimes Use Wicked People for His Purposes?

Introduction

You ever notice how religious folks always get tripped up when God doesn't fit into their little box? They say, "God would never use that man!" or "God would never allow that nation!" or "If God were really holy, He wouldn't let wicked people rise to power." Well, bless your heart, that just shows you haven't read much Bible.

The fact is, God is God. He's sovereign. He's the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Alpha and Omega, beginning and end. And He doesn't ask for man's permission to run His universe. He doesn't check with the Southern Baptist Convention before He raises up a ruler. He doesn't poll the Pope before He judges a nation. He doesn't consult with your seminary professor before He writes history.

And the Bible is full of examples—over and over—where God used wicked men, wicked kings, wicked armies, and wicked nations to fulfill His holy purposes. That rubs modern Christians the wrong way because they think God is some kind of soft-handed grandfather handing out lollipops. No, sir. He's the Judge of all the earth, and sometimes He swings His hammer with the very tools you'd least expect.

So the question is: why does God sometimes use wicked people for His purposes? Let's dig into the Book and find out.

Point 1: God's Purposes Are Bigger than Man's Character

First thing you need to understand: God's purposes are bigger than man's character. God's plans don't depend on whether you like the vessel. Romans 9:17 says, *"For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth."*

Pharaoh was a wicked, hard-hearted tyrant. He oppressed God's people. He drowned Hebrew babies in the Nile. He defied Moses to his face. But God said, "I raised you up. I put you on that throne. I hardened your heart so that when I crushed you, the whole world would know who runs the show."

God didn't use Pharaoh because Pharaoh was good. He used Pharaoh because Pharaoh was wicked—and that wickedness became the stage for God's power.

Point 2: God Uses Wicked Men as Instruments of Judgment

Another reason God uses wicked people is to bring judgment. Over and over in Scripture, when Israel backslid, God sent wicked nations to whip them back in line.

In Habakkuk 1:6, God says, *"For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation...to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs."* He raised up Babylon—the most wicked empire of the age—to punish His own people. That's right, God used idol-worshipping, blood-thirsty, arrogant pagans to spank His children.

Jeremiah 25:9 spells it out: *"Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land..."* Did you catch that? God calls Nebuchadnezzar—an egotistical pagan king—"my servant."

God uses wicked men as rods of correction. And when He's done with them, He breaks the rod. Babylon punished Israel, then God turned around and punished Babylon. Assyria whipped Israel, then God turned around and wiped Assyria off the map. The wicked are God's paddle, but He always throws the paddle in the fire when the spanking is done.

Point 3: God Uses Wicked Men to Reveal His Glory

Sometimes God sets the stage by letting wicked men strut around, just so He can drop them in their tracks and show everybody who really runs the show. Think of Goliath. He strutted, mocked, cursed, and intimidated Israel for forty days. He looked like he had it all—strength, size, skill. But God raised up a shepherd boy with a sling, and down went the giant. Why? So God could get the glory.

Exodus 14 shows the same thing. Pharaoh hardened his heart, chased Israel into the Red Sea, and thought he had them cornered. But God told Moses, *“I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.”* You see that? God used Pharaoh’s stubbornness to set up a miracle.

So don’t wring your hands when wicked men rise. Sometimes God lets them climb the ladder just so the crash is louder when He knocks them off.

Point 4: God Uses Wicked Men to Test His People

Deuteronomy 13:1-3 warns that even if a prophet or dreamer gives you a sign that comes to pass, if he tells you to follow other gods, *“thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet...for the LORD your God proveth you.”*

God sometimes lets smooth-talking fakes rise up to test whether His people will cling to the truth or chase after lies. Wicked men are allowed to strut their stuff so you have a choice—will you follow the Book or follow the crowd?

That’s why Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:19, *“For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.”* God uses heretics to prove the faithful.

You whine, “Lord, why did you let that preacher go off into heresy? Why did you let that nation fall into corruption?” Because He’s separating wheat from tares. He’s exposing the phonies by letting the wicked shine for a moment.

Point 5: God Uses Wicked Men to Fulfill Prophecy

Take Cyrus, king of Persia. Isaiah 45:1 calls him God’s “anointed.” That’s a pagan king—never converted, never circumcised, never part of Israel’s covenant. But God called him by name 150 years before he was born and said he’d deliver His people. And Cyrus did it, funding the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem.

What about Pilate? He was a spineless, cowardly, corrupt governor. But his decree put Christ on the cross, fulfilling prophecy to the letter. The Jews hated him. The Romans despised him. History remembers him as a coward. But God used his cowardice to carry out the plan of redemption.

Acts 4:27-28 sums it up: *“For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, for to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.”* Wicked men nailed Him to the cross, but God wrote the script.

Point 6: God Uses Wicked Men as Examples

Ever think about why the Bible records the wicked at all? Why does it spend so much ink on Pharaoh, Ahab, Jezebel, Herod, Judas? Because they’re examples. God lets wicked men rise, fall, and crash so future generations can read about their folly and learn.

Romans 15:4 says, *“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning.”* You don’t just learn from the saints—you learn from the sinners. You learn what not to do. You learn what happens when pride lifts you up and God knocks you down.

That’s why Jude 7 reminds you of Sodom and Gomorrah, *“set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”* God lets wicked men rise so when He drops them, everybody else trembles and takes notice.

Point 7: God Uses Wicked Men to Show His Patience

Romans 9:22 asks, *“What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction?”*

God lets wicked men run long and hard—not because He approves, but because He’s patient. He gives them rope to hang themselves. He lets their cup of iniquity fill until it overflows. And when He finally brings the hammer down, nobody can say it wasn’t fair.

Think about how long He let the Canaanites sit in the land before Israel took it. Genesis 15:16 says, *“the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.”* God gave them centuries.

Centuries! He let them sin, and sin, and sin some more, until their wickedness was ripe for judgment.

That’s why He lets wicked men strut today. He’s patient, but the day of wrath is coming.

Point 8: God Uses Wicked Men as Pawns

You ever watch a master chess player? He doesn't just move his own pieces—he anticipates his opponent's moves, even uses them to his advantage. That's God with wicked men.

Proverbs 21:1 says, *“The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.”* Wicked kings think they're running the show, but God's pulling the strings.

Look at Joseph's brothers. Wicked men—they sold him into slavery. But Joseph told them in Genesis 50:20: *“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”* They were pawns. God used their wickedness to put Joseph in Egypt to save lives.

That's the lesson: God can use the devil's pawns to set up His checkmate.

Point 9: Why This Bothers People

You know why this teaching makes folks squirm? Because it rips away their illusion of control. They want a God who only works with good, respectable, Sunday-dressed folks. They want a God who never lets wicked men touch history. They want a tame God who fits their system.

But the God of the Bible isn't tame. He'll use a pagan king to punish His people. He'll use a corrupt governor to put His Son on the cross. He'll use a tyrant to spread fear that drives nations back to Him. And He'll do it without breaking a sweat.

It bothers people because it means God is bigger than their theology. He's not boxed in. He's not predictable. He's not beholden to their rules. He is God, and He does what He pleases.

Point 10: What This Means for Us

So what do we do with this truth?

1. **Stop panicking when wicked men rise.** God's still on the throne. He can use them for His glory.

2. **Stop excusing wickedness.** Just because God uses them doesn't mean He approves of them. Pharaoh was still judged. Nebuchadnezzar still had to bow. Herod still rotted. Judas still hung himself.
3. **Stay faithful.** Wicked men are pawns, but God's people are called to be willing vessels. Don't envy the wicked. Don't admire them. Be clean, be holy, and let God use you by choice, not by force.
4. **Trust God's sovereignty.** The world may look like chaos, but it's God's chessboard. He's moving every piece toward the checkmate He wrote in Revelation.

Conclusion

Why does God sometimes use wicked people for His purposes? Because He's God, and He can. Because wickedness doesn't frustrate His plan—it fulfills it. Because He uses the Pharaohs, the Nebuchadnezzars, the Pilates, the Judases, and the Herods as tools in His hand. Because He reveals His glory, executes His judgment, tests His people, fulfills His prophecy, shows His patience, and proves His sovereignty—all through vessels the world would never expect.

So don't get drunk on fear when wicked men strut. Don't get fooled into thinking God's lost control. Don't get cynical when sinners rise to power. Remember Pharaoh. Remember Nebuchadnezzar. Remember Pilate. Remember Judas. They were pawns on God's chessboard.

The wicked may play their hand, but God owns the deck. And when He's done, the whole world will know: *"The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all"* (Psalm 103:19).

That's the God I trust. That's the Book I believe. And that's the answer to the question: **Why does God sometimes use wicked people for His purposes?**

The Church That Forgot to Repent

When pews are full but hearts are empty

Introduction

Some of you think revival means packed pews, big offerings, and a polished choir. You say, “The church is alive! Look at the attendance! Look at the music! Look at the fellowship dinners!” But brother, God doesn’t measure a church by how full its pews are—He measures it by how broken its hearts are.

The tragedy of our day is this: we’ve got churches that forgot how to repent. They can throw a potluck, host a concert, run a youth retreat, and fund a building program—but when’s the last time you saw an altar wet with tears? When’s the last time you saw saints crawling to the cross, begging God for cleansing? When’s the last time you saw a pastor call sin “sin” and demand repentance instead of just “decisions”?

Revelation 3:1 says of Sardis, *“I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.”* That’s the church today. A good reputation. A nice building. Impressive programs. But spiritually flatlined, because they forgot repentance.

The church that forgets to repent is a church with full pews and empty hearts. And brother, that’s a coffin dressed up like a sanctuary.

Point 1: The Forgotten Message of Repentance

John the Baptist didn’t come preaching, “Smile, God loves you.” He came out of the wilderness in camel hair, eating locusts and wild honey, and thundered, *“Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”* Jesus Christ Himself, in Matthew 4:17, began to preach, *“Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

But today? Preachers won’t touch repentance with a ten-foot pole. They’re too busy stroking egos, boosting self-esteem, and keeping the tithes flowing. They say, “God loves you just the way you are. Don’t feel bad about your sin. Just be the best version of yourself.” That’s not Bible preaching—that’s psychological sedative. That’s spiritual anesthesia to keep sinners comfortable on the road to hell.

Acts 17:30 says, *“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent.”* Repentance isn’t optional. It’s commanded. And when the church stops preaching it, the pews may fill up, but heaven doesn’t.

Point 2: Why Repentance Is Hated

You know why repentance is hated? Because it hurts. Repentance means admitting you’re wrong, wicked, filthy, guilty, broken. It strips you of pride, exposes your sin, and puts you face down before God.

The flesh doesn't like that. The devil doesn't like that. The world doesn't like that. So modern Christianity ditches repentance and replaces it with "positive vibes." The sermons are soft. The songs are syrupy. The atmosphere is safe. And everybody walks out smiling while still chained to their sin.

Repentance is hated because it's humbling. And today's Christians would rather strut than kneel.

Point 3: The Sardis Syndrome

Look again at Sardis in Revelation 3. They had a name. They had the reputation. If you asked folks around town, they'd say, "That's the church to go to!" But Jesus said, "You're dead."

The Sardis Syndrome is this: activity without life, religion without repentance, numbers without holiness. It's the disease of churches that run like corporations, sing like concerts, and entertain like theaters—but forget to fall on their faces before God.

And notice what Christ told them: "*Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent.*" There it is. Repent. The cure for a dead church is not another program, not another committee, not another concert—it's repentance.

Point 4: Repentance vs. Regret

A lot of folks confuse repentance with regret. Regret says, "I feel bad I got caught." Repentance says, "I was wrong, Lord, and I forsake it."

Judas regretted betraying Christ—so much that he threw the money back and hung himself. But he didn't repent toward God. Peter denied Christ, too, but he repented, wept bitterly, and was restored.

Churches today specialize in regret. They'll shed a few tears at an emotional altar call. They'll promise to "try harder." But real repentance is deeper than emotion. It's a turning, a forsaking, a surrender. Without that, you've got theater, not transformation.

Point 5: Repentance Produces Fruit

Matthew 3:8 says, "*Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance.*" Real repentance produces fruit. Changed lives. Holy living. A clean break from sin.

But you walk into most churches today, and the fruit is rotten. The men are hooked on pornography. The women are drowning in gossip. The kids are addicted to screens. And the pews are full of “Christians” who look, act, and talk just like the world. Why? Because they prayed prayers without repenting. They joined churches without repenting. They sang songs without repenting.

A church without repentance is a tree without fruit—pretty leaves, but nothing to eat

Point 6: The Cost of Forgetting Repentance

What happens when a church forgets repentance?

- **It becomes a museum.** The Spirit leaves, but the programs keep running. It looks alive, but it’s just propped-up tradition.
- **It becomes a club.** The members gather to socialize, not to worship. They protect their comfort instead of confronting their sin.
- **It becomes a business.** The focus shifts to budgets, buildings, and branding. Numbers replace holiness.
- **It becomes a whore.** Revelation 17 shows a false church decked in gold and jewels, drunk with the blood of the saints. That’s the ultimate end of a repentance-forgetting church: it joins the world and becomes the devil’s bride.

When the altar dries up, the Spirit departs. When repentance dies, the church rots.

Point 7: Why God Demands Repentance from His People

Revelation 2–3 shows Christ’s letters to seven churches, and five of them were commanded to repent. Not the pagans. Not the atheists. The churches.

Why? Because judgment begins at the house of God (1 Peter 4:17). God’s not impressed with your numbers, your buildings, or your reputation. He wants broken hearts. He wants humility. He wants holiness.

2 Chronicles 7:14 says, *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”* You see the order? Humble. Pray. Seek. Turn. That’s repentance. No repentance, no revival. Period.

Point 8: Repentance and Revival

Every real revival in history was birthed in repentance. Read about the Welsh revival. The Great Awakening. The revivals under Finney, Edwards, Whitefield. It wasn't concerts and smoke machines—it was altars stained with tears, men and women confessing sin, churches broken before God.

Psalm 34:18 says, *“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”* God draws near when His people repent. You can sing all the songs, build all the stages, run all the events—but until God's people break, God won't bless.

Point 9: Repentance in the Last Days

2 Timothy 3 describes the last days: lovers of pleasure, lovers of self, lovers of money—but not lovers of God. They have a form of godliness but deny the power. That's churches without repentance. They keep the shell, but the Spirit is gone.

Revelation 3:19 says, *“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.”* Christ is outside the Laodicean church, knocking. Full pews. Empty hearts. Locked doors. And He says, “Repent.”

If that isn't the modern church, I don't know what is.

Point 10: The Call Back to the Altar

So what's the solution? Simple: repent.

- Preachers: Stop tickling ears and start thundering against sin. Call your church to repentance.
- Christians: Stop excusing your secret sins. Drag them into the light. Confess. Forsake. Weep if you have to.
- Churches: Stop measuring success by numbers. Measure it by holiness. Fill the altar, not just the pews.

Repentance isn't glamorous. It won't make headlines. It won't trend on social media. But it'll bring the presence of God back into the sanctuary. And that's what we need more than anything.

Conclusion

The church that forgets to repent is a church with pews full and hearts empty. It may look alive, but it's dead. It may impress men, but it disgusts God.

So I ask you: has your church forgotten how to repent? Have you?

God's not asking for another song, another program, another event. He's asking for brokenness. He's asking for humility. He's asking for repentance.

Because until the church repents, it cannot be revived. Until the saints repent, the Spirit won't move. Until the altar is wet again, the fire won't fall again.

The pews may be full, but without repentance, the church is nothing but a graveyard with stained glass windows.

It's time to repent.

Religion is a Cage, Christ is Freedom

Why tradition will damn you

Introduction

Religion is the oldest drug in the world. You don't need a needle, a pipe, or a bottle. All you need is a ritual, a robe, a rulebook, and some poor sinner dumb enough to believe that a man-made system can do what only the blood of Jesus Christ can do. And brother, there are billions hooked on it.

Religion is a cage. It looks safe. It feels secure. It promises respectability, structure, and order. It has stained glass, choirs, priests, and preachers that look the part. But inside that cage is bondage. It's chains dressed up as jewelry. It's slavery painted to look like freedom. And while folks polish the bars and sing hymns inside their cages, the devil grins because he knows those chains will drag them to hell.

Meanwhile, Jesus Christ came to set men free. John 8:36 says, *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."* He didn't come to put you in a cage of traditions—He came to break the locks, smash the bars, rip the doors off, and say, "Follow Me!"

Religion damns. Christ saves. Tradition enslaves. Christ liberates. Religion is a cage. Christ is freedom.

Point 1: The Devil Loves Religion

People think the devil spends all his time in nightclubs, crack houses, and brothels. Wrong. The devil spends more time in churches than sinners do. He loves religion. Why? Because it's the most respectable way to damn a man's soul.

Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 that Satan has ministers. *“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness.”* You see that? Satan's not running around with a pitchfork and a red suit. He's behind pulpits. He's in seminaries. He's wearing robes. He's quoting half-verses. He's running respectable religion.

The devil doesn't care if you're religious. He cares if you're redeemed. He doesn't mind you memorizing catechisms, bowing to statues, burning candles, or repeating prayers. He doesn't care if you've been baptized, catechized, circumcised, and sanitized—as long as you've never been born again. Religion is his cage.

Point 2: Christ vs. Religion

Read Matthew 23. Jesus didn't reserve His harshest words for drunks, harlots, or tax collectors. He reserved them for religious leaders. He said, *“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!”* over and over. Why? Because they were caging men's souls with traditions.

Matthew 23:4 says, *“For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.”* That's religion—burdens with no blessing, rules with no redemption, chains with no key.

But what did Christ say in Matthew 11:28-30? *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”* Religion piles on burdens. Christ gives rest. Religion enslaves. Christ frees.

Point 3: Tradition vs. Truth

Mark 7:9 records Jesus saying, *“Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”* Tradition is the devil’s counterfeit for truth. It looks pious. It sounds ancient. It feels safe. But it’s man-made.

Catholics light candles, pray rosaries, and trust priests. Orthodox cling to icons and rituals. Protestants bow to denominational creeds and committees. Even Baptists can get so stuck in tradition that they forget the Book.

But John 17:17 says, *“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”* Not tradition. Not councils. Not catechisms. Not creeds. The Word is truth. Anything else is a cage.

Point 4: The Bondage of Religion

Galatians 5:1 says, *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”* Paul was rebuking churches that were getting trapped in legalism—circumcision, law-keeping, rituals. He said, “Don’t go back into the cage. Christ set you free!”

Religion is bondage. It says, “Do this, and maybe you’ll make it.” Christ says, “It is finished.” Religion says, “Try harder.” Christ says, “Trust Me.” Religion says, “Follow the system.” Christ says, “Follow Me.”

Bondage is slavery with a halo. It makes you feel holy while keeping you chained. And people love it, because it feeds the flesh. It gives them a checklist. It lets them brag. It strokes their pride. But it damns their souls.

Point 5: Respectable Chains

Here’s the tricky part: religion’s chains look respectable. They’re gold-plated. They come with choirs, candles, robes, and rituals. They make you feel cultured, refined, moral, and good.

But Isaiah 64:6 says, *“All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.”* Respectable chains are still chains. A golden cage is still a cage. You can polish the bars until they shine, but you’re still trapped.

That’s why Christ said in John 3:3, *“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”* Not “except a man be baptized.” Not “except a man be confirmed.” Not “except a man join the right church.” Born again. That’s freedom.

Point 6: Why Tradition Damns

Why does tradition damn? Because it substitutes man's works for Christ's finished work.

Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.*" Tradition says, "Do." Grace says, "Done." Tradition says, "Earn it." Christ says, "Receive it."

Tradition damns because it convinces you you're safe when you're not. It puts a religious Band-Aid on a cancerous soul. It numbs you with ritual so you never cry out for redemption. It's a counterfeit ticket that won't scan at the gate of heaven.

Point 7: Biblical Examples of Religion as a Cage

- **Cain's sacrifice** – Genesis 4. Cain brought the fruit of his own works, a respectable offering. God rejected it. Abel brought blood, pointing to Christ. God accepted it. Religion vs. redemption.
- **Tower of Babel** – Genesis 11. A man-made system to reach heaven. God smashed it.
- **Pharisees** – The New Testament epitome of religion. Rules, rituals, respectability—and Jesus called them children of hell (Matthew 23:15).
- **Galatian heresy** – Adding circumcision and law-keeping to grace. Paul called it another gospel (Galatians 1:6-9).

Every time man tries to build his own ladder to heaven, God knocks it down.

Point 8: The Freedom of Christ

John 8:32: "*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*" Christ doesn't cage—He frees.

Romans 8:1-2 says, "*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*" Free from condemnation. Free from the curse of the law. Free from the chains of sin.

Christ frees you from fear, because His blood covers every sin. He frees you from performance, because He did all the work. He frees you from tradition, because His Spirit leads, not man's system.

Religion says, “Stay in the cage.” Christ says, “The door is open—get out.”

Point 9: The Church That Turns Back to Cages

Here’s the tragedy: even after being saved, many churches crawl back into cages. They swap grace for legalism. They trade liberty for denominational chains. They measure spirituality by dress codes, music styles, or church programs instead of holiness and obedience.

Paul warned in Galatians 3:3: “*Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?*” That’s churches today. They start with the gospel, then smother it with traditions. They start with freedom, then lock themselves in cages of rules.

And when the Spirit leaves, all that’s left is empty religion—pews full, hearts empty.

Point 10: The Call to Come Out

Revelation 18:4 says, “*Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.*” That’s God’s call to His people trapped in religious cages. Come out! Leave Babylon. Leave dead traditions. Leave man-made systems.

2 Corinthians 3:17 says, “*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*” If your church feels like chains, it’s not the Spirit—it’s religion. If your faith feels like bondage, it’s not Christ—it’s tradition.

Christ is freedom. He broke the chains. He tore the veil. He smashed the cage. And He says, “Follow Me.”

Conclusion

Religion is a cage. Christ is freedom. Tradition will damn you, but truth will deliver you.

So what’s it going to be? A polished cage of rituals, respectability, and man-made rules—or the blood-bought freedom of Jesus Christ? You can cling to your cage until it drags you to hell, or you can walk out into the liberty of grace.

Don’t let religion damn you. Don’t let tradition chain you. Don’t let respectability blind you. Come to Christ. Repent. Believe. Be free.

Because religion is a cage. But Christ? Christ is freedom.

The Pope's Throne vs. the Judgment Seat of Christ

Pick your seat now

Introduction

You've only got two seats in front of you: one is velvet and gold, dripping with pomp and man-made tradition—the Pope's throne. The other is blazing white, terrifying, eternal—the Judgment Seat of Christ. You can bow to a man now or bow to the Son of Man later, but either way, every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil. 2:10-11).

The trouble is, this world loves the Pope's throne. They love a man they can see, a robe they can admire, a ritual they can follow. The Pope smiles, waves, blesses, and the crowd swoons. But the Book says there's another throne waiting, and when you stand before that one, the Pope won't be there to hold your hand. His throne is temporal; Christ's seat is eternal. His power is borrowed; Christ's power is absolute. His authority is claimed; Christ's authority is real.

So the question is simple: which seat are you choosing now?

Point 1: The Pope's Throne—A Seat Built on Lies

The Pope's throne is built on Matthew 16:18 twisted. Rome says Jesus told Peter, "*Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.*" They say Peter is the rock, and the Pope is Peter's successor, and voilà—you've got a man sitting as "Holy Father."

But read the Book carefully. Jesus didn't say Peter was the rock—He said, "*upon this rock,*" meaning Himself (1 Cor. 10:4, "*that Rock was Christ*"). Peter himself never claimed to be a pope. He called himself "*a servant and an apostle*" (2 Pet. 1:1). And when Cornelius bowed down to him in Acts 10:25-26, Peter jerked him up and said, "*Stand up; I myself also am a man.*"

The Pope sits on a throne built on lies. Lies that say a man can be the vicar of Christ. Lies that say he has authority to forgive sins. Lies that say he is the head of the Church. My Bible says Christ is the head of the Church (Eph. 5:23). My Bible says only God forgives sins

(Mark 2:7). My Bible says there is one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (1 Tim. 2:5).

The Pope's throne is a liar's chair.

Point 2: The Pope's Throne—A Seat of Idolatry

The Pope takes titles that belong only to God. He's called "Holy Father." That's blasphemy. Jesus said in Matthew 23:9, "*Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.*"

The Pope wears a triple crown—the tiara—claiming to be king of heaven, earth, and hell. That's not just arrogance; that's idolatry. He lets men kiss his ring, bow to him, and treat him as if he were God's replacement on earth.

And you wonder why Revelation 17 calls her "*MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*" The Pope's throne is a harlot's chair, selling spiritual fornication, dressing up idolatry as "tradition," making men slaves to rituals instead of sons by faith.

Point 3: The Pope's Throne—A Seat of Blood

History tells the story. Rome's throne isn't just pomp; it's blood. Read Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*. Rome burned, tortured, drowned, and strangled Bible believers by the millions. The Inquisition wasn't an accident—it was the Pope's chair enforcing its authority.

Revelation 17:6 says, "*And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.*" That's not poetic language—that's prophecy fulfilled in history. Rome's throne drinks blood. And the modern Pope may smile and play the gentle grandfather, but the system he sits on is stained red with centuries of persecution.

The Pope's throne is a butcher's chair.

Point 4: The Pope's Throne—A Seat of Worldliness

Ever notice how the Pope's throne lines up with politics, world councils, and global agendas? He sits on his chair, meeting presidents, kings, dictators, UN councils, and every other godless organization. He blesses communists. He smiles at Muslims. He pats Buddhists on the back. He joins hands with atheists to "save the planet."

James 4:4 says, “*whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*” The Pope’s throne is a worldly seat, bowing to every trend, kissing every idol, joining every movement—except standing on the truth of God’s Book.

Point 5: The Judgment Seat of Christ—A Seat of Reality

Now flip the page. The Judgment Seat of Christ isn’t padded, polished, or surrounded by applause. It’s stark reality. Romans 14:10 says, “*for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.*” 2 Corinthians 5:10 echoes it: “*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*”

No smoke machines here. No choirs. No political handshakes. No velvet robes. Just you, your works, and your Savior’s eyes burning like fire (Rev. 1:14).

The Judgment Seat strips away pretense. Titles don’t matter. Rituals don’t matter. Respectability doesn’t matter. All that matters is what you did for Christ, why you did it, and whether it was done in the Spirit or the flesh.

Point 6: The Judgment Seat of Christ—A Seat of Purity

1 Corinthians 3:13-15 paints the picture: “*Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work abide...he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*”

That’s purity. God’s fire burns away the hay, wood, and stubble. The Pope’s throne rewards ritual, pomp, and pretense. Christ’s seat burns it all up. What survives is the gold, silver, and precious stones—those things done out of true obedience, in the Spirit, for God’s glory.

Point 7: The Judgment Seat of Christ—A Seat of Accountability

At the Pope’s throne, the masses kiss the ring and obey the man. At Christ’s seat, there’s no passing the buck. Romans 14:12 says, “*So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*”

You won’t be able to say, “My priest told me...” or “The Pope said...” or “My denomination taught...” The only authority that will matter is the Book in Christ’s hand.

At the Pope's throne, men hide behind tradition. At Christ's seat, excuses evaporate.

Point 8: The Judgment Seat of Christ—A Seat of Rewards or Loss

The Pope's throne dangles false promises: indulgences, purgatory, sacraments, and ceremonies. All lies. Christ's seat deals in truth: rewards or loss. Crowns for the faithful—incorruptible crown (1 Cor. 9:25), crown of rejoicing (1 Thess. 2:19), crown of righteousness (2 Tim. 4:8), crown of life (James 1:12), crown of glory (1 Pet. 5:4).

Or loss—suffering shame when your works go up in smoke. Saved, yes. But smelling like you escaped a house fire. That's the reality.

Point 9: Pick Your Seat

So here's the choice. Do you want the Pope's throne—temporal, earthly, idolatrous, bloody, worldly? Or Christ's Judgment Seat—eternal, pure, fiery, and final?

You can bow to a Pope now, but you'll still stand before Christ later. You can kiss a ring now, but you'll still give account later. You can hide in tradition now, but the fire will expose it later.

The Pope's throne impresses men. The Judgment Seat answers to God.

Conclusion

Pick your seat now. There are only two on the table. The Pope's throne, built on lies, idolatry, blood, and worldliness. Or the Judgment Seat of Christ, blazing with truth, purity, accountability, and eternity.

You can't sit in both. You can't cling to Rome's cage and Christ's freedom. You can't worship the Pope and follow the Lord. You can't serve tradition and truth.

So the call is simple: get out of the Pope's chair, and get ready for Christ's seat. Repent, believe the gospel, trust the Book, and serve the Lord with clean hands and a pure heart. Because when the fire falls at the Judgment Seat, velvet thrones and golden crowns won't mean a thing—only what was done for Christ will last.

When Ritual Replaces Redemption

Empty Sacraments Without Salvation

Introduction

Religion is a funny thing. It can scrub a man's face, shine his shoes, put a robe on his back, and march him straight into hell without ever touching his heart. That's the devil's masterpiece: ritual without redemption. Empty sacraments, lifeless traditions, hollow ceremonies—all polished up like brass on a sinking ship.

And brother, the world eats it up. Folks love something they can *do*—something visible, measurable, respectable. Sprinkle a baby, cross yourself, kneel at the altar rail, eat a wafer, sip some wine, light a candle—now you feel holy. Trouble is, none of that redeems your soul one inch closer to God. The only thing that saves is the blood of Jesus Christ (Heb. 9:12, “*by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us*”).

Rituals without redemption are the devil's counterfeit currency. They look shiny, but try to cash them in at heaven's gate and you'll come up bankrupt.

So let's tear this thing wide open: what happens when ritual replaces redemption?

Point 1: The Devil's Favorite Religion

The devil doesn't mind if you're religious. In fact, he'll hand you the matches to light the candles. He'll help you memorize the liturgy. He'll bless your rosary and keep your holy water topped off. He doesn't care how many sacraments you perform as long as you miss the one thing needful: the new birth.

John 3:3 still stands: “*Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*” Not “except a man be baptized as a baby.” Not “except a man take the Eucharist.” Not “except a man complete the sacraments.” Born again. That's redemption.

The devil knows he can't unshed the blood of Christ, so he keeps men distracted with rituals. And buddy, there are billions lining up to perform them, never realizing they're rehearsing their own damnation.

Point 2: The Bible vs. Sacraments

The Bible preaches redemption by blood, by grace, through faith. *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast”* (Eph. 2:8-9).

But Rome, Canterbury, and a thousand other pulpits preach redemption by sacrament: baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, confession, penance, last rites. You go through the motions, you check the boxes, and they say you’re good.

But Paul wrote in Galatians 2:16, *“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ.”* Replace “works of the law” with “sacraments of the church,” and you’ve got the same principle. Ritual doesn’t justify. Faith in Christ does.

Point 3: Baptism Without Belief

One of the biggest scams in Christendom is infant baptism. Sprinkle a few drops on a baby’s head, and suddenly he’s “a child of God.” Hogwash. That baby doesn’t know his right hand from his left, let alone repentance and faith.

In Acts 8, Philip told the Ethiopian eunuch he could be baptized *“if thou believest with all thine heart”* (v. 37). Belief first. Baptism after. No belief? Then the ritual is empty.

But millions trust their baptismal certificate to get them through heaven’s gate. Sorry, friend, but that paper will burn. Without redemption, your baptism is just a bath.

Point 4: Communion Without Conversion

How about the Lord’s Supper? Rome says the wafer becomes the literal body of Christ, the wine His literal blood. They call it “transubstantiation.” That’s not Bible—that’s pagan cannibalism dressed in liturgy.

Jesus said in Luke 22:19, *“This do in remembrance of me.”* Remembrance, not re-sacrifice. He shed His blood once for all (Heb. 10:12). But Rome puts Him back on the cross every mass and tells folks eating a wafer earns grace.

Without redemption, communion is just a snack.

Point 5: Confession Without Cleansing

Then there's the confessional booth. You whisper sins to a priest, he gives you penance, and boom—you're absolved. Only problem? The Bible says, "*Who can forgive sins but God only?*" (Mark 2:7).

You can confess to a thousand priests until your lips fall off, and not one sin is washed away. 1 John 1:7 says, "*the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*" Not the priest's words. Not your penance. The blood.

Without redemption, confession is just gossip in a box.

Point 6: Confirmation Without Conversion

Churches parade teenagers through "confirmation classes" where they memorize catechisms, recite answers, and get a pat on the head. They're told, "Now you're part of the Church." But memorizing doctrine isn't the same as meeting the Savior. Saying answers isn't the same as receiving Christ.

Acts 4:12 says, "*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*" Salvation is in Christ, not confirmation classes.

Without redemption, confirmation is just graduation in a robe.

Point 7: Last Rites Without Life

Finally, Rome sells the biggest fraud of all: last rites. A priest sprinkles oil, mutters prayers, and supposedly prepares your soul for heaven. Too late. Hebrews 9:27 says, "*it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.*"

If you die without Christ, no oil, no prayer, no ritual will change your fate. You'll split hell wide open as a well-oiled, well-blessed, sacramental sinner.

Without redemption, last rites are just a religious death certificate.

Point 8: Rituals Produce Pride, Redemption Produces Praise

Why do people cling to rituals? Because they feed pride. You *did* something. You earned something. You completed a system. You can compare yourself to others. That's why the Pharisee in Luke 18 bragged, "*I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.*"

But the publican beat his chest and cried, *“God be merciful to me a sinner.”* Jesus said that man went down justified, not the Pharisee.

Rituals puff you up. Redemption knocks you down at Calvary. Rituals give you pride. Redemption gives you praise.

Point 9: Rituals Bring Bondage, Redemption Brings Liberty

Galatians 5:1 says, *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”* Rituals enslave. They bind you to schedules, systems, priests, and ceremonies.

Redemption frees you. Christ already paid it all. You don’t need a priest—you’ve got access to the throne (Heb. 4:16). You don’t need sacraments—you’ve got the Spirit sealing you until the day of redemption (Eph. 4:30).

Rituals are chains. Redemption is liberty.

Point 10: Rituals End in Hell, Redemption Ends in Heaven

Here’s the blunt truth: rituals without redemption damn souls. Jesus said in Matthew 7:22-23, *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me.”*

They had works. They had rituals. They had ceremonies. But they didn’t have Christ.

The redeemed, on the other hand, don’t stand before God waving sacraments. They stand washed in the blood, clothed in Christ’s righteousness, and welcomed into glory.

Conclusion

When ritual replaces redemption, you’ve got religion without Christ, sacraments without salvation, tradition without truth. It looks holy, feels holy, sounds holy—but it’s a coffin painted with gold.

You can trust the wafer, the water, the booth, the beads, the oil, the robes, and the rituals—or you can trust the blood of Jesus Christ. But not both. One damns, one saves. One cages, one frees. One is empty tradition, the other is eternal truth.

So the call is simple: drop your sacraments and grab the Savior. Lay down your rituals and come to redemption. Because when you stand before God, He won't ask what church you joined, what rituals you performed, or what sacraments you took. He'll ask one thing: *"What did you do with my Son?"*

Choose wisely. Because empty rituals end in eternal emptiness. But redemption ends in eternal life.

The Devil's Bible Versions

Corrupt Seeds Produce Corrupt Fruit

Introduction

Everywhere you look, somebody's got a "new and improved" Bible. They've got pocket Bibles, study Bibles, teen Bibles, cowboy Bibles, eco-friendly Bibles, woke Bibles—every year, another one hits the shelf, each claiming to be "closer to the original" or "easier to understand." But let me tell you something, brother: if you have to update it every two years, it's not the eternal Word of God.

Psalm 12:6-7 says, *"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."* God promised preservation. That means somewhere on this earth, you've got His pure, perfect, preserved words in your hands. And I'll tell you where they are: the Authorized King James Bible.

So what are all these other versions? They're the devil's Bibles. They're counterfeits. They're corrupt seeds that produce corrupt fruit. They chop out verses, twist doctrine, water down the blood, erase hell, and puff up man. They're not the Sword of the Spirit—they're plastic butter knives forged in Alexandria.

Let's get into it.

Point 1: The Source of the Corruption

Every Bible has a lineage. You've either got a Bible that comes from Antioch, where believers were first called Christians (Acts 11:26), or a Bible that comes from Alexandria, Egypt—the same Egypt God calls “the house of bondage” (Ex. 20:2).

The King James Bible is from the Antioch line, based on the Textus Receptus, the Majority Text, the Bible of the Waldenses, Albigenses, and martyrs. The new versions—NIV, ESV, NASB, NLT—come from the Alexandrian line, based on corrupt manuscripts like Vaticanus and Sinaiticus, dug out of trash heaps and papal closets.

God never blessed Egypt. He never sent His Word out of a garbage pail. You trace the seed back, and you'll find the devil's fingerprints all over the Alexandrian line.

Point 2: Missing Verses, Missing Truth

The new versions don't just update the language—they mutilate the text.

- Matthew 17:21: *“Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.”* Gone in the NIV.
- Matthew 18:11: *“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.”* Gone in the ESV.
- Acts 8:37: *“If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest.”* Gone in the NASB.
- 1 John 5:7: *“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”* Butchered in nearly every modern version.

Those aren't typos. That's corruption. The devil hates the deity of Christ, the Trinity, the blood atonement, and the reality of hell. So he makes sure his Bibles chop them out.

If you plant corrupt seed, don't be surprised when you reap corrupt fruit.

Point 3: The Attack on the Blood

Colossians 1:14 in the KJV says, *“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”*

But the NIV chops out *“through his blood.”* Why? Because the devil hates the blood.

Hebrews 9:22 says, *“without shedding of blood is no remission.”* The blood is the payment, the currency, the atonement. Without the blood, you've got nothing but a religious pep talk.

The new versions are bloodless Bibles. And a bloodless Bible is a Christless gospel.

Point 4: The Attack on the Deity of Christ

1 Timothy 3:16 in the KJV says, “*God was manifest in the flesh.*”

The NIV says, “*He appeared in the flesh.*” He? Who? That’s not deity—that’s ambiguity. They erased “God.”

Acts 20:28 in the KJV says the church was purchased “*with his own blood*”—God’s blood. The NIV downgrades it to “*the blood of his own Son.*”

The devil doesn’t mind you having a “Jesus.” He just doesn’t want you to have the Almighty God in human flesh. So his Bibles whittle Christ down into a generic figure you can mold into Buddha, Allah, or some woke activist.

Point 5: The Attack on Hell

Hell is a dirty word to modern scholarship. The KJV says hell. The new versions water it down into “Hades,” “the grave,” or “death.”

Psalms 9:17: “*The wicked shall be turned into hell.*” The ESV smooths it out to “Sheol.” That means nothing to the average reader. It dulls the blade. It numbs the warning.

If the devil can erase hell, he can erase fear. And if he erases fear, he erases urgency. Suddenly, there’s no need to repent, no need to get saved—you’ll just drift into some vague “afterlife.” That’s the devil’s trap.

Point 6: The Attack on the Virgin Birth

Isaiah 7:14 says in the KJV, “*Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son.*” The RSV changed “virgin” to “young woman.” Plenty of young women have babies—that’s not a miracle. The prophecy vanishes if you change one word.

Why attack the virgin birth? Because if Christ wasn’t virgin-born, He wasn’t sinless. And if He wasn’t sinless, He wasn’t the Lamb of God. And if He wasn’t the Lamb, His blood is just type O-positive.

Change the seed, corrupt the fruit.

Point 7: The Attack on Salvation

Acts 16:31 in the KJV: *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”*

The Good News Bible twists it to: *“Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and your family.”* See what they did? They slipped in household salvation—your family gets in automatically. Corruption breeds false doctrine.

Mark 10:24 in the KJV: *“Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!”*

The NIV chops out *“for them that trust in riches”*—leaving it sounding like nobody can enter the kingdom at all.

When the devil tampers with salvation verses, he produces false gospels. Works-based gospels. Universalist gospels. Corrupt fruit from corrupt seed.

Point 8: The Spirit of Scholarship

Who pushes these new versions? Scholars. Committees. Publishers. They say, “The oldest manuscripts are the best.” Nonsense. The oldest are corrupt because they were rejected by believers for centuries. The true line was copied and preserved, not locked in monasteries.

Scholarship is the devil’s playground. Genesis 3:1: *“Yea, hath God said?”* That was the first Bible critic. He didn’t deny God’s Word outright—he questioned it, nudged it, cast doubt. That’s what modern versions do.

And look at the fruit. Churches that adopt modern versions slide into apostasy. They drop doctrine. They embrace the world. They fill the pews with goats instead of sheep. Corrupt seed produces corrupt fruit.

Point 9: The Fruit of the King James Bible

Now look at the King James Bible. What’s its fruit?

- It fueled the Reformation.
- It lit revival fires across Europe and America.
- It sailed with missionaries to the ends of the earth.
- It preached in the pulpits of Whitefield, Wesley, Spurgeon, Edwards, Moody, Sunday.
- It comforted soldiers, martyrs, mothers, and dying saints.

The King James Bible bears good fruit because it comes from a good seed.

Matthew 7:17-18: *“Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.”*

You can judge a Bible by its fruit.

Point 10: Choose Your Book

So here it is. You’ve got two choices:

- The King James Bible, pure, preserved, proven, fruitful.
- Or the devil’s Bible versions, corrupt, mutilated, bloodless, Christ-less, hell-less.

Pick your Book, and you pick your doctrine. Pick your Book, and you pick your destiny.

The devil’s Bibles will land you in doubt, deception, and apostasy. God’s Bible will land you at the foot of the cross, washed in the blood, secure in the truth.

Conclusion

The devil’s Bible versions are counterfeit currency, forged in Alexandria, printed in flashy covers, marketed to gullible Christians. They chop verses, erase doctrines, and sow doubt. They are corrupt seeds producing corrupt fruit.

But God’s Word is alive and sharp (Heb. 4:12). It’s not updated every two years. It doesn’t need scholars to polish it. It stands as it always has—the King James Bible.

So I ask you: which Book is in your hand? Because if you’ve got the wrong seed, don’t be surprised when you reap rotten fruit.

Hold the Book. Trust the Book. Preach the Book. The Devil’s Bibles will damn you, but God’s Bible will deliver you.

Preachers Who Never Preach on Hell

Hirelings in the Pulpit

Introduction

If there's one subject modern pulpits have padlocked, it's hell. You can get a TED Talk on leadership, a workshop on financial freedom, a cozy fireside chat on relationships—but you can't get a blood-boiling, heaven-thundering, devil-exposing sermon on the place Jesus Christ warned about more than anyone else in the Bible: hell.

Why? Because today's pulpits are full of hirelings, not shepherds. They're businessmen with Bibles, politicians with pulpits, actors with microphones. They smooth their voices, polish their smiles, and make sure not a single word they say would ever get them unfollowed on Instagram or called "offensive" on CNN. They'll tell you about God's love, but never about God's wrath. They'll preach heaven with a wink, but never hell with a warning.

But friend, if you take hell out of preaching, you're no better than a surgeon who refuses to tell his patient about the cancer. You're a fraud. You're a hireling. You're a wolf in a shepherd's coat.

So let's light the fire. Let's preach what they won't.

Point 1: Jesus Preached on Hell—So Why Don't They?

Modern preachers like to say, "Well, we just focus on the positive." But have you ever read Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Jesus Christ preached more on hell than He did on heaven.

- Matthew 10:28: *"Fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."*
- Mark 9:43: *"It is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched."*
- Luke 16:19-31: The rich man lifts up his eyes in torments, begging for a drop of water.

That's Jesus talking. Not some "angry Old Testament prophet," but the Lamb of God Himself. If the Lord warned sinners about hell, then any preacher who avoids it is a coward.

You say you're "Christlike"? Then open your mouth like Christ did and warn people.

Point 2: Why Hirelings Avoid Hell

Why won't they preach it? Simple:

- **It offends the crowd.** Talking about eternal fire doesn't sell books or pack stadiums.
- **It offends the rich.** The big donors don't want their egos singed.
- **It offends the worldly.** Carnal Christians want pep talks, not warnings.
- **It offends the preacher himself.** Deep down, many of them don't believe in it anymore.

John 10:12-13 says, *"But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd...seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth."* The wolf of hell is coming, and these hirelings run to the nearest "positive message" series.

They avoid hell because they fear man more than God. They'd rather get applause than anointing.

Point 3: The Devil's Delight

Satan doesn't mind churches. He doesn't mind Bibles. He doesn't even mind sermons—as long as hell never gets mentioned.

Because if sinners never hear about hell, they'll never fear judgment. And if they never fear judgment, they'll never flee to Christ for salvation. Proverbs 16:6 says, *"by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil."* No fear, no fleeing. No fleeing, no faith.

The devil's greatest victory in modern pulpits is not atheism—it's silence.

Point 4: The Reality of Hell

Hell is not a metaphor. It's not a symbol. It's not a "state of mind." It's a place.

- **It is fire.** Luke 16:24: *"I am tormented in this flame."*
- **It is eternal.** Mark 9:44: *"Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."*
- **It is conscious.** Revelation 14:11: *"The smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night."*

Preacher, if you dodge hell, you're calling Jesus Christ a liar. You're denying the plain words of Scripture. You're selling souls for thirty pieces of silver and a pat on the back.

Point 5: Hell is the Balance to the Cross

You can't understand Calvary until you understand hell. Why did Jesus suffer, bleed, and die? To save us from eternal fire. If you minimize hell, you minimize the cross.

Modern preachers chirp about "living your best life now," but friend, if there is no hell, then the crucifixion was cosmic child abuse. Why endure the wrath of God if there's no eternal judgment to save men from?

No hell, no gospel. Period.

Point 6: The Fruit of Hell-less Preaching

Take a look at churches that never preach on hell. What do you see?

- **Entertainment replaces evangelism.** Smoke machines, light shows, coffee bars.
- **Carnality replaces conviction.** Sermons on self-esteem, not sanctification.
- **Numbers replace new births.** Decisions, not disciples.
- **Apostasy replaces authority.** The Bible is questioned, watered down, or replaced altogether.

When hell disappears from the pulpit, holiness disappears from the pews.

Point 7: The Responsibility of the Watchman

Ezekiel 33:8 says, *"When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand."*

Preacher, if you won't warn your people about hell, their blood is on your hands. When they scream from the pit, God will remember your polished sermons and your cowardly silence.

You say you love your people? Then warn them. You say you love Christ? Then preach His message. You say you love souls? Then tell them what they're facing.

Point 8: The Old-Time Preachers Preached It

You want to know why America once had revivals that shook cities? Because preachers thundered hell. Jonathan Edwards preached *"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"* and

men clung to pews in terror. Whitefield warned of eternal fire and thousands wept in the fields.

D.L. Moody, Billy Sunday, even Spurgeon—every one of them preached hell hot and heaven sweet. And their fruit remains.

Compare that to today's soft-tongued hirelings, and you'll see why churches are empty, Christians are worldly, and the nation is godless.

Point 9: The Remedy—Preach It Again

What's the cure for a hireling pulpit? Preach hell again.

Not to gloat. Not to scare for fun. But to warn. To shake men awake. To rip the blinders off their eyes. To get them to the cross before it's too late.

Jude 23 says, "*others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire.*" That's not metaphor—that's our mission.

Point 10: Hell's Silence Will Be Broken

Preachers may ignore hell now, but hell won't ignore them. One day the silence will be shattered.

Luke 16 says the rich man cried from the flames. Revelation 20 says the damned will stand at the Great White Throne before being cast into the lake of fire.

Hell's reality will echo for eternity whether modern pulpits like it or not.

Conclusion

Preachers who never preach on hell are hirelings. They're frauds. They're cowards. They're men-pleasers, not God-pleasers.

Jesus preached it. Paul preached it. The prophets preached it. The old-time evangelists preached it. And we'd better preach it.

Because without hell, there's no urgency. Without hell, there's no gospel. Without hell, there's no salvation. Without hell, there's no reason for the cross.

So preacher, pick a side. Will you be a hireling who whispers sweet nothings while your people slip into eternal fire? Or will you be a watchman who lifts his voice like a trumpet and says, “Flee from the wrath to come”?

Because one day, when the smoke of their torment rises forever, God’s going to ask what you did with the pulpit He gave you. And “I didn’t want to offend anybody” won’t cut it.

Payday Someday

The Bill for Sin Always Comes Due

Introduction

This world runs on credit. Men think they can sin on Sunday and push the bill off till Monday. They imagine God is like Visa or Mastercard—you swipe your sin card now, make minimum payments in the form of “good works” or “church attendance,” and never actually face the debt. But the Book says different.

Galatians 6:7 thunders: *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”* You sow corruption, you reap corruption. You sow sin, you reap judgment. Sin always has a payday. You may dodge the IRS, you may dodge your landlord, you may dodge the loan shark—but you’ll never dodge God’s payday.

Proverbs 11:21 says, *“Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished.”* Ecclesiastes 8:11 says, *“Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.”* That’s the world’s motto: “I got away with it.” No you didn’t. The check is in the mail. Payday is someday, and someday is sooner than you think.

Let’s lay it out plain: the bill for sin always comes due.

Point 1: The Lie of Delayed Judgment

The devil’s biggest sales pitch is this: “You’ve got time.” Adam and Eve didn’t die the second they bit into the fruit, so the serpent looked like he was right. But they *did* die spiritually that moment, and their bodies started the death clock.

Same with Cain. He thought he got away with murder. Same with Pharaoh. He thought he got away with enslaving God's people. Same with Ahab and Jezebel. Same with Judas. They all looked like winners until payday rolled up like a bill collector at the door.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 says, *"For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."* You may hide it from your spouse, from your church, from your friends—but payday exposes it all.

Point 2: The Case of Nations

Whole nations think they're exempt. Babylon strutted until the writing showed up on the wall—*MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN*. The Medes and Persians collected the bill that very night.

Rome bathed in blood, paraded in pride, and laughed at the Christians they threw to lions. Today Rome is a pile of ruins where tourists snap photos. Payday came.

America is running the same credit scam. We legalize every perversion, kill millions of unborn babies, mock the Book, and think the dollar will keep us safe. But Psalm 9:17 says, *"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."* Our bill is piling up. Payday is coming.

Point 3: The Case of Individuals

Think of Achan in Joshua 7. He thought he got away with stealing Babylonish garments and silver. Hid them under his tent. Nobody knew. But payday came, and he and his family paid with their lives.

Think of Gehazi in 2 Kings 5. He lied to Naaman to make a little profit. Payday came in the form of leprosy.

Think of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5. They lied about their giving. Payday came at Peter's feet as they dropped dead one by one.

God's ledger is perfect. He never forgets a dime. You may run a tab, but you'll pay it in full.

Point 4: The Illusion of Success

Here's the trick: sin pays up front in pleasures. Hebrews 11:25 calls it *"the pleasures of sin for a season."* You drink, you laugh, you fornicate, you gamble, you profit, and for a while it looks like you're winning.

But the tab is running. And when the season ends, payday hits like a hammer. Proverbs 20:17 says, *"Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel."*

The nightclub turns into a morgue. The drug high turns into a prison cell. The affair turns into a divorce court. Sin pays in thrills now, bills later. And when the bill comes, you won't like the price.

Point 5: The Certainty of Death

Romans 6:23 doesn't stutter: *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Wages. Payday. Your paycheck for a lifetime of sin is death—physical death, spiritual death, eternal death. You can dress it up, call it passing, call it rest, call it a celebration of life—but death is wages. Sin cuts the check, death cashes it.

Hebrews 9:27 adds, *"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."* Two appointments nobody skips: death and judgment.

Point 6: The Foolishness of Delay

Felix trembled when Paul preached of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come (Acts 24:25). But he said, *"Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."* Convenient season never came. Payday did.

Sinners love to delay. "I'll get saved later." "I'll repent tomorrow." "I'll quit someday." But payday doesn't wait for your calendar. James 4:14 says, *"For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."*

The graveyards are full of men who said "someday." Their someday came sooner than they thought.

Point 7: The Cross Was a Payday

Don't miss this—Calvary itself was a payday. Sin's bill had piled up from Adam to Christ. Every lie, every theft, every murder, every lust—it was all on the ledger. And the bill came due.

Isaiah 53:6 says, *“the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”* 1 Peter 2:24 says, *“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree.”*

At Calvary, God took the whole mountain of debt and stamped it PAID IN FULL with the blood of His Son. That's redemption. That's salvation. That's grace.

Reject that payment, and you'll pay your own bill for eternity in hell.

Point 8: The Great White Throne

If you want to see payday spelled out, look at Revelation 20:11-15. The Great White Throne. The dead, small and great, standing before God. The books opened. Every secret work brought to light. *“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”*

That's payday. No excuses, no lawyers, no appeals. The ledger opened, the debt read, the sentence passed. And brother, there won't be a sinner who doesn't agree that God is just. The bill is always fair, always exact, always deserved.

Point 9: The Christian's Warning

Even for the saved, payday still applies. Not for salvation, but for service. Romans 14:12 says, *“So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”* 2 Corinthians 5:10 says, *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.”*

That's payday for believers. Works judged by fire (1 Cor. 3:13-15). Crowns won or lost. Rewards given or burned. Saved, yes. But some saved “so as by fire.”

Don't think just because you're saved, you can sow to the flesh without reaping corruption. You'll reap it here and now in chastisement (Heb. 12:6), and you'll reap loss of reward at the Judgment Seat.

Point 10: How to Escape the Bill

Here's the good news: Jesus Christ picked up the check. Romans 3:24 says we're *“justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”*

You don't have to pay hell's wages. You don't have to cover sin's debt. You don't have to stand in line at the eternal payday window. The blood paid it all. All you do is receive it by faith.

John 5:24 promises, *"He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."*

Conclusion

Sin's payday may look delayed, but it's never denied. Nations fall. Kings crumble. Men die. Souls burn. That's the ledger of sin's wages.

But Calvary changes the story. Payday fell on Christ, so the sinner who trusts Him walks free. The bill for sin always comes due—but Jesus Christ picked it up, paid it in full, and hands you eternal life as a free gift.

Reject it, and you'll pay forever. Receive it, and you'll live forever.

Payday is someday. Someday is soon. Pick which account you want settled—yours or Christ's. Because the bill is coming due.

You Can Laugh Now, But You Won't Laugh Then

Judgment Wipes the Smirk Off Every Skeptic

Introduction

This world thinks sin is funny. Hollywood makes jokes about fornication, sodomy, drunkenness, and blasphemy, and the audience roars with laughter. The late-night talk shows mock the Bible, mock the cross, mock the church, and mock preachers, and people sit there slapping their knees like hyenas. Politicians laugh at God's Word. Professors laugh at creation. Atheists laugh at prayer. The world chuckles and says, "We've outgrown all that Bible stuff."

But I'll tell you something, friend—you can laugh now, but you won't laugh then. Judgment wipes the smirk off every skeptic. Proverbs 14:9 says, *"Fools make a mock at sin."* Psalm 2:4 says, *"He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."* You laugh at God now, but one day God will laugh at you.

Nobody laughed in Noah's day when the floodwaters rose. Nobody laughed in Sodom when the fire fell. Nobody laughed in Egypt when the firstborn died. And nobody will laugh at the Great White Throne when the books are opened and the lake of fire yawns wide.

Let's rip the lid off this shallow, smug laughter of the world and show why it won't last.

Point 1: The Skeptic's Smirk

Every generation has its skeptics. Pharaoh smirked at Moses: "*Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice?*" (Ex. 5:2). Goliath mocked David: "*Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?*" (1 Sam. 17:43). Sennacherib's messengers laughed at Hezekiah's prayers.

Today, skeptics stand behind pulpits with PhDs. They smirk and say, "The Bible is full of errors." They laugh at a six-day creation, sneer at the virgin birth, and roll their eyes at the resurrection. They call hell a "myth" and heaven a "comfort story." And the crowd eats it up.

But the Book calls them fools. Psalm 14:1: "*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*" A man who mocks God is a fool, no matter how many degrees he's got on the wall.

Point 2: The World's Comedy Routine

Turn on your TV. What passes for comedy today is filth. Sitcoms make adultery a punchline. Late-night hosts make fornication a joke. Movies turn blasphemy into entertainment.

The world laughs at what damns souls. They think hell is a swear word, not a reality. They think sin is seasoning, not poison. They think judgment is a fairy tale, not a fact.

But Luke 6:25 says, "*Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.*" If your joy comes from sin, your laughter is just nervous whistling in the graveyard.

Point 3: God's Laughter

Men forget that God laughs too—but not at the same things. Psalm 37:13 says, "*The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.*"

When the kings of the earth strut, when atheists rant, when Hollywood mocks, God laughs—not because He thinks it's funny, but because He knows payday is coming. He sees the end from the beginning. He knows every skeptic's smirk will freeze on their face when eternity hits.

Man's laughter is rebellion. God's laughter is retribution.

Point 4: Nobody Laughed in the Flood

Picture Noah's day. Genesis 6 says the world was full of violence and corruption. Noah preached righteousness for 120 years while building an ark. You know the crowds laughed. They mocked him as a fanatic, a conspiracy theorist, a lunatic building a boat in the desert.

But when the rain started to fall, the laughter stopped. When the waters rose, the mockers screamed. Nobody laughed when the door shut and the fountains of the deep broke up.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 5: Nobody Laughed in Sodom

Lot tried to warn his sons-in-law in Genesis 19, but the verse says, "*he seemed as one that mocked.*" They thought he was joking. They laughed at the idea of judgment.

But when the fire and brimstone fell, laughter died in their throats. The cities burned, the sinners screamed, and not a single smirk remained.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 6: Nobody Laughed in Egypt

Pharaoh laughed at Moses' warnings through plague after plague. He hardened his heart and mocked the God of Israel.

But Exodus 12 says there was a great cry in Egypt when the firstborn died. That night, no comedians were telling jokes. No scholars were mocking miracles. The skeptic's smirk was wiped clean.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 7: Nobody Laughed at the Cross

Matthew 27:39 says, "*they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads.*" The soldiers laughed, the priests mocked, the crowd sneered: "*He saved others; himself he cannot save.*"

They laughed at the bleeding, naked Son of God. They smirked as He hung on a tree. But three days later, when the stone rolled away and the tomb was empty, the laughter turned to terror. Matthew 28:4 says the guards shook and became as dead men.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 8: The Rich Man in Hell

Luke 16 paints the clearest picture. A rich man lived it up, dressed in purple, feasted daily. No doubt he laughed at preachers, mocked beggars, sneered at warnings.

But Jesus said, *"In hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments."* He begged for a drop of water. No laughter, no mocking—just weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Hell wipes the smirk off every skeptic.

Point 9: The Great White Throne

Revelation 20:11-15 shows the final payday. The dead stand before God, books are opened, and every sinner is judged. No excuses, no appeals, no laughter. *"Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

The comedians who joked about hell, the professors who mocked Scripture, the entertainers who laughed at sin—they'll all stand silent as the gavel drops.

Friend, you can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 10: The Christian's Reminder

Even believers ought to take warning. Don't join the world's laughter. Don't treat sin lightly. Don't smirk at holiness, mock the Bible, or shrug at judgment.

James 4:9 says, *"Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness."* Better to mourn now and rejoice forever than laugh now and weep forever.

Conclusion

This world is drunk on laughter. They laugh at sin, laugh at judgment, laugh at the cross, laugh at hell. But the Book is clear: laughter ends at the grave. The smirk dies in the fire. Judgment wipes every grin away.

So what will it be for you? Laugh now, weep forever—or repent now, rejoice forever. You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

You Can Laugh Now, But You Won't Laugh Then

Judgment Wipes the Smirk Off Every Skeptic

Introduction

We live in a world drunk on laughter. A world that mocks holiness, sneers at truth, and treats sin like a circus. You can hardly turn on a TV without hearing jokes about fornication, blasphemy, and perversion. Hollywood laughs. Washington laughs. Professors laugh. Even pulpits laugh.

But here's the warning straight from God's Book: you can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Judgment day is coming. Payday is someday. The skeptic's smirk will vanish like smoke in the wind when eternity kicks the door down. Proverbs 14:9 says, "*Fools make a mock at sin.*" And Psalm 2:4 says, "*He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.*" Man laughs at God now. But God will laugh last, and His laughter will thunder over the screams of men who thought it was a joke.

This sermon is for the proud atheist, the sneering comedian, the cocky professor, the smooth-tongued politician, and the lukewarm Christian who joins the world's laughter at holiness. Friend, you may laugh now—but you won't laugh then.

Point 1: The Smirk of the Skeptic

Every generation has had its mockers. Pharaoh sneered at Moses: "*Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice?*" (Ex. 5:2). Goliath laughed at David: "*Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?*" (1 Sam. 17:43). Jezebel painted her face and mocked Jehu from her window before her blood painted the street below.

Today's mockers stand in universities and sneer: "The Bible is a myth." They stand in Hollywood and laugh: "Hell is just a punchline." They stand in pulpits and smirk: "We don't preach judgment here—we're about positivity."

They mock the Bible, mock the blood, mock the Book, mock the cross, mock the church, mock the saints, and mock the Savior. But 2 Peter 3:3 warned: "*There shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts.*" Skepticism is not an intellectual position—it's a moral excuse to keep sinning.

Point 2: Comedy Clubs and Carnality

Turn on a Netflix special or go to a comedy club. What do you hear? Filthy mouths spewing filth. Adultery as a punchline. Fornication as a joke. God's name used in vain while the crowd howls with laughter.

The Bible says in Ephesians 5:4, "*Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.*" The world mocks this as "old-fashioned." They say, "Lighten up—it's just comedy."

Tell that to the rich man in Luke 16 when he begged for a drop of water. Tell that to the mockers outside Noah's ark when the rain began to fall. Tell that to the Sodomites when fire rained from heaven.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 3: God's Laughter

Men forget something: God laughs too.

Psalm 2:4: "*He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.*"

Psalm 37:13: "*The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.*"

God laughs at the atheist shaking his fist. God laughs at the politician writing God out of the Constitution. God laughs at the denominational committee voting hell out of their hymnbook. Not because it's funny, but because He knows their payday is coming. His laughter is not amusement—it's derision. It's the laughter of a Judge watching a criminal boast before the verdict drops.

Point 4: Nobody Laughed in Noah's Day

Noah preached righteousness for 120 years (2 Pet. 2:5). He built an ark when it had never rained. The crowds laughed. They mocked him as a fanatic, a fool, a conspiracy theorist.

But when the fountains of the deep broke up and the sky opened, laughter died. Mothers screamed. Fathers clawed at the ark. Children cried. But the door was shut. Nobody laughed when the water hit their chin.

Genesis 7:22: *“All in whose nostrils was the breath of life...died.”*

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 5: Nobody Laughed in Sodom

Lot tried to warn his sons-in-law in Genesis 19, but the Bible says, *“he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.”* They thought he was joking. They laughed at judgment.

But when fire and brimstone fell from heaven, laughter turned to screams. The smoke of the cities rose like a furnace. The smirk vanished in the flames.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 6: Nobody Laughed in Egypt

Pharaoh smirked through plague after plague. He hardened his heart and mocked Moses.

But in Exodus 12, the death angel passed. Verse 30: *“And there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.”*

That night, nobody laughed. Not a single skeptic smirked. The mockers wailed in the dark.

You can laugh now, but you won't laugh then.

Point 7: Nobody Laughed at the Cross

The soldiers laughed at Jesus. They mocked Him with a purple robe and crown of thorns. The priests sneered: *“He saved others; himself he cannot save”* (Matt. 27:42). The crowd jeered as He bled.

But three days later, when the tomb was empty and the angel said, *“He is risen,”* the laughter turned to terror. The guards shook with fear (Matt. 28:4).

Friend, laugh at Calvary all you want—but one day the risen Christ will wipe that grin off your face.

Point 8: The Rich Man's Laughter Died in Hell

Luke 16:19-31 tells us of a rich man who “fared sumptuously every day.” He probably laughed at Lazarus the beggar. He probably mocked sermons. He probably sneered at the thought of hell.

But verse 23 says, “*And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments.*” He begged for a drop of water. He cried for a missionary to warn his brothers. But it was too late.

The party ended. The laughter died. The fire burned.

Point 9: The Great White Throne

Revelation 20:11-15 paints the final courtroom. The dead, small and great, stand before God. The books open. The Judge sits. And every sinner gives account.

There's no laughter in that courtroom. No smirking professors. No joking comedians. No cocky atheists. The Bible says, “*whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*”

That's not comedy. That's eternity.

Point 10: The Christian's Warning

Even Christians need this reminder. Don't join the world's laughter at sin. Don't smirk at holiness. Don't mock the Bible, even with silence.

James 4:9: “*Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.*” Better to mourn now and laugh forever than laugh now and weep forever.

Point 11: Modern Examples of Mockery

Think about the French philosopher Voltaire. He said within 100 years of his death, the Bible would be extinct. A hundred years later, the Geneva Bible Society was printing Bibles in his house.

Think about Madalyn Murray O’Hair, the atheist who laughed at prayer in schools. She ended up murdered, her body buried in a shallow grave.

Think about Hollywood stars who mocked God and bragged about sin. How many overdosed? How many died young? How many are remembered for tragedy, not triumph?

God is not mocked. Payday is someday.

Point 12: The Final Mockery

Galatians 6:7 again: *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked.”* Man may mock God for a season, but God always has the last laugh. Judgment is the great equalizer. Kings and clowns, presidents and peasants, professors and comedians—they all stand naked before the Judge.

You can laugh now, but you won’t laugh then.

Conclusion

Friend, this world is one giant comedy club. They laugh at sin, laugh at judgment, laugh at hell, laugh at the cross, laugh at the Book, laugh at Christ.

But the Bible is clear: the laughter ends at the grave. The smirk dies in the fire. The giggle evaporates when the gavel falls.

So what will it be for you? Laugh now, weep forever—or repent now, rejoice forever? Because every smirk, every sneer, every laugh at holiness will one day be drowned out by weeping and gnashing of teeth.

You can laugh now, but you won’t laugh then.

Hell is Real, Whether You Believe It or Not

Truth Doesn’t Wait for Your Opinion

Introduction

We're living in an age where truth is treated like a buffet. People stroll through life with their little paper plates and pick what they like—"I'll take some heaven, a side of blessings, a little spirituality, but hold the hell, hold the judgment, hold the wrath." Modern man thinks truth bends to his preference, like the universe is a restaurant catering to his appetite.

But here's the blunt fact: truth doesn't wait for your opinion. Hell is real, whether you believe it or not.

It doesn't matter if you're a scholar with five PhDs, a Hollywood celebrity with millions of followers, or a backwoods drunk in a shack—your opinion about hell won't change one flicker of its flames. You can deny it, ignore it, laugh at it, soften it, philosophize it, or explain it away, but hell burns on regardless.

Jesus Christ preached on hell more than He did on heaven. The apostles warned about it. The prophets thundered about it. The martyrs believed it. The Book declares it. Hell is real. And truth doesn't wait for your opinion.

Point 1: The Authority of Truth

Truth doesn't depend on your feelings. Two plus two is four whether you cry about it or not. Gravity pulls you down whether you're an atheist or a believer. The sun will rise tomorrow whether you like it or not.

So it is with hell. Your feelings don't legislate reality. Psalm 119:89 says, "*For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*" When God says there's a hell, it's settled.

Modern man says, "I just can't believe a loving God would send people to hell." Well, the fact that you can't believe it doesn't erase it. Your disbelief doesn't alter God's Word. Romans 3:4 says, "*Yea, let God be true, but every man a liar.*"

Point 2: The Preaching of Jesus

If you reject hell, you reject Jesus Christ Himself. He preached it more than anybody.

- Matthew 10:28: "*Fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*"
- Matthew 25:41: "*Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.*"
- Mark 9:43-44: "*to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*"

- Luke 16:23: *“And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments.”*

You can't claim to follow Christ while denying hell. If hell is a myth, then Jesus Christ is a liar. And if He's a liar, He's not the Savior. Hell is woven into His message because Calvary only makes sense if there's something to be saved *from*.

Point 3: The Denial of the World

The world has a hundred ways to explain hell away.

- **Atheists** say it's a fairy tale.
- **Liberals** say it's symbolic.
- **Catholics** sell indulgences and invent purgatory to soften it.
- **Jehovah's Witnesses** claim the wicked just stop existing.
- **New Agers** call it negative energy.

But none of those denials make it vanish. You can deny cancer, but it'll still kill you. You can deny the police, but they'll still lock you up. You can deny hell, but it'll still open its mouth to meet you if you die without Christ.

Point 4: Hell is a Place of Fire

The Bible is crystal clear—hell is fire.

- Matthew 13:42: *“And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”*
- Revelation 20:15: *“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”*
- Luke 16:24: *“for I am tormented in this flame.”*

Not metaphorical fire. Not psychological fire. Not “bad feelings.” Real fire. The same God who made the sun, lava, lightning, and volcanoes tells you plainly: there is a place of fire awaiting the lost.

Point 5: Hell is Eternal

Hell isn't temporary. It's forever.

Revelation 14:11: *“the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night.”*

No parole. No escape. No appeals. No end. Every tick of the clock in eternity is another reminder that it will never stop ticking.

Modern preachers want to soften it. They say, “Hell is just separation from God.” Friend, separation from God *is* hell, but it's more than that—it's torment, fire, darkness, wailing, gnashing, and no rest forever.

Point 6: Hell is Conscious

The rich man in Luke 16 wasn't snoring in soul sleep. He was awake. He saw. He spoke. He remembered. He begged. He felt.

Hell is not annihilation. It's not non-existence. It's conscious torment. Every sense alive. Every memory intact. Every regret burning.

Point 7: Hell is for the Lost

Hell wasn't built for you originally. Matthew 25:41 says it was *“prepared for the devil and his angels.”* But if you reject Christ, you share the devil's fate.

John 3:36 says, *“He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”*

Hell is for Christ-rejecters. Hell is for sin-lovers. Hell is for scoffers, mockers, hypocrites, liars, thieves, fornicators, adulterers, and unbelievers. Revelation 21:8 spells it out: *“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone.”*

That's not my list—that's God's.

Point 8: Why People Hate Hell

Why do people hate this doctrine so much? Because hell strips away their excuses.

- It means sin is serious.

- It means judgment is certain.
- It means God is holy.
- It means you can't coast through life and expect heaven by default.

Hell destroys the lie that man is basically good. Hell destroys the lie that all religions are equal. Hell destroys the lie that death is the end.

Point 9: The Silence of the Pulpits

The tragedy is that hell has disappeared from pulpits. Hirelings won't preach it. Mega-church pastors dodge it. Professors redefine it. But Jesus preached it, Paul preached it, Peter preached it, and John preached it.

If you leave hell out of your preaching, you leave out half the gospel. Because if there's no hell, there's no urgency. If there's no hell, there's no cross. If there's no hell, there's no reason for Jesus Christ to suffer and die.

A gospel without hell is a toothless gospel. It's a fraud.

Point 10: Hell is the Wages of Sin

Romans 6:23: *"For the wages of sin is death."* That's payday. You earn hell with every lie, every lust, every theft, every blasphemy. God doesn't send people to hell against their will—they earn it. It's wages. It's what you've worked for your whole life.

But the verse doesn't stop there: *"but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* Hell is wages. Heaven is a gift. Pick your paycheck.

Point 11: The Excuses Won't Work

On judgment day, men will try to plead their case. "I was religious." "I was spiritual." "I was sincere." "I didn't believe in hell."

But truth doesn't wait for your opinion. If you jump off a building, gravity doesn't care if you believe in it. If you die without Christ, hell doesn't care about your philosophy.

Matthew 7:22 says, *"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name?"* And He will say, *"I never knew you: depart from me."* Excuses won't stand.

Point 12: Hell and the Cross

Calvary only makes sense when you understand hell. Why was Jesus in agony? Why did He cry, *“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”* (Matt. 27:46). Because He was taking your hell on Himself.

The cross is hell condensed into six hours. The wrath of God poured without mixture onto His Son. The fire of judgment concentrated into one sacrifice.

If you deny hell, you gut the cross. You erase the gospel. You turn the crucifixion into a pointless tragedy instead of the greatest act of love the universe has ever seen.

Point 13: Hell is Avoidable

Here’s the hope: you don’t have to go. Hell is real, but it’s avoidable. John 3:16: *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

Hell is the default. Heaven is the escape. Christ is the way out. You don’t get out by works, by rituals, by sacraments, by sincerity. You get out by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

Hell is not a joke. It’s not a myth. It’s not a metaphor. It’s not a scare tactic. It’s not a fable. It’s a fact.

You may laugh at it, deny it, soften it, or explain it away—but hell doesn’t care. Truth doesn’t wait for your opinion.

Hell is real, whether you believe it or not.

So the question is simple: Will you face it, or will you flee it? Will you carry your wages, or will you take the gift? Because one second after death, your opinion won’t matter. The flames will.

Hell is real. And if you don’t want to wake up in its fire, you’d better run to the cross now—because the truth isn’t waiting on you.

The Last Stop on the Broad Road

A Dead End Called Hell

Introduction

Jesus Christ didn't stutter in Matthew 7:13–14: *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”*

There are only two roads. One is narrow, one is broad. One leads to life, the other to destruction. The narrow is unpopular. The broad is crowded. The narrow is despised. The broad is applauded. The narrow is hard. The broad is easy.

But here's the truth that most pulpits won't thunder anymore: the broad road always ends at the same dead-end sign, and that sign reads: HELL.

Hell isn't a detour. It isn't an optional exit. It isn't a scenic overlook. It's the terminus. The final station. The last stop on the broad road.

You can laugh at it. You can deny it. You can philosophize it. You can soften it. You can rewrite it in your modern versions. But hell still burns on at the end of the broad way.

This message is a warning, a siren, a red flare fired into the night sky: don't stay on the broad road. Don't keep walking with the crowd. Don't ignore the narrow gate. Because one heartbeat past death, you'll find out where your road really leads.

Point 1: The Broad Road is Popular

Jesus said, *“many there be which go in thereat.”* The broad road is always crowded. It's the highway of humanity. It's got billions of travelers.

Why is it so popular?

- Because it caters to the flesh. No restrictions, no rules, no repentance, no cross.
- Because it flatters the ego. You can be religious, spiritual, and self-righteous without being born again.
- Because it promises fun. Parties, pleasures, profits.

The broad road is a parade—and parades always draw crowds. It's lined with neon lights, dancing, drinking, and music. But the partygoers don't notice the cliff at the end.

Point 2: The Narrow Road is Unpopular

Few there be that find it. Why? Because it requires humility. It requires repentance. It requires faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

The narrow way doesn't stroke your pride. It crucifies it. It doesn't exalt man's wisdom. It throws it in the trash heap. It doesn't let you carry baggage. You can't drag your sins, your idols, your self-righteousness through the narrow gate. You come with nothing but faith.

That's why the world despises it. They'd rather march shoulder-to-shoulder on the broad way with the majority than walk lonely steps on the narrow with Christ.

Point 3: The Broad Road has Many Lanes

Don't miss this: the broad road has religion lanes, atheism lanes, philosophy lanes, and entertainment lanes.

- The **religious lane** is packed with Catholics, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists—all sincere, all zealous, but all lost. Religion without the blood is just another lane to hell.
- The **atheist lane** is crowded with skeptics, professors, scientists, mockers, comedians. They boast, "There is no God," but Psalm 14:1 brands them fools.
- The **moral lane** is full of "good people" trusting in their decency, their charity, their honesty. But Isaiah 64:6 says, "*all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.*"
- The **pleasure lane** is jammed with the party crowd. Drunks, drug addicts, fornicators, gamblers, materialists—all chasing thrills.

Different lanes, same highway. Same destination. Hell.

Point 4: The Road is Broad Because It's Easy

Jesus said the broad road is wide. No rules. No repentance. No narrow restrictions. You just do what comes naturally—follow your lusts, trust your feelings, lean on your intellect, live for today.

That's why Proverbs 14:12 says, *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."*

The broad way seems right because it feels good. It seems fair because it fits man's logic. It seems fun because it strokes man's flesh. But every step forward is a step closer to the pit.

Point 5: The Devil is the Traffic Cop

Don't think the broad road is leaderless. The devil runs it. He's the traffic cop at every intersection, waving billions through the green light toward destruction.

2 Corinthians 4:4 calls him *"the god of this world"* who blinds the minds of unbelievers. Ephesians 2:2 calls him *"the prince of the power of the air"* who works in the children of disobedience.

Satan isn't trying to get you to be "evil." He doesn't care if you're religious, moral, successful, kind, educated—just as long as you stay on the broad road. He doesn't mind if you're in the fast lane of wickedness or the slow lane of morality. As long as you don't turn off at the narrow gate, he's satisfied.

Point 6: Hell is the Destination

Don't miss it. The broad road has one terminus: *"destruction."* That destruction isn't annihilation. It isn't ceasing to exist. It's hell.

Luke 16:23: *"And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments."*

Revelation 20:15: *"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

The last stop on the broad road is not heaven, not purgatory, not reincarnation, not oblivion. It's a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Point 7: Hell is a Place of Fire

The Bible doesn't mince words.

- *"furnace of fire"* (Matt. 13:42)
- *"everlasting fire"* (Matt. 25:41)

- *“tormented in this flame”* (Luke 16:24)
- *“lake of fire”* (Rev. 20:14)

Modern preachers want to make hell “separation from God.” Friend, separation is part of it, but the Book says fire. Flames. Torment. No metaphor. No figure of speech. Literal, physical, eternal fire.

Point 8: Hell is a Place of Memory

Abraham told the rich man in Luke 16:25: *“Son, remember.”* Memory is hell’s whip. You’ll remember every sermon you ignored, every tract you trashed, every prayer you rejected, every time the Spirit tugged at your heart and you said “not now.”

Hell is not just torment of the body, but torment of the mind. Your sins replayed. Your opportunities recalled. Your excuses mocked by your own conscience.

Point 9: Hell is a Place of No Exit

Hell has no emergency exits, no parole, no second chances. Revelation 14:11 says, *“They have no rest day nor night.”*

You won’t cry your way out. You won’t pray your way out. You won’t pay your way out. Once you arrive, you stay forever. The broad road is a one-way street with no U-turns.

Point 10: The Great White Throne

Revelation 20:11-15 shows the final judgment. Every traveler on the broad road will stand before Christ. The books will be opened. Every sin recorded. Every secret exposed.

No jokes, no excuses, no appeals. Just judgment. Then the lake of fire. The broad road empties straight into that courtroom and out into eternity.

Point 11: The Narrow Gate is Open

Here’s the good news. The broad road leads to hell, but the narrow gate still stands open. Jesus said in John 10:9, *“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved.”*

The narrow road isn't popular, but it's safe. It's not easy, but it's secure. It's not crowded, but it's worth it. Christ Himself is the gate, the way, the truth, the life.

Point 12: The Urgency of the Choice

Every heartbeat moves you farther down one road or the other. If you're lost, every second is another step closer to hell's gate. You don't know when your road ends.

James 4:14 says, *"For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."*

Don't wait. Don't gamble. Don't assume. The broad road looks safe until it isn't.

Conclusion

The broad road is crowded, easy, and fun—but it ends in hell. The narrow road is hard, lonely, and despised—but it ends in life.

Friend, the last stop on the broad road is not what the world promises. It isn't glory. It isn't peace. It isn't pleasure. It's fire. It's torment. It's darkness. It's hell.

Hell is the dead end of the broad way.

So get off it now. Exit at Calvary. Enter the narrow gate. Walk the narrow way. Because once you take that last step into eternity, there's no turning back.

The broad way ends in hell. And hell is forever.

The Smoke Never Clears

Eternal Means Eternal

Introduction

One of the greatest lies the devil ever whispered into the ears of men is this: "It won't last forever." Men like to minimize, rationalize, and sanitize the judgment of God. Cults peddle the doctrine of annihilation—that sinners just *poof* into nothingness. Liberals soothe consciences by saying hell is "just separation" or "just a metaphor." Even some preachers

with a Bible under their arm dare to water down the hottest subject Jesus Christ Himself ever preached: eternal fire.

But here's the raw truth—straight out of God's Book: the smoke never clears. Eternal means eternal.

Revelation 14:11 doesn't stutter: *"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night."* That's not figurative, that's not symbolic, that's not temporary—that's eternal.

If you don't like it, tough. If it offends you, too bad. The Book says eternal. Not until, not for a season, not for an age. Eternal. Forever. Without end.

So tonight we're going to preach on this subject—*The Smoke Never Clears*.

Point 1: The Bible's Authority on Eternity

Psalms 119:89: *"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."* When God says eternal, it's not up for committee vote. It's not a figure of speech. It's not a preacher's flourish. It's the final word from the eternal God.

Man's problem is not that he can't understand eternity—it's that he doesn't want to. If eternal punishment is true, then sin is worse than he thought, God is holier than he admits, and the cross is more necessary than he wants to face.

Romans 3:4 settles it: *"Let God be true, but every man a liar."* Eternal punishment is not an opinion. It's not up for debate. It's a fact.

Point 2: Jesus Preached Eternal Fire

If you deny eternal punishment, you're calling Jesus Christ a liar.

- Matthew 25:46: *"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."* Notice the parallel—if heaven is eternal, so is hell. If the saved enjoy eternity, so do the damned. You can't make one temporary without gutting the other.
- Mark 9:43-48: *"Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."* Jesus repeats it three times for the hard of hearing. Not quenched. Never quenched.

- Luke 16: The rich man didn't get annihilated. He lifted up his eyes being in torments. He begged for relief. He remembered his brothers. That wasn't a vapor dream—it was eternal torment.

Any preacher who softens hell into a metaphor or shortens it into a sentence is spitting in Christ's face.

Point 3: The Smoke Testifies to Eternity

Revelation 14:11 says the smoke of their torment rises *forever and ever*. Why mention smoke? Because smoke lingers. Smoke testifies to fire. Smoke is the evidence that something is still burning.

Every puff of smoke in eternity will be a reminder: it's not over, it's never over, it will never be over. You say, "That sounds horrible." Yes. That's the point. Hell is not supposed to be comfortable—it's supposed to be terrible.

Point 4: The Smoke Never Clears Because Sin Never Stops

Think about it. Sin is rebellion against an eternal God. Every sin is a slap at His holiness. That means the punishment must match the crime. Temporal sin against temporal man can be paid. But sin against eternal God requires eternal payment.

Hell never ends because rebellion never ends. The sinner in hell doesn't repent; he blasphemes. He doesn't worship; he curses. He doesn't love; he hates. The fire doesn't cleanse them into saints—it locks them into eternal rebellion.

Revelation 22:11: "*He that is unjust, let him be unjust still.*"

Point 5: Cults Hate Eternal

Jehovah's Witnesses deny it. Seventh Day Adventists water it down. Universalists erase it. Catholics invent purgatory to dodge it. Liberals explain it away. Why? Because eternal punishment doesn't sell. It's not marketable. It doesn't pack pews.

But whether you deny it or not, hell burns on. You can rename it, rebrand it, or rewrite it, but you can't remove it. The smoke never clears.

Point 6: Eternal Fire in the Old Testament

Don't think eternal punishment is just a New Testament thing.

- Isaiah 33:14: *“The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?”*
- Daniel 12:2: *“Some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”*

Everlasting, everlasting, everlasting.

Point 7: Eternal Fire in the New Testament

The New Testament echoes the same truth:

- Jude 1:7: *“Even as Sodom and Gomorrha...are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”*
- 2 Thessalonians 1:9: *“Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord.”*
- Revelation 20:10: *“And the devil...shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”*

How many times does God have to say it before men will believe it?

Point 8: The Smoke Never Clears for the Devil

Don't miss this. Revelation 20:10 says the devil, the beast, and the false prophet are tormented day and night forever and ever. That means hell doesn't empty out. The fire doesn't burn down. The smoke never clears.

If the devil burns forever, so do his followers.

Point 9: The Smoke Never Clears for the Lost

You, sinner, if you die without Christ, will spend eternity in the flames. You won't get a time limit. You won't get a parole date. You won't get a break.

The rich man begged for a drop of water. A single drop. And he was denied. If you think that's cruel, take it up with God. But it's in the Book. Hell is forever.

Point 10: The Smoke Never Clears Because Eternal Means Eternal

The Greek word for eternal (aionios) is used for both heaven and hell. If you say hell is temporary, then so is heaven. If everlasting life means forever, then everlasting punishment means forever. You can't redefine one without wrecking the other.

If eternal doesn't mean eternal, then John 3:16 is a lie.

Point 11: Modern Scoffers

Today's scoffers laugh at hell. They say, "We live in a modern age. We've outgrown hellfire preaching." But Psalm 119:160 says, "*Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*"

Truth doesn't have an expiration date. Eternity doesn't change because man thinks he's enlightened. Hell burns on. The smoke never clears.

Point 12: Hell's Smoke vs. Heaven's Glory

Revelation 22 shows the New Jerusalem: no tears, no death, no sorrow, no pain. Eternal joy, eternal light, eternal life.

But across eternity's gulf, Revelation 14:11 shows hell's smoke. Eternal torment, eternal darkness, eternal fire.

Two eternities. Two destinations. Two opposites. One choice.

Point 13: The Cross Was Eternal Payment

Why was Calvary so bloody, so brutal, so dark? Because Jesus Christ bore eternal punishment in six hours.

He who was eternal life took eternal death. He who knew no sin became sin. The cross was hell compressed into time. That's why He cried, "*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*"

Christ took your eternity so you wouldn't have to. If you reject Him, you'll face your own eternity in flames.

Point 14: Eternal Warning

Why preach on this? Because eternal punishment demands eternal warning. If hell is forever, then every sermon, every tract, every plea, every cry is worth it.

Spurgeon once said, "If sinners be damned, let them leap to hell over our bodies. Let not one go unwarned and unprayed for."

Point 15: Eternal Decision

Here it is, plain and simple. Eternal life or eternal death. Eternal joy or eternal torment. Eternal light or eternal smoke.

Hell is real. Eternal is eternal. The smoke never clears.

Conclusion

Men laugh at hell. Preachers avoid it. Scholars deny it. Cults soften it. But hell burns on. Eternal means eternal. The smoke never clears.

If you're lost, run to Christ now. Don't gamble on eternity. Don't let the devil's lie soothe you into hell. The smoke will never clear, the fire will never quench, the torment will never end.

The only hope, the only way of escape, the only door out is Jesus Christ. Trust Him now—or face eternity where the smoke never clears.

When Christians Go AWOL

Missing Soldiers in God's Army

Introduction

The Bible doesn't mince words—if you're saved, you're in a fight. You're not in a flower garden, you're not on a cruise ship, you're not strolling through a museum—you're in a war zone. Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:3, *“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”*

God didn't save you to sit. He didn't redeem you to relax. He didn't enlist you to entertain yourself. He saved you to soldier. To fight. To endure hardness. To stand against the world, the flesh, and the devil.

But in this Laodicean age, the church is full of deserters. Soldiers gone AWOL. Men and women who once carried their rifle for Christ but have dropped it for comfort, for sin, for fear, or for sheer laziness. Churches are half-empty not because there aren't enough recruits, but because half the army went missing in action.

This sermon is a call to arms—a reminder that the battle rages, the Commander watches, and the Judge keeps record. When Christians go AWOL, the lines weaken, the banner droops, and souls die without the gospel.

Point 1: The Call to Arms

When you got saved, you got drafted. You didn't sign up for a club, you enlisted in a war. Ephesians 6:12 says, *“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”*

This is not a pillow fight. It's not a hobby. It's a war against unseen enemies. And it takes armor, grit, and loyalty to Christ.

Paul told Timothy, *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier”* (2 Tim. 2:4). The problem today? Christians are tangled up in Netflix, TikTok, politics, hobbies, sports, careers—anything and everything except the fight for souls.

Point 2: AWOL Defined

What does it mean to go AWOL? In the military, it means Absent Without Leave. You left your post. You abandoned your duty. You deserted your Commander.

Spiritually, AWOL Christians are those who:

- Quit church because someone hurt their feelings.

- Stop witnessing because they're "too busy."
- Drop Bible reading because it's "too hard."
- Stop praying because "it doesn't seem to work."
- Compromise with the world because it's easier.

They're absent without leave. God never gave them permission to leave their post.

Point 3: Bible Examples of AWOL Soldiers

The Bible is full of men who went AWOL.

- **Demas** (2 Tim. 4:10): Paul said, "*Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world.*" Demas was once a fellow laborer, but he dropped his rifle for the bright lights of Thessalonica.
- **Saul** (1 Sam. 15): The king called to fight for God but spared what God told him to destroy. He went AWOL through disobedience.
- **Jonah**: God said, "Go to Nineveh." Jonah bought a ticket to Tarshish. AWOL prophet.
- **Peter**: Bold at supper, but warming himself by the world's fire, denying Christ three times before the cock crowed.

Each case shows what happens when soldiers abandon their posts—loss, shame, and judgment.

Point 4: Modern AWOL Christians

This age is full of them.

- Christians who spend more time scrolling than soul-winning.
- Christians who memorize sports stats but can't quote Scripture.
- Christians who show up for work but skip prayer meeting.
- Christians who defend their favorite politician more than they defend the gospel.

They're deserters. Missing soldiers. The devil doesn't even have to shoot them—they laid their guns down themselves.

Point 5: Why Soldiers Go AWOL

What makes a Christian abandon the fight?

1. **Fear** – Fear of persecution, rejection, ridicule. Pilate feared the crowd more than he feared Christ. Many today fear being “canceled” more than being judged.
2. **Fatigue** – Some get tired of the battle. They want ease, not endurance. Elijah sat under a juniper tree and begged to die.
3. **Flesh** – Lust, greed, comfort pull Christians away. Demas left for the love of the world.
4. **Failure** – Some fall into sin, then quit altogether. Peter wept bitterly, but thank God, he returned.
5. **Forgetfulness** – Christians forget their Commander. They forget the cross. They forget eternity.

Point 6: The Cost of Desertion

In war, deserters are court-martialed, sometimes shot. Spiritually, AWOL Christians lose rewards, crowns, testimony, and effectiveness.

1 Corinthians 3:15 says, *“If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.”* Saved—but as a deserter. Saved—but stripped of medals. Saved—but ashamed at the Judgment Seat.

Point 7: The Commander’s Expectation

Jesus Christ is not a soft Commander. He said in Luke 9:62: *“No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”*

He doesn’t coddle deserters. He doesn’t excuse traitors. He expects loyalty, faithfulness, endurance. Revelation 2:10 says, *“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”*

When Christ returns, He doesn’t want to find His soldiers hiding in the barracks—He wants them standing at their posts, rifles in hand, battle-worn but faithful.

Point 8: The Battlefield Today

Look around. The fight is fiercer than ever.

- The devil has his propaganda machine blasting 24/7 through media.
- Schools pump evolution, gender confusion, and atheism into children.
- Politicians pass laws against holiness and call evil “good.”
- Churches are drifting into compromise, entertainment, and apostasy.

This is no time to go AWOL. This is no time to drop your rifle. The lines are thin, the troops are weary, and reinforcements are few. Every soldier matters.

Point 9: The Armor of God

God didn't send you naked to the fight. Ephesians 6 lists the armor:

- Belt of truth.
- Breastplate of righteousness.
- Shoes of the gospel.
- Shield of faith.
- Helmet of salvation.
- Sword of the Spirit.

But armor only works if you wear it. Many Christians leave their armor in the closet while they play with the world. Then they wonder why they're wounded.

AWOL Christians are armorless Christians.

Point 10: The Need for Endurance

A soldier doesn't quit after the first bullet. He doesn't run home after one hard march. He endures.

Hebrews 12:3 says, *“Consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”*

You will be mocked. You will be resisted. You will be attacked. But endurance proves loyalty. AWOL soldiers quit at the first hardship. Faithful soldiers fight on.

Point 11: God's Record-Keeping

Don't think desertion goes unnoticed. Malachi 3:16 says God has a book of remembrance. Revelation 20:12 says books will be opened. 2 Corinthians 5:10 says every believer will appear before the judgment seat of Christ.

God knows every soldier. He knows who stood and who deserted. He knows who prayed and who played. He knows who preached and who pouted. The record is kept, and payday is someday.

Point 12: The Shame of AWOL

Picture it—the Judgment Seat of Christ. Soldiers lined up before their Commander. Some receive crowns, medals, rewards. Others hang their heads in shame.

1 John 2:28: *“And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.”*

Shame. Regret. Embarrassment. All because they went AWOL.

Point 13: The Opportunity to Return

But hear me—going AWOL doesn't have to be the end. Peter denied Christ, but he came back stronger. John Mark quit, but later became profitable for the ministry.

If you've gone AWOL, repent. Return. Re-enlist. The Commander will restore you if you humble yourself. Proverbs 24:16: *“For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again.”*

Point 14: The Reward for Faithfulness

Faithful soldiers won't regret it. Paul said in 2 Timothy 4:7-8: *“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness.”*

Every hour you pray, every tract you hand out, every insult you bear, every hardship you endure—Christ records it. Crowns await. Rewards await. Honor awaits.

Point 15: The Final Call

Friend, the trumpet is about to sound. The Commander is about to return. The battle is nearly over. This is no time to go AWOL. This is no time to hide in the barracks. This is no time to lay down your rifle.

Man up. Armor up. Stand up. Fight on.

When Christians go AWOL, the church suffers, the cause suffers, the lost perish. Don't be one of them. Be found faithful.

Conclusion

The Christian life is war. Not ease, not leisure, not luxury. War. Christ is the Captain. Satan is the enemy. Souls are the stakes.

When Christians go AWOL, hell cheers, heaven grieves, and the world mocks. But when Christians endure, when they stand, when they fight, heaven applauds and Christ says, *“Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”*

Don't go AWOL. Don't desert your post. Don't abandon your Commander. Stand in the ranks, shoulder your rifle, and fight until the trumpet sounds.

Because one day, the roll call will be taken in glory. Will you be present—or absent without leave?

Prayerless, Powerless, Pathetic

The State of the Modern Saint

Introduction

Brethren, let me put it plain: the modern church is in shambles not because God changed, not because the Bible lost its power, not because the devil suddenly got stronger—but because God's people stopped praying. Period.

Prayer is the lifeline, the oxygen, the supply line of the Christian soldier. Without it, you choke. Without it, you faint. Without it, you cave in to every temptation and compromise with every devil. The modern saint is powerless because he is prayerless, and because he

is powerless, he is pathetic—useless in the fight, weak in the battle, and a disgrace to the name of Jesus Christ.

We've got Christians today who can argue theology, split hairs over Greek tenses, debate over Calvinism vs. Arminianism, quote podcasts, and retweet memes—but can't pray for ten minutes straight without dozing off or checking their phone. And then they wonder why they're as spiritually dry as a popcorn fart in a desert windstorm.

This sermon is going to rip the lid off the problem and expose it. The modern saint is prayerless, powerless, and pathetic—and unless God's people get back on their knees, the Laodicean church will keep sliding deeper into vomit until Christ spews it out (Rev. 3:16).

Point 1: Prayer is the Christian's Breath

Job 27:10 asks, *"Will he always call upon God?"* That's the test of a real saint. You don't breathe once a week. You don't inhale for five seconds and expect to live the next seven days. Yet that's how Christians treat prayer.

Prayer isn't some dusty ritual—it's spiritual breathing. Stop breathing, you die. Stop praying, you die spiritually.

Daniel prayed three times a day with his windows open toward Jerusalem (Dan. 6:10). The psalmist said, *"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice"* (Ps. 55:17). Paul said, *"Pray without ceasing"* (1 Thess. 5:17).

But the modern saint? He prays only when the car engine won't start, when the doctor calls with bad news, or when he's about to eat a Big Mac. That ain't prayer—that's emergency insurance.

Point 2: Prayerlessness Produces Powerlessness

Look at Acts 4:31: *"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."*

What shook? The building. What changed? The men. What followed? Boldness. What preceded it? Prayer.

Prayerless Christians don't shake anything but their own knees. They can't shake a feather, let alone a city. No prayer, no power. Plenty of programs, plenty of promotions, plenty of praise bands, but no power.

The devil isn't afraid of smoke machines, guitars, or seminaries. He trembles when a saint bends his knee and gets hold of heaven. James 5:16: *"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."*

You want to know why the modern pulpit is as dry as a Texas windmill in July? Because preachers spend more time in PowerPoint than on their knees. Prayerless pulpits breed powerless preaching, and powerless preaching breeds pathetic Christians.

Point 3: Pathetic Saints in a Powerful World

This world is charging full steam ahead—AI idols, perverted entertainment, government tyranny, sodomite parades, child mutilation—and where's the church? Singing kumbaya in skinny jeans, sipping lattes in a "worship experience."

The devil mocks because he knows the saints don't pray. A prayerless saint is like a soldier with a gun but no bullets. He's got the equipment—Bible in hand—but no firepower.

Acts 19 shows what happens when powerless Christians try to tackle devils. The seven sons of Sceva thought they could cast out demons without prayer, without power, without Christ. The devil beat them bloody and stripped them naked. That's today's church—beaten, stripped, humiliated—because it's prayerless.

Point 4: Excuses for Prayerlessness

The modern saint has a PhD in excuses:

- **"I don't have time."** You've got time to scroll for two hours. You've got time to binge-watch garbage. You've got time for sports, hobbies, and gossip. You've got time—you just don't have priority.
- **"I don't know what to say."** The psalms are full of prayers. Christ gave the Lord's Prayer as a model. Romans 8 says the Spirit intercedes. You don't have to be eloquent—you just have to be honest.
- **"It doesn't work."** Prayer isn't Amazon Prime. God doesn't deliver in two days. Prayer is persistence, patience, perseverance. Elijah prayed seven times before the rain fell (1 Kings 18).
- **"God already knows."** Yes, He does. He knew Adam sinned before Adam confessed, but He still asked, *"Where art thou?"* Prayer is not informing God; it's transforming you.

Prayerlessness has no legitimate excuse. It's spiritual laziness dressed up in flimsy rationalizations.

Point 5: Prayer Produces Boldness

Look at Acts 4:13. The Sanhedrin marveled at Peter and John's boldness because they had been with Jesus. Where do you "be with Jesus" now? On your knees.

A prayerless Christian is a coward. He won't witness, won't stand, won't speak. But a prayer-filled Christian fears God more than man and speaks truth even if it costs him his head.

The martyrs of church history didn't die with trembling lips because they were prayerless—they died singing hymns because they were saturated in prayer. Prayer steels your spine.

Point 6: Prayer Produces Holiness

You can't kneel before God long without seeing your filth. Isaiah saw the Lord high and lifted up, and what was his reaction? "*Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips*" (Isa. 6:5).

Prayer burns out hypocrisy. Prayer drags skeletons out of closets. Prayer convicts and cleanses. That's why prayerless saints love entertainment more than holiness—because prayer would expose their filth.

Point 7: Prayer Produces Revival

No revival in history came without prayer.

- Pentecost: prayer meeting in the upper room.
- Great Awakening: Jonathan Edwards and others on their knees.
- Welsh Revival: men and women praying all night.

You can have flashy programs, dynamic choirs, massive buildings—but without prayer, you'll never see revival. Prayer plows the ground, waters the seed, and calls down the fire.

Point 8: Prayerless Homes

It's not just the church. The Christian home is prayerless. Family altars have turned into Netflix marathons. Supper prayers are mumbled clichés. Parents don't pray with their kids. Husbands don't pray with their wives. And then they wonder why their homes collapse.

A prayerless home will breed worldly children faster than a TikTok feed. Train up a child in the way he should go includes showing him how to get on his knees.

Point 9: Prayerless Preachers

The curse of this age is prayerless preachers. Sermons polished, outlines neat, voices trained, illustrations clever—but no prayer. No tears. No power.

E.M. Bounds said, "Talking to men for God is a great thing, but talking to God for men is greater still." That's the missing ingredient in pulpits today. We need less polish and more prayer, less show and more supplication, less charm and more crying aloud to God.

Point 10: The Devil Fears Prayer

Satan doesn't fear your talent. He doesn't fear your education. He doesn't fear your debating skills. He fears a saint on his knees.

Why do you think prayer meetings are the least attended service in most churches? The devil will let you run concerts, carnivals, and cookouts. But a prayer meeting—he'll fight tooth and nail. Because prayer touches heaven, and heaven shakes hell.

Point 11: God's Rebuke to the Prayerless

Jeremiah 10:21 says, "*For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.*" That's today's scene—scatter-brained pastors, scattered flocks, because they don't seek the Lord.

Isaiah 64:7: "*And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee.*" That verse could be stamped over the door of half the churches in America. Nobody calls, nobody stirs himself, nobody prays.

Point 12: The Cure for Pathetic Saints

So what's the cure?

1. **Repent of prayerlessness.** Call it sin. Not weakness, not oversight—sin.
2. **Discipline yourself.** Set times for prayer—morning, noon, evening. Treat it like oxygen.
3. **Pray Scripture.** Use psalms, promises, and petitions from the Word.
4. **Pray specifically.** Don't mumble vague fluff—pray for people, problems, and power.
5. **Pray persistently.** Keep knocking. Keep asking. Keep seeking. God honors persistence.

Point 13: The Judgment of the Prayerless

At the Judgment Seat of Christ, how many crowns will be lost because of prayerlessness? How many souls could have been won if someone had prayed? How many sermons would have had power if preachers had prayed? How many children could have been spared the world's snares if parents had prayed?

Ezekiel 22:30 says, *“And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.”* Will God say that of you?

Point 14: A Call to Prayer

Brethren, the state of the modern saint is pathetic because it is prayerless. If you want power, if you want holiness, if you want revival—you'll find it only on your knees.

Stop excusing. Stop delaying. Stop pretending. Start praying.

Get alone with God. Shut the door. Fall on your face. Pour out your soul. Beg Him for power. Beg Him for mercy. Beg Him for revival.

Conclusion

Prayerless. Powerless. Pathetic. That's the modern saint. But it doesn't have to be you. You can change it today. You can return to your knees. You can seek God and find His power again.

The church doesn't need more clever programs, slick productions, or fancy preachers. It needs saints who will pray until the heavens shake.

The devil laughs at your weakness, but he trembles at your prayers. Don't go down in history as another prayerless, powerless, pathetic Christian. Be one who knew how to pray and therefore knew how to stand.

Compromise is Just Backsliding in Slow Motion

Sin with a Smile

Introduction

The devil doesn't always come at you with a pitchfork, horns, and sulfur. Sometimes he comes in a three-piece suit, with a handshake and a smile, whispering one word: *compromise*.

Compromise is hell's halfway house. It's sin in installments. It's backsliding with brakes on. You don't see the cliff yet, but you're already sliding toward it. Nobody wakes up one morning and decides, "Today I'll destroy my testimony, ruin my family, and trash my ministry." No—what happens is compromise. Little steps. Small concessions. A little sin tolerated here, a little truth diluted there, a little holiness traded for a little comfort.

And all the while, the compromiser says, "I'm not really backsliding—I'm just adjusting, I'm just being balanced, I'm just keeping peace." But the Bible pulls no punches. James 4:4 says, "*Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*"

Compromise is not balance—it's betrayal. It's not wisdom—it's weakness. It's not strategy—it's sin. And make no mistake, compromise is just backsliding in slow motion.

Point 1: Compromise Started in the Garden

Eve didn't jump headlong into rebellion. She compromised. She listened to the serpent. She softened God's command. She rationalized. The serpent said, "*Yea, hath God said?*" and she said, "Well... maybe not exactly." That little compromise opened the floodgates of sin and death on the entire human race.

Satan didn't demand she worship him. He just asked her to tweak God's Word. A small compromise led to colossal ruin.

Point 2: Israel's History is Compromise

Read the Old Testament—it's one long tragedy of compromise.

- God said, "Wipe out the Canaanites." Israel compromised—they let them live, taxed them, intermarried with them. Result? Idolatry, captivity, ruin.
- God said, "Don't have a king." Israel compromised—they demanded one anyway. Saul was their compromise candidate—head and shoulders tall, popular with the people, and a disaster from start to finish.
- God said, "Serve Me only." Israel compromised—built groves, bowed to Baal, worshiped Molech.

Every captivity, every defeat, every heartbreak of Israel came from compromise. They didn't throw away the law all at once. They just chipped away at it, piece by piece, until they were bowing down to golden calves and offering their children to the fire.

Point 3: The Devil Loves Halfway Saints

The devil doesn't need to turn you into a card-carrying atheist. He just needs you lukewarm, half-hearted, compromised.

Revelation 3:15-16: *"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."*

The Laodicean church isn't full of murderers and blasphemers—it's full of compromisers. Christians who don't want to look too fanatical, don't want to be too holy, don't want to be too separate. They still carry a Bible, but not a King James. They still preach salvation, but leave out repentance. They still sing about Jesus, but set it to the world's music. They still talk about truth, but avoid offending anyone.

That's compromise. And that's why the church is nauseating to God.

Point 4: Compromise is Sin with a Smile

Compromise looks polite. It looks respectable. It doesn't scream rebellion; it just shrugs and says, "Why fight? Why not just get along?"

That's why compromisers fill pulpits. They smile, they flatter, they tell jokes, they promise peace, but they never preach hell, judgment, separation, holiness. They sin with a smile, backslide in slow motion, and drag their congregations with them.

Jeremiah 6:14: *"They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace."* That's the compromiser—smiling, soothing, sinning.

Point 5: Bible Examples of Compromise

- **Lot** – He pitched his tent toward Sodom. Just a little compromise in direction, but it ended with him drunk in a cave committing incest with his daughters.
- **Samson** – He toyed with sin. A joke here, a secret there, a compromise with Delilah. Before long, his hair was gone, his eyes were gouged out, and he was grinding at a Philistine mill.
- **Saul** – He spared King Agag and the best of the sheep. Just a little compromise. God said, "Obedience is better than sacrifice." Saul lost his crown.
- **Peter** – He followed afar off. Just a little distance, a little compromise. Before the night was over, he cursed and denied his Lord.

Compromise always starts small, but it always ends big.

Point 6: Compromise Always Costs More Than You Think

Nobody bargains with sin and comes out ahead. Ask Lot's wife—turned to a pillar of salt. Ask Samson—lost his eyes. Ask Judas—thirty pieces of silver bought him a rope and a tree.

Compromise always costs more than you planned to pay. You wanted a taste; you got chains. You wanted a friend; you got slavery. You wanted a break; you got a breakdown.

Point 7: Compromise is Just Backsliding in Slow Motion

That's the theme. Compromise is not harmless. It's not neutral. It's not wise. It's backsliding in disguise.

You don't go from fire for God to frozen in sin overnight. It's a slow leak. Prayer life gets shorter. Bible reading gets spotty. Church attendance gets irregular. Witnessing stops. Then

one day you wake up cold, carnal, and clueless. That's backsliding—but it started with compromise.

Proverbs 14:14: *"The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways."* Compromise is just the slow motion replay of backsliding.

Point 8: The World Demands Compromise

The world will never be satisfied with you being "just a little" compromised. They'll always demand more.

- They told Daniel: "Just stop praying for 30 days." He refused.
- They told Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: "Just bow once and get it over with." They refused.
- They told Nehemiah: "Come down to the plain of Ono, let's talk." He refused.

The world doesn't want peace—it wants surrender. If you compromise once, you'll compromise again. That's why God says, *"Come out from among them, and be ye separate"* (2 Cor. 6:17).

Point 9: The Flesh Loves Compromise

Your flesh doesn't want to fight. It wants comfort, ease, applause. Compromise offers all three. You get to look spiritual without suffering. You get to look holy without paying the price. You get to look faithful without bearing the reproach.

That's why the flesh loves compromise. It's religion without a cross, discipleship without denial, Christianity without Christ.

Point 10: God Hates Compromise

Revelation 2:20, Jesus rebukes Thyatira for tolerating Jezebel. Revelation 2:15, He rebukes Pergamos for holding the doctrine of Balaam.

God doesn't pat compromisers on the back. He says, "Repent, or else I will fight against thee with the sword of my mouth."

God hates mixture. He told Israel, “Don’t plow with an ox and an ass together. Don’t wear a garment of wool and linen mixed. Don’t sow your field with mingled seed.” Why? Because He wanted them pure, separate, unmixed. Compromise corrupts.

Point 11: The End of Compromise

Compromise always ends in judgment.

- Israel compromised with idols—Babylonian captivity.
- Solomon compromised with wives—kingdom torn in two.
- Ahab compromised with Jezebel—dogs licked his blood.

Backsliding in slow motion still ends in ruin.

Point 12: The Antidote to Compromise

How do you avoid compromise?

1. **Fear God more than man** (Prov. 29:25).
2. **Cling to the Book**—don’t let modern versions soften your convictions.
3. **Pray daily**—prayerless saints are easy prey.
4. **Separate from the world**—you can’t run with Sodom and still walk with God.
5. **Stay accountable**—find brethren who will rebuke you when you drift.

Point 13: The Challenge to the Church

We need men who will stand uncompromising like Elijah before Ahab, like John the Baptist before Herod, like Paul before Caesar. Men who won’t sell out for applause, popularity, or safety.

The church is pathetic today because it’s full of compromisers. It’s sin with a smile, backsliding in slow motion. But a few Daniels, a few Elijahs, a few Pauls could still turn the tide.

Conclusion

Compromise is not harmless—it's hell's Trojan horse. It doesn't shout rebellion; it whispers peace. But it always leads to ruin.

Don't excuse it. Don't tolerate it. Don't justify it. Crush it. Stand firm. Refuse to bend, bow, or break.

Because compromise is just backsliding in slow motion. And sin with a smile still damns.

Counting the Cost vs. Discount Discipleship – Salvation is Free, Discipleship Isn't

Introduction: The Bait-and-Switch Gospel

We live in a bargain-bin Christianity today where everybody wants the blessings of salvation but nobody wants the burden of discipleship. The modern pulpit is like a Walmart clearance rack—"Come as you are, stay as you are, live as you are, die as you are—and still go to Heaven with a crown!" The preachers have turned the blood-bought church of Jesus Christ into a carnival sideshow where the ticket costs you nothing but promises you everything.

Now don't get me wrong—salvation *is* free. The Bible is clear on that. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9). A gift costs you nothing to receive. But here's the kicker: while salvation costs you nothing, it cost *God everything*. And while discipleship doesn't purchase your salvation, it will cost *you everything* in this life if you take it seriously.

The problem today is people want a discount discipleship. They want to follow Jesus like it's a Netflix subscription—you pay a few bucks a month and cancel whenever you get bored. They want Christianity lite: no cross, no cost, no commitment. They want to be part of the crowd that shouted "Hosanna!" but not the remnant that followed Christ to Calvary.

Friend, you better mark it down in red, underline it, and put three exclamation points behind it—salvation is free, but discipleship isn't. You can trust Christ as Savior in a moment, but following Him as Lord will take a lifetime of dying to yourself.

Point One: The Free Gift of Salvation

Before we dive into the cost of discipleship, let's nail down the fact that salvation is absolutely, undeniably free. You don't work for it, you don't earn it, you don't pay

installments like it's a car loan. Salvation was paid for by Jesus Christ on the cross, and when He said "It is finished" (John 19:30), the bill was stamped "Paid in Full."

Paul said in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Eternal life is a gift. Not wages. Not reward. Not rent-to-own. *A gift.*

The thief on the cross didn't go to seminary. He didn't get baptized. He didn't join a church. He didn't tithe. He didn't sign up for a missions trip. He didn't know the Romans Road or dispensational truth. He knew one thing: he was a sinner, and the man hanging next to him was a Savior. And with a few words—"Lord, remember me"—he was saved (Luke 23:42).

That's salvation. A beggar reaching out his empty hand to receive the riches of God. Free. Instant. Eternal.

But here's the rub—after salvation, God expects you to *follow*. And following is where the cost comes in. That's the dividing line between "fire insurance Christians" and true disciples.

Point Two: The High Cost of Discipleship

Jesus Christ never sugarcoated discipleship. He wasn't running a seeker-sensitive megachurch. He didn't put out free coffee and a rock band to lure the crowd in. He turned more people away than He attracted. He looked at multitudes and basically said, "If you're just here for the free bread and fish, go home. This road is bloody, costly, and narrow."

Luke 14:26-27 cuts against the grain of our modern soft-soap Christianity:

"If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple."

Notice He didn't say "cannot be saved." He said, "cannot be my disciple." There's a difference. Salvation is believing on Christ. Discipleship is following Christ. One costs nothing; the other costs everything.

Today's churches have blurred that line so badly that folks think discipleship is just downloading a Bible app and attending small group once a week. But Jesus said discipleship means picking up a cross—an execution stake—and following Him to death.

In Luke 9:62, He said, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." That's not a hobby. That's a death march.

Point Three: Discount Discipleship – The Devil’s Bargain

Now here’s where the devil plays his ace card. If he can’t keep you from salvation, he’ll keep you from discipleship. He’ll whisper, “You don’t really need to take it that seriously. Just be a Sunday Christian. Just toss God a tip in the offering plate. Just do enough to ease your conscience, but don’t go all in.”

That’s discount discipleship. It’s Christianity on sale. Buy one blessing, get two free. No suffering, no separation, no sacrifice—just a cozy ride to Heaven with no cost on earth.

That’s why so many churches today are packed with pew-warmers but empty of prayer warriors. They’ve got multitudes of professors but a handful of possessors. They’ve got “cheap grace” on tap like beer at a bar—drink all you want, no repentance required.

Paul warned about this counterfeit Christianity in 2 Timothy 3:5: “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.” They’ve got the form—the building, the programs, the branding, the livestream—but no power. Why? Because power comes after prayer, fasting, holiness, and sacrifice. And nobody wants to pay the price.

The Laodicean church is alive and well. Rich, increased with goods, and in need of nothing—but lukewarm, nauseating, and about to be vomited out of Christ’s mouth (Rev. 3:16).

Point Four: Examples of the Real Cost

Let’s get practical. What does real discipleship cost?

1. **Your Comfort** – Jesus said, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head” (Matt. 8:20). Discipleship will put you out of your comfort zone.
2. **Your Reputation** – Paul said, “We are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things” (1 Cor. 4:13). Don’t expect the world to applaud when you take a stand.
3. **Your Relationships** – Families divide when one member follows Christ seriously. Jesus said, “A man’s foes shall be they of his own household” (Matt. 10:36).
4. **Your Finances** – A disciple doesn’t ask, “How little can I give?” but “How much can I sacrifice?” The widow’s mite outweighed the Pharisee’s abundance.

5. **Your Future** – James and John left their nets. Matthew left the tax booth. Paul left a promising career as a Pharisee. Discipleship means laying your plans at Christ's feet.

The early Christians weren't admired—they were crucified, burned, fed to lions, and hunted like animals. And yet they turned the world upside down (Acts 17:6). Contrast that with today's Christians, who can't even turn off Netflix long enough to pray.

Point Five: The Rewards of Paying the Price

Now don't get the idea that discipleship is all pain and no payoff. Jesus promised eternal rewards for those who forsake all to follow Him.

Mark 10:29-30 says:

"There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life."

Notice the catch—blessings *with persecutions*. You'll get family in Christ, joy unspeakable, peace that passeth understanding—but you'll also get a bullseye on your back. The devil doesn't waste bullets on Christians asleep in the barracks. He aims at the ones charging the frontlines.

Paul said, "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him" (2 Tim. 2:12). Discipleship costs now, but it pays eternal dividends. The crowns, the inheritance, the "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matt. 25:21)—those don't come cheap.

Point Six: The Tragedy of Discount Christians

Here's the tragedy: millions of Christians will stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ saved, but ashamed. They'll enter Heaven as paupers, dragging their smoking coattails through the gate, having lived for self and wasted their lives.

1 Corinthians 3:15 warns, "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." Saved but empty-handed. Redeemed but regretful.

Discount discipleship will get you into Heaven, but you'll stand there empty, watching others cast crowns at Jesus' feet while you've got nothing to show but a lifetime of compromise.

Imagine facing the scars of Christ with no scars of your own. Imagine looking at nail-pierced hands with soft, manicured hands that never lifted a cross. Imagine hearing the martyrs sing with voices that were never mocked, cursed, or silenced for Christ.

Friend, you can be saved and squander your life. That's the tragedy of discount discipleship.

Conclusion: Which Will It Be?

Here's the bottom line: Salvation is free. Discipleship isn't. You can trust Christ today and be saved forever with no cost, no works, no effort. But if you want to follow Him, you better count the cost.

The question is, are you a bargain-bin Christian looking for a discount discipleship? Or are you a true soldier of the cross willing to forsake all, take up your cross, and follow Christ no matter the cost?

The broad road is lined with cheap churches offering cheap grace and cheap discipleship. The narrow road is stained with blood, sweat, and tears. One leads to regret at the Judgment Seat; the other to eternal reward.

Joshua said it best: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Josh. 24:15). Christ paid it all for your salvation. What are you willing to pay for your discipleship?

Cross-Carriers, Not Couch-Sitters – Christianity Isn't a Spectator Sport

Introduction

We are living in a day where Christianity has been watered down, sweetened up, and marketed like a cheap energy drink. The pulpits are full of soft-spoken motivational speakers, and the pews are padded with professing saints who think discipleship is optional. They've turned the Christian life into a spectator sport — "watch the professionals do it, clap politely, maybe put a little something in the plate if you're feeling

generous.” But let me tell you something, folks: Jesus Christ never called a single man to sit on the sidelines and cheer. He said, *“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me”* (Matthew 16:24).

Notice He didn’t say “take up your couch,” He didn’t say “take up your comfort zone,” He didn’t say “take up your Netflix subscription.” He said **cross** — and the cross in the Roman world wasn’t a decoration, it wasn’t a piece of jewelry, it wasn’t a bumper sticker. It was an instrument of execution. You carried that thing, you were a dead man walking. And that’s the call of discipleship.

But what do we see today? Christians who want Christ without the cross, salvation without surrender, heaven without holiness, blessing without burden. They want to be couch-sitters, not cross-carriers. And that’s why the modern church is weak, spineless, and powerless against sin.

So let’s preach it straight: today we’ll see the contrast between the **cross-carrier** and the **couch-sitter**, and why if you’re saved, it’s time to stand up, pick up that cross, and march behind Jesus Christ.

I. Salvation is Free, but Discipleship Costs Everything

First things first — let’s clear the ground. Salvation and discipleship are not the same thing. Salvation is free, bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ on Calvary’s hill. Romans 6:23 says, *“The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* If it’s a gift, you can’t earn it, you can’t work for it, you can’t pay for it. You don’t “carry a cross” to get saved; you trust the One who carried it for you.

But discipleship? That’s a whole different ballgame. That costs you everything. Jesus said in Luke 14:27, *“Whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.”* He didn’t say you can’t be saved — He said you can’t be His disciple. Big difference. That’s why Paul could say in Ephesians 2:8-9 that salvation is by grace through faith without works — but then in the very next verse, Ephesians 2:10, say we’re created unto good works. You don’t work to get in, but once you’re in, God expects something from you.

II. The Couch-Sitters: Cheap Christianity

Now, let's look at the couch-sitters. Who are they? They're the folks who think Christianity is a ticket to heaven and a license to live for self. They're comfortable. They're carnal. They're compromised.

They come to church to be entertained, not edified. They want their ears tickled, not their hearts convicted. They want sermons about self-esteem, not sin. They want pep talks, not preaching. They want the preacher to pat them on the back while they sit in their recliner of religion.

And oh, they'll sing "I surrender all" — but what they mean is "I surrender Sunday morning." They'll put "Christ is King" on their Instagram bio, but they won't put Christ on the throne of their daily life. They'll repost a verse meme, but won't open the Book. They'll talk about "following Jesus," but they won't walk across the street to witness.

Couch-sitters are a dime a dozen in America today. And the devil loves them. Why? Because they're no threat to his kingdom. They're saved, sure, but they're silenced. They're on their way to heaven, but they're dragging their feet through this world like spiritual bums.

III. The Cross-Carriers: Christianity in Action

Now contrast that with the cross-carriers. These are the men and women who take the call of Christ seriously. They deny themselves. They take up the reproach. They stand when others sit. They go when others stay.

Cross-carriers know the Christian life isn't about comfort, it's about combat. It's not about style, it's about substance. It's not about a show, it's about a sacrifice. They know what Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:3, "*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*"

These folks aren't watching from the bleachers; they're on the battlefield. They're not armchair quarterbacks critiquing how the pastor should preach; they're out there knocking on doors, giving tracts, praying down strongholds, weeping over lost souls. They're not consumers, they're contributors. They're not pew-warmers, they're cross-bearers.

And friend, I'll take ten cross-carriers over a hundred couch-sitters any day of the week.

IV. Why Cross-Carrying is Hard

Now don't misunderstand me — I'm not saying it's easy. Carrying the cross is hard. It'll cost you. It'll hurt you. It'll separate you from people you thought were your friends.

1. **It'll cost you your pride.** You can't carry a cross and strut at the same time.

2. **It'll cost you your popularity.** The world will laugh, mock, and despise you. Jesus said in John 15:19, *“Because ye are not of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”*
3. **It'll cost you your comfort.** No man carrying a cross ever felt comfortable. That rough wood digs into your shoulders, it splinters, it weighs you down.
4. **It'll cost you your plans.** You don't set the agenda anymore — God does.

But listen: every cost down here pays eternal dividends up there. Paul said in Romans 8:18, *“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”*

V. Modern Couch-Sitting Churches

Let's get practical. Why is the church in America so weak? Because it's full of couch-sitters. Churches are designed like theaters. Lights, smoke, big screens — everybody watching the show while the band cranks up. Sermons timed to 20 minutes so nobody gets restless. Cafés in the lobby, gift shops by the door, Christian rock concerts to keep the crowd happy.

You know what that is? That's a stadium, not a sanctuary. That's a couch-sitter factory. Nobody's being trained to carry a cross. Nobody's being told to die daily. Nobody's hearing about sin, hell, judgment, holiness. It's all “you're enough, you've got this, God's your cheerleader.” Hogwash!

That isn't Christianity — that's carnality dressed up with a steeple on top.

VI. Cross-Carriers Change the World

You know what changes the world? Not couch-sitters. Not lukewarm saints. Not compromisers. It's cross-carriers.

It was a cross-carrier named Paul who shook the Roman Empire. It was a cross-carrier named Peter who preached and 3,000 souls got saved. It was a cross-carrier named Stephen who, while being stoned, prayed for his murderers. It was a cross-carrier named William Tyndale who gave his life so we could have the Bible in English.

Cross-carriers aren't comfortable, but they're conquerors. They don't get applauded by the world, but they get crowns from Christ.

VII. Couch-Sitting is Just Spiritual AWOL

Let's call it what it is. Couch-sitting is desertion. It's going AWOL in God's army. And the Bible says in Luke 9:62, "*No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*"

You think you can just sit down, relax, and let someone else do the heavy lifting? Think again. God didn't save you to be a spectator. He saved you to be a soldier. He saved you to serve.

VIII. The Judgment Seat of Christ

And mark it down: one day every couch-sitter and every cross-carrier will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. And the Lord won't be handing out trophies for best attendance or most comfortable pew. He'll be testing every work by fire (1 Corinthians 3:13). And the couch-sitters are going to watch their wood, hay, and stubble go up in smoke, while the cross-carriers cast their crowns at His feet.

That day's coming, and you'd better be ready.

IX. The Call Today

So what's it going to be, Christian? Couch or cross? Comfort or combat? Spectator or soldier?

Jesus Christ is looking for disciples, not dead weight. He's looking for men and women who will say, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Galatians 2:20).

Conclusion

Christianity isn't a spectator sport. It isn't a recliner religion. It's a battlefield, and the Commander has called you to arms. Don't die a couch-sitter when you could live a cross-carrier. Don't waste your life watching while others fight. Get up, pick up your cross, and follow the One who carried His all the way to Calvary.

Because in the end, only one life will soon be past — only what's done for Christ will last.

One World, One Devil – The Coming Kingdom of Antichrist

Introduction: The Devil's Global Dream

Ever since that old serpent slithered into the garden, he's been working toward one goal: **one throne, one kingdom, one world under his control**. He tried it at Babel, and God scattered it. He tried it with Nebuchadnezzar, and God humbled it. He tried it with Rome, and God broke it. He's tried it through every empire, every dictator, every tyrant — but there's coming a day when God will finally let him have his way.

And you're watching it unfold right now on your television, in your newsfeed, in your school curriculum, in your entertainment, in your global politics. All the "unity" talk, all the "we're all one family" garbage, all the "we just need one currency, one government, one religion" chatter — that's the devil's sales pitch for his kingdom. And let me tell you, friend: that kingdom is coming, and its king is not Christ, but Antichrist.

The title today is **One World, One Devil**. Because while the world sings "Imagine all the people, living life in peace," the Bible shows us a nightmare: a satanic empire ruled by the "man of sin, the son of perdition" (2 Thess. 2:3). And if you think this is some conspiracy theory, you better open your Bible and look.

I. The Devil's First Attempt – Babel

You can't understand the Antichrist's coming kingdom unless you go back to Genesis 11. After the flood, Noah's descendants were told to scatter and fill the earth. But what did they do? They banded together in rebellion and said, "*Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name*" (Gen. 11:4).

That's the world's first United Nations meeting — one people, one language, one city, one tower. And who was behind it? Nimrod, the "mighty hunter before the Lord" (Gen. 10:9). But he wasn't hunting deer — he was hunting men. He was the first type of Antichrist, leading mankind in rebellion against God under one government and one religion.

And what did God do? He confused their language and scattered them. Babel fell. But the devil didn't give up. He just shifted gears.

II. The Devil's Ongoing Program

Every major world empire since has been another rung on the ladder to Antichrist's throne. Pharaoh in Egypt enslaving God's people. Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon demanding worship of his golden image. Caesar in Rome demanding loyalty above God. Hitler, Stalin, Mao, all forerunners of the final dictator.

And friend, the spirit of Antichrist is alive and well. John said in 1 John 2:18, "*Even now are there many antichrists.*" Every time some politician cries "peace and safety," every time a pope calls for "unity of faiths," every time a banker calls for "digital currency," every time a global summit calls for "sustainable goals," you're hearing the echo of Babel — **one world, one devil.**

III. The One World Religion

The Antichrist's kingdom won't just be political — it'll be religious. Revelation 13 shows a beast out of the sea (the Antichrist) and a beast out of the earth (the False Prophet). That second beast looks like a lamb — religious — but speaks like a dragon. He unites the world's religions under one banner, pointing everybody to worship the Antichrist.

That's why you see the Pope kissing the Quran, rabbis meeting with imams, evangelical leaders holding hands with Buddhists, and everybody chanting "we all worship the same God." Nonsense. Jesus said, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*" (John 14:6). You leave Christ out, and you're worshipping the devil.

And the world will buy it. They'll love the pageantry, the unity, the peace conferences. They'll bow to a false Christ because they rejected the true Christ.

IV. The One World Government

Daniel 7 lays it out — a final kingdom, dreadful and terrible, with ten horns, and out of those ten rises a little horn — the Antichrist. That's a one-world government, folks. And if you can't see it forming, you're blind.

The UN, the World Economic Forum, the push for global governance, climate treaties, migration pacts — it's all building toward the same thing: the death of national sovereignty and the rise of global dictatorship.

Revelation 13:7 says the beast will have "*power over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*" That's not local. That's global.

V. The One World Economy

Revelation 13:16-17 — you know the passage: *“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark.”*

That’s economic control. One system. No cash. No privacy. No buying groceries, no paying rent, no filling your gas tank without the devil’s stamp of approval.

You say, “That could never happen!” Look at your phone. Look at your credit cards. Look at digital IDs, central bank digital currencies, facial recognition. The infrastructure is already here. One global reset, one crisis, and the whole world will line up for the devil’s system.

VI. The One World Deceiver

Now, why do I call it **One World, One Devil**? Because behind all the politics, religion, and economy, there’s one mastermind — the devil himself. Revelation 13:2 says, *“The dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.”*

That means the Antichrist is nothing more than the devil’s puppet. And the world will worship the beast, not realizing they’re really worshipping the dragon (Rev. 13:4).

One world system. One man in charge. One devil pulling the strings.

VII. The Seduction of Unity

Now listen close: the most dangerous lie the devil sells is the idea that “unity” is always good. He sold it at Babel. He’s selling it today. Politicians preach it. Preachers preach it. “If we just come together, we can solve the world’s problems.”

But the Bible says, *“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”* (Amos 3:3). Unity without truth is not a virtue — it’s a vice. It’s a rope to hang you. It’s a net to trap you. It’s a smokescreen for Antichrist.

VIII. The End of the Devil’s Kingdom

But thank God, that kingdom has an expiration date. Daniel 2 shows the stone cut without hands smiting the image and grinding it to powder. Revelation 19 shows heaven opening and Jesus Christ returning on a white horse, King of kings and Lord of lords, to cast the beast and the false prophet into the lake of fire.

The devil gets his day, but Christ gets the last word. The Antichrist gets his hour, but Jesus gets eternity. The one world under one devil is smashed by one kingdom under one Lord.

Conclusion: Choose Your King Now

So, Christian, don't be seduced by the talk of "unity." Don't be lulled by the promises of peace. Don't be deceived by the devil's kingdom. The world is heading toward one throne, one ruler, one kingdom — but it won't be Christ until after the smoke clears.

Right now, you've got to choose: sit with the world under the devil's counterfeit reign, or stand with Christ under His coming kingdom.

The Bible says in Revelation 20:4, the saints who refused the mark "lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." That's the kingdom I want to be in.

One world, one devil — or one kingdom, one Christ. Pick your side.

When Truth Becomes Hate Speech – The Last Days Are Here

INTRODUCTION: THE WORLD HAS GONE INSANE

Let's not sugarcoat it: we are living in a world where **truth is treason** and **lies are law**. It used to be that people respected the truth, even if they didn't live by it. You could open a Bible, quote a verse, and most folks would at least nod their heads and say, "Well, that's the Good Book." But now, if you quote Scripture, you're a "bigot." If you take a stand, you're "hateful." If you refuse to bow to the mob, you're "intolerant."

Friend, that's not progress — that's prophecy. The Bible said this day would come. *"The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears"* (2 Tim. 4:3). We're there. They don't want truth. They want therapy. They don't want light. They want mood lighting.

We've become a generation so obsessed with "feelings" that truth is now labeled hate. The moment you stand on the Word of God, you're public enemy number one. You can quote Oprah, Gandhi, or Taylor Swift all day long and you're a hero — but quote Paul, Peter, or Jesus Christ, and you'll get banned, canceled, de-platformed, and demonized.

That's not an accident. That's the spirit of the last days — the spirit of Antichrist — preparing the world to reject the Word of God entirely.

I. THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM: MAN HATES THE LIGHT

Jesus nailed it in John 3:19–20: *“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”*

See, the problem isn't that people can't find truth — it's that they **don't want** truth. The light exposes what they're hiding. It burns through the fake smiles, the hypocrisy, the sin, the lust, and the pride.

That's why they hate Bible-believing Christians. It's not your personality they can't stand — it's your light. When you stand for truth, it convicts them. When you quote Scripture, it stings their conscience. When you live holy, it shows them up. So what do they do? They twist it around and call you hateful.

That's why the Lord said in John 15:18–19, *“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”*

When they called Jesus Beelzebub, what makes you think they'll call you anything better?

II. THE GREAT REVERSAL – GOOD IS EVIL, EVIL IS GOOD

Isaiah 5:20 says, *“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness.”*

Well, brother, that's the front-page headline of our generation. You don't need a prophet to see it — just open your eyes. The world now celebrates what God condemns and condemns what God celebrates.

- The Bible says marriage is between a man and a woman. The world says that's “hate speech.”
- The Bible says life begins at conception. The world calls that “oppression of women.”
- The Bible says drunkenness is sin. The world calls it “socializing.”
- The Bible says pride is sin. The world has a whole month celebrating it.

- The Bible says Jesus is the only way to Heaven. The world says “that’s narrow-minded.”

Friend, when truth becomes hate speech, the end isn’t near — it’s **here**.

III. THE NEW MORALITY – TOLERANCE AS A RELIGION

You’ve heard the slogan: “Love is love,” “Be kind,” “Don’t judge.” Sounds sweet, doesn’t it? It’s poison wrapped in sugar. The new morality of our age is **tolerance** — as long as you tolerate sin.

The world doesn’t want equality; it wants silence. They’ll tolerate every religion except the one that tells the truth. They’ll platform every voice except the one that says, “Thus saith the Lord.”

If you tell a man he’s sick, he might thank you — but if you tell a sinner he’s lost, he’ll curse you. Because you’ve touched the nerve that runs straight from the heart to the conscience.

In Romans 1, Paul describes the reprobate world perfectly. They know God, but they don’t glorify Him as God. They change His truth into a lie. They worship the creature more than the Creator. And when you expose that with Scripture, they gnash their teeth like the Pharisees did at Stephen.

IV. THE MARK OF THE LAST DAYS – STRONG DELUSION

2 Thessalonians 2:10–12 says: *“Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved... God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.”*

Did you catch that? The delusion comes **because** they rejected the truth. When a man spits on the Bible long enough, God lets him choke on his own lies.

You say, “How do you know we’re there?” Because truth has become illegal while deception is celebrated. If you tell a child that God created male and female, you’re a villain. But if you tell him he can be whatever he feels like, you’re a hero. That’s not progress — that’s Romans 1:22 in action: *“Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.”*

The schools are indoctrination camps. The media is propaganda. The churches are entertainment centers. The politicians are puppets. And the people? They’re hypnotized — walking right into the devil’s one-world trap with smiles on their faces.

V. THE CHRISTIAN'S CROSSHAIRS

Let's be real. Bible-believing Christians are the only group left that it's socially acceptable to hate.

You can burn the American flag, mock Christ, and trample Scripture — nobody bats an eye. But quote 1 Corinthians 6:9–10 and suddenly you're "dangerous."

This world doesn't hate religion. It hates **truth**. And since Jesus said "*Thy word is truth*" (John 17:17), that means they hate **the Book**. They hate the blood. They hate the preaching of the cross.

Paul said in Galatians 4:16, "*Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?*" That's the modern Christian's life verse. You can't preach repentance without being labeled "toxic." You can't preach hell without being called "unloving." You can't preach holiness without being called "legalistic."

The world loves a Jesus who feeds the multitudes and heals the sick — but they'll crucify the one who calls them to repentance.

VI. THE MODERN PULPIT'S BETRAYAL

Now here's the real tragedy: the persecution isn't coming from outside the church only — it's coming **from within**.

The modern pulpit has traded the sword of the Spirit for a feather duster. The preachers are afraid of losing tithes, followers, or book deals. So they preach a gospel that never offends anybody — but never saves anybody either.

They say, "Don't be so negative. People need encouragement." Friend, if you're dying of cancer, you don't need a motivational speaker — you need a doctor who tells you the truth!

The problem is, truth divides. And most preachers today are cowards who would rather unite in error than stand alone with truth. They want to be liked by men more than approved by God.

But Jesus said in Luke 6:26, "*Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you!*" If the world applauds your preaching, you're not preaching Christ — you're preaching compromise.

VII. WHEN THE LAW TURNS AGAINST THE BOOK

You watch — it's already happening. Preaching the Bible is being criminalized, one verse at a time. In some countries, quoting Romans 1 or Leviticus 18 is considered "hate speech." And America's not far behind. The ink's drying on laws that make the Bible "offensive content."

But that's exactly what Jesus promised in John 16:2: "*The time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.*"

They'll call it "justice." They'll call it "peace." They'll call it "safety." But what they mean is censorship, control, and conformity to the Antichrist system.

If they can label preaching as hate speech, they can outlaw evangelism. If they can outlaw evangelism, they can silence the gospel. That's the devil's plan — kill the light so men can stay in darkness.

VIII. THE COST OF STANDING FOR TRUTH

The question isn't *if* persecution's coming — it's *when*. And when it comes, you'll find out real fast who's a couch-sitter and who's a cross-carrier.

Jesus said, "*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*" That wasn't a suggestion. It was a command.

You'll lose friends. You'll lose followers. You might lose your job. You might lose your freedom. But you'll gain the smile of Heaven.

This world isn't your home, Christian. Don't get too comfortable in it. If they hate you, rejoice. If they mock you, shout hallelujah. If they persecute you, remember what Jesus said: "*Great is your reward in heaven.*"

Truth costs. Always has. Always will. But it's worth it.

IX. THE REMNANT STILL STANDS

Don't think for a second that the devil's winning. He may own the news, the universities, and the entertainment industry, but he doesn't own the Book. God still has a remnant. He always does.

When Elijah thought he was the last one left, God said, "*I have reserved to myself seven thousand... which have not bowed unto Baal.*" (Rom. 11:4). There are still men and women who won't bow to this world's lies. There are still preachers who will open that Book and

thunder, “Thus saith the Lord!” There are still believers who would rather go to jail than deny their Savior.

And those are the people who keep the light burning while the world chokes on its darkness.

X. THE GLORIOUS REVERSAL – TRUTH WILL WIN

Don’t forget how the story ends. They may call truth “hate” now, but one day the Judge of all the earth will open His mouth — and when He speaks, every lie will melt.

When Jesus Christ returns, He won’t come back as a suffering Lamb. He’ll come as the Lion of the tribe of Judah. He’ll split the sky, crush the nations, and reign in righteousness.

Revelation 19 says, “*Out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations.*” That sword is the Word of God — the same “hate speech” the world despised.

And all those who mocked it, silenced it, banned it, and censored it will stand before it at the Great White Throne. There won’t be any appeals. There won’t be any fact-checkers. There won’t be any “safe spaces.”

The Word they called hate will be their Judge.

XI. THE FINAL CALL – DON’T COMPROMISE NOW

So what do we do in the meantime? We **stand**.

Ephesians 6 says, “*Having done all, to stand.*” Stand for truth when it’s unpopular. Stand when it costs you something. Stand when the crowd boos. Stand when they call you names. Stand when the devil whispers, “It’s not worth it.”

Because one day, when you stand before Jesus Christ, He’ll say, “*Well done, thou good and faithful servant.*” And that’ll make every scar, every insult, every sleepless night worth it.

You’re not crazy for believing the Bible. You’re not hateful for preaching repentance. You’re not outdated for saying sin is sin. You’re just outnumbered for now. But soon the trumpet’s going to blow, and the minority down here will be the majority up there.

CONCLUSION: THE END IS HERE

You can feel it. The tension. The hatred. The deception. The spiritual pressure cooker is about to blow. The world is racing toward the one-world system, the false prophet, the mark, and the beast.

But before that darkness swallows the earth, the Lord will call His Church home.

So don't bend. Don't bow. Don't apologize for the truth. When they call you hateful, remember: you're standing with the same truth that nailed the devil to the cross.

The same truth they can't erase. The same truth they can't silence. The same truth that will reign forever when every lie is buried in the lake of fire.

So preach it louder. Stand taller. And remember — when truth becomes hate speech, **the last days aren't coming... they're here.**

Globalism Is Just Babel Rebuilt – Same Spirit, New Tower

Introduction – The Tower Never Fell, It Just Changed Shape

Every generation since Genesis has tried to stack bricks to Heaven. From Nimrod's day to the United Nations, from the plains of Shinar to the metaverse, the Devil's crowd has been laying the same foundation stones—unity without God, peace without repentance, progress without righteousness. They still say, "*Let us make us a name.*" (Genesis 11:4) The mortar may look different, but the spirit behind it hasn't aged a day.

You can change the language, you can change the architecture, but you can't change the architect. The same fallen cherub who whispered in Eve's ear now whispers in the ears of kings, presidents, CEOs, and religious leaders—"Build bigger, build faster, build without Him." It was rebellion at Babel, and it's rebellion in Brussels, Davos, and Washington today. Globalism is just Babel rebuilt.

God scattered that first tower by confusing their tongues. But in our generation, men have reversed that curse—not by repentance, but by circuitry. They call it *artificial intelligence* and *translation algorithms*. The same world that once needed an interpreter now speaks the same digital dialect: greed, pride, and self-deification. The Internet became the Devil's new Shinar, and every glowing screen another brick in his rising monument of madness.

So let's tear the lid off this thing. Let's see the fingerprints of the same old serpent on the new world order. Let's see how "unity" became the Devil's camouflage, how "peace"

became the devil's propaganda, and how the whole world is marching to the same tune sung by a choir of devils who still think they can build their way to Heaven.

1. The Spirit of Babel – Unity Without God

When men gathered on the plain of Shinar, they didn't say, "Let's worship the Lord." They said, "Let's build *ourselves* a city and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven." (Gen. 11:4) Notice who's at the center—*us*. Not God, not His glory, not His command—*us*. It was the birth of humanism, the gospel of self-salvation.

Every modern slogan is just Babel with a facelift.

- "Stronger Together."
- "One World, One People."
- "Global Goals for Sustainable Development."
Same pitch, same pride, new packaging.

They say, "We can end poverty." God says, "The poor ye have always with you." (Matt. 26:11)

They say, "We can save the planet." God says, "Heaven and earth shall pass away." (Matt. 24:35)

They say, "We can unite all religions." God says, "Be ye separate." (2 Cor. 6:17)

Globalism is the Devil's counterfeit of Pentecost. At Pentecost, God unified people by the Holy Ghost. At Babel, man unified himself by rebellion. One was a miracle of heaven; the other was a monument of hell.

When the Spirit came down at Pentecost, men spoke *different* tongues but glorified the same Lord. When the spirit came down at Babel, men spoke *one* tongue but glorified themselves. The world wants unity so badly, it'll settle for hell's version if heaven's costs too much.

2. The Modern Tower – From Nations to Networks

Babel was built of brick and slime. Today's tower is built of silicon and lies. The old builders mixed mortar; the new builders mix data. It's not clay they're stacking—it's code. They call it "the cloud," and brother, they're not wrong. Every keystroke, every image, every transaction—rising, rising, rising into the sky.

The Internet is Babel 2.0.

- *Same goal:* connect the world.
- *Same lie:* you'll be like gods.
- *Same curse:* confusion is coming again.

You can hear the hum of the new builders: “AI will solve death.” “Technology will make us immortal.” “We’ll upload our consciousness.” You fool—you can’t upload a soul when you don’t even believe you have one! The Devil’s been promising immortality since the garden—“Ye shall not surely die.” Now he’s just running the ad campaign through Silicon Valley.

Globalism’s new priests aren’t wearing robes—they’re wearing headsets. They don’t swing incense—they swing algorithms. The altar’s not in a temple—it’s on your phone. And the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4) beams his gospel of distraction straight through the blue light of your screen.

3. The Political Tower – Kings in Lockstep

When you see presidents, popes, and billionaires using the same vocabulary—“Build Back Better,” “New World Order,” “The Great Reset”—that’s not coincidence. That’s choreography. Satan’s got his own United Nations, and every delegate wears a smile while signing a pact with hell.

Psalms 2 said it long ago: “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder.”

They’re tired of moral bands. They’re sick of Bible boundaries. They want to legalize what God calls abomination and baptize it with the waters of tolerance. When a man can’t define what a woman is, but he wants to redefine what a kingdom is, you’ve already got Babel under construction.

The world’s leaders think they’re climbing, but God says they’re falling. “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh.” (Psalm 2:4) You talk about irony—God’s up there chuckling while they draft their resolutions to dethrone Him. They can sign all the climate accords they want, but one word from His mouth will melt every glacier they’re trying to save.

The Antichrist will inherit this tower when it’s finished. He won’t build it—he’ll crown it. The structure’s already up. The digital currency, the surveillance grid, the global religion—it’s all scaffolding waiting for one man to step in and say, “I am god.”

And brother, when that happens, the whole system will bow and say, “Finally, unity.” But heaven will look down and say, “Finally, judgment.”

4. The Religious Tower – The Mother Church Returns

You want to see Babel in ecclesiastical robes? Look no further than Rome. Revelation 17 called her *Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots*. You can’t get clearer than that. She’s draped in purple and scarlet, decked with gold, and sitting on a beast that runs every kingdom on earth. That’s not Mary—that’s Mystery.

When the Pope preaches unity among “all faiths,” he’s not echoing Christ—he’s echoing Nimrod. The world’s religions are merging faster than your phone updates. Muslims, Catholics, Hindus, Buddhists, atheists—holding hands, lighting candles, singing “Imagine.” And who’s standing in the middle of them smiling like the cat that ate the canary? The man in white.

That “Abrahamic Faith Center” they’re building in Abu Dhabi—church, mosque, and synagogue under one roof—isn’t a tribute to Abraham. It’s a preview of Antichrist. God called Abraham out of Babel. The Devil’s bringing the world back to it.

Don’t you see it? The harlot of Revelation has been grooming the nations for centuries. She traded the blood of the martyrs for the applause of the media. She traded the Book for the bulletproof Popemobile. You want to talk about global influence? Rome’s embassy is in every nation on earth—Christ’s church doesn’t even have a seat at the U.N., but Mystery Babylon’s got diplomatic immunity.

And you think that’s Christianity? That’s politics dressed in priestly robes. That’s Babel with holy water sprinkled on it.

5. The Cultural Tower – Entertainment and the Mind Merge

They’ve rebuilt the tower not only with technology and politics, but with entertainment. The screen became the shrine, the influencer the idol, the audience the congregation. The Devil doesn’t care whether you worship him in a temple or on TikTok. As long as you’re entertained instead of enlightened, he’s won.

Romans 12:2 says, “Be not conformed to this world.” But modern Christianity says, “Be conformed, just add Jesus lyrics.” They dance to the world’s beat and call it evangelism. They build stages instead of altars, and fog machines instead of prayer closets.

The global mind is being synchronized through rhythm and narrative. One news cycle, one outrage, one movement at a time—everybody thinking, feeling, reacting in unison. That’s not unity in truth—that’s hypnosis in hell.

Satan’s Babel isn’t just outside the church; it’s in it. The same Christians who claim to love Jesus can’t sit through a 30-minute sermon without scrolling. The same believers who quote John 3:16 won’t read Genesis 11. They’ve got Netflix on speed dial and the Bible on airplane mode.

And when you warn them, they say, “Don’t be so negative.” Friend, the prophets weren’t motivational speakers—they were demolition experts tearing down idols. Jeremiah wept, Amos thundered, Paul warned, John wrote—and this generation yawns.

6. The Spiritual Tower – The Religion of Self

At its core, globalism is spiritual. It’s the worship of man as god. That’s what Lucifer wanted—*“I will ascend, I will exalt, I will be like the Most High.”* (Isa. 14:13-14) He infected humanity with the same virus. Now the whole race chants the same mantra—*“I am enough.”* That’s not confidence; that’s blasphemy.

Every self-help seminar, every “manifest your destiny” guru, every mindfulness retreat—it’s Babel repackaged. The Devil doesn’t care if you burn incense to idols or visualize your “higher self.” As long as you replace the Creator with the creature, he’s satisfied. (Rom. 1:25)

You’ll never hear repentance in the halls of globalism. You’ll only hear self-improvement. The new gospel isn’t “Christ died for sinners”; it’s “you’re not a sinner at all.” They don’t need a Savior—they need a life coach.

But when the trumpet sounds and the Judge steps out, every tower of pride will collapse under His feet. You can’t meditate your way out of judgment. You can’t manifest your way out of wrath. Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord—to the glory of God the Father. (Phil. 2:10-11)

7. The Economic Tower – Buy, Sell, or Burn

Revelation 13 isn’t science fiction—it’s financial policy. The mark of the beast is globalism’s endgame: total control through commerce. “That no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark.”

They're prepping you for it right now with digital IDs, central bank digital currencies, and social-credit scores. You think "tap to pay" is convenient? Wait till it's "scan your hand." You think "paperless" is progress? Wait till your beliefs make you "bankless."

When you see global elites preaching sustainability, they mean surveillance. When they say "inclusion," they mean intrusion. When they say "equity," they mean enslavement. Every utopian promise is just another brick. And the Antichrist will be the foreman signing the paychecks.

But praise God, the true Church won't be here when that system's crowned. The Bride will be gone, raptured out before the beast stamps his logo on humanity. (2 Thess. 2:7-8) But that doesn't mean you can coast. The shadows of that system are already stretching across your doorstep. If you can't stand for Christ when it costs you followers, what will you do when it costs you food?

8. The Judgment on Babel – God Still Scatters the Proud

Back in Genesis 11, God came down to see the city and tower. He didn't need to come for information—He came for inspection. He looked at man's masterpiece and said, "Let us go down." The builders were going up; God was coming down. You know who wins that collision.

He scattered them by confusing their language. And He's about to do it again. The nations that pride themselves on "global communication" will soon choke on their own words. Babylon the Great will fall in one hour. (Rev. 18:10) Every economy, every network, every alliance—ash in the wind. The traders will weep, the kings will wail, the merchants will mourn—but heaven will shout, "Hallelujah!" (Rev. 19:1-2)

Man's unity without God always ends in God's wrath without mercy. The flood swept away the first civilization; fire will finish the last. You can't globalize sin and expect localized judgment.

When the Son of Man returns, He won't need your vote. He won't need a committee. He won't need a summit. He'll come with ten thousand of His saints, flaming fire in His eyes, and a sharp sword in His mouth. That's not diplomacy—that's dominion.

9. The Believer's Call – Come Out of Her, My People

Revelation 18:4 says, “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins.” God’s call to the Church hasn’t changed—separation, not assimilation. The world says, “Join us!” God says, “Judge them!” (1 Cor. 6:2)

You can’t cozy up to Babel and expect blessing. You can’t worship at the tower and dine at the table of the Lord. (1 Cor. 10:21) Christians today want the world’s applause more than they want God’s approval. They’d rather trend on Twitter than tremble at truth.

When Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom, he thought he was getting a good view. Instead, he got a front-row seat to judgment. And many believers are doing the same thing—flirting with the world’s system, defending its language, and excusing its filth—all while wondering why their prayers bounce off the ceiling.

Friend, this world’s tower is going down. Don’t you dare build your nest in it. Stand apart, speak up, and shine brighter. The darker it gets, the more precious truth becomes.

10. The True Tower – The Lord Our Refuge

There’s another tower in Scripture, and it’s not man-made. Proverbs 18:10 says, “*The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.*” Babel was built to climb up to heaven. Christ came down from heaven to build His own tower—the cross.

At Babel, man tried to reach God by his own strength. At Calvary, God reached man by His own sacrifice. Babel was man saying, “We will ascend.” The cross was God saying, “It is finished.” You want a tower? There’s one already standing on a hill outside Jerusalem, blood-stained and empty now, because the Builder Himself walked out of the tomb.

The world’s tower will burn; that one never will. Every knee that bows to the global king will break. Every tongue that confesses the global lie will choke. But the soul that hides in the strong tower will never fall.

Conclusion – The Tower’s Shadow Is Long, But the Light Still Shines

Look around you—the scaffolding is everywhere. One world government. One world economy. One world religion. The only thing missing is the one world ruler, and brother, he’s pacing backstage.

You can feel the hum of Babel in the air—the hum of drones, data centers, digital currencies, and demonic doctrines. But don’t panic. God’s still on His throne, and He’s still laughing at the tower.

The Antichrist can build his empire brick by brick, but one trumpet blast will shatter it. While they're talking about "sustainability," we're talking about the Second Coming. While they're promising a new world, we're looking for a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness. (2 Pet. 3:13)

So don't waste your life climbing the wrong tower. Don't join the crowd that thinks rebellion is progress. The same spirit that built Babel is building again, and soon the King will come down and scatter it one last time.

And when the dust settles and the smoke clears, only one Kingdom will stand—the one not made with hands. Until then, stand your ground. Preach the truth. Refuse the mark. Reject the merger. Because globalism may be rebuilding Babel, but Heaven's still in the demolition business.

Mark It Down: The Beast System Is Coming – And Most Churches Are Already Signed Up

Introduction – The Stage Is Set, and the Church Is Asleep

You can smell it before you see it. The gears are grinding, the circuits are humming, the cameras are blinking, and the mark is being prepped for the masses. The Beast system isn't coming — it's here, booting up like a global mainframe waiting for one man to log in and call himself god.

And the tragedy? Most of the so-called "church" is *already onboard*. Not because they're reading Revelation, but because they're ignoring it.

While God's Word says, "Be ye separate," the modern pulpit says, "Be relevant." While Paul warned of the mystery of iniquity already working, the average megachurch is out there hosting glow-in-the-dark sermons, using drones to drop Bibles, and livestreaming sin in HD.

They've joined the system, not to resist it, but to *blend in with it*. They think it's progress; Heaven calls it apostasy. The Beast doesn't need to force most Christians into his network — they've already signed the terms of service.

So mark it down, brother. The gears of Revelation 13 are already in motion, and what you're watching on the news isn't innovation — it's installation. The Devil's building a kingdom, and the world's falling for it hook, line, and fiber-optic cable.

Let's tear the veil off the machine and see who's running the show.

1. The Blueprint of the Beast – Revelation 13 Wasn't Science Fiction

When John wrote about a beast that controlled buying and selling, you can bet the scholars laughed. "Oh, that's just symbolic," they said. Sure. Just like Noah's flood was symbolic until the rain came down.

Revelation 13:16–17 says it clear enough for a child to understand:

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark..."

John wasn't describing a tattoo, a Visa card, or a barcode. He was describing a system — *a global network of control*, where commerce and conscience are chained together.

And you're watching it come alive.

Digital IDs, biometric scans, facial recognition, carbon scores, vaccine passports — these aren't random tools. They're components. The Devil's building a circuit board of humanity, soldering the souls of men to a global grid.

It's not called the "World Economic Forum" for nothing. When you see world leaders chanting, "You'll own nothing and be happy," remember Genesis 3 — the same serpent who said, "Ye shall be as gods," is now saying, "You shall own nothing." The Devil never runs out of slogans; he just updates the graphics.

The mark isn't about metal — it's about *mastery*. It's the final merger of finance, faith, and flesh. The body becomes a barcode, the mind becomes a database, and the heart becomes a signature of allegiance. And the world's ready for it — because the church forgot to warn them.

2. The Church That Traded a Cross for a Chip

The early church faced lions. The modern church faces Wi-Fi buffering. The saints used to die for refusing Caesar's mark; now they line up to scan their wrist for a worship concert.

Let me tell you something: the Devil doesn't mind religion. He just wants it regulated. He's not banning churches — he's branding them. He's not destroying Christianity — he's digitizing it.

Watch closely.

They're replacing pulpits with screens, preachers with influencers, and doctrine with algorithms. It's not the *Body of Christ* anymore; it's the *brand of Christ™*.

Every time you hear a preacher say, "We want to make the gospel more accessible through technology," you'd better ask — *who controls the technology?*

Because the same system that's tracking your purchases will soon track your worship. The same corporations that throttle your speech will soon throttle your sermons. And the same cloud that stores your sermon notes will store your loyalty oath.

When churches started linking their giving apps to facial recognition, they thought it was convenience. When they started using AI to "personalize the gospel experience," they thought it was innovation.

But mark it down — what's convenient now will be compulsory later.

When the system fully matures, your "membership app" will double as your access card to society. Refuse the update, and you'll find yourself locked out of more than just your bank account — you'll be locked out of the Beast's world economy.

And while the true believer says, "I'll die first," the lukewarm crowd will say, "Well, maybe this is what God meant by being all things to all men."

That's not Paul — that's Judas with Wi-Fi.

3. The Spirit Behind It – Lucifer's Long Game

Don't you think for a second that technology caught Heaven off guard. Every microchip, every satellite, every fiber-optic pulse is fulfilling prophecy faster than theologians can footnote it.

Satan's been in the data business since Eden. He's always been collecting information — "Yea, hath God said?" He's the first data miner, the original surveillance specialist. He doesn't need cameras on every corner; he's already wired into human pride.

He wanted one thing from the beginning — worship. He told Jesus, "All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." (Matt. 4:9) And brother, the world is about to give it to him — not with hymns and harps, but with algorithms and access codes.

Lucifer's kingdom has always been about centralization. He hates sovereignty — in nations, in families, in individuals. That's why the cry of the last days is "global unity." The very thing God destroyed at Babel is what the Devil is reconstructing in the Beast System.

He's building a counterfeit Trinity —

- The **Dragon** (Satan) as the father,
- The **Beast** (Antichrist) as the son,
- The **False Prophet** as the unholy spirit.

And the whole world will fall before it saying, "Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"

You see the setup already — they've conditioned a generation to *worship the system*. To trust the screen. To fear missing out more than missing Heaven.

That's not progress — that's possession.

4. The Currency of Control – Buy, Sell, or Starve

We used to preach that the Antichrist would control the economy and people thought it was superstition. Now the banks are preaching it. The entire world economy is merging under digital currency, and you're watching Revelation 13 in beta test.

You think it's coincidence that every major nation is rolling out "CBDCs" — Central Bank Digital Currencies — simultaneously? Not a chance. That's coordination, not coincidence.

When your money turns digital, your freedom turns conditional.

They can freeze your account for "misinformation." They can block your purchases for "carbon footprint violations." They can program your funds to expire if you don't spend them in time.

That's not financial efficiency — that's digital slavery.

And guess who's already in line to "partner" with it? The churches.

Because the average pastor's faith ends where the offering plate begins.

They've been selling out Christ for thirty pieces of silver since Judas; now they'll sell Him out for thirty clicks of a mouse.

The Beast system won't need to *ban* Christianity — it'll *buy* it. The moment the government offers "tax exemptions for compliant ministries," watch how many pulpits go silent. When

they start requiring “digital certifications for moral teaching,” you’ll see the compromisers reveal themselves faster than a wolf at a sheep banquet.

And the ones who refuse will be labeled “dangerous,” “divisive,” and “noncompliant.” Sound familiar?

They used to burn us at the stake; now they just cancel your account. The tools changed, but the spirit didn’t.

5. The False Prophet and the Faith Industry

Revelation 13:11 speaks of another beast coming up out of the earth — *the False Prophet*. His job is to make the first Beast look holy. He’s the PR man for perdition.

You can already see him rehearsing on the world stage.

He’s got a choir robe, a social media platform, and a theology degree in inclusivity. He calls himself a “bridge builder.” He’ll stand in a pulpit, quote half a verse, then apologize for the other half. He’ll preach love while rewriting truth, and call anybody who still believes the Bible a “hater.”

He’s the chaplain of globalism, and his church is headquartered in Rome with satellite campuses everywhere.

You think I’m being harsh? Look at the Pope standing shoulder to shoulder with imams and rabbis, blessing the same altar. Look at the “United Faith Initiative,” where preachers and politicians sign “peace accords” that remove Jesus from the conversation.

That’s not unity; that’s universalism. That’s not Christianity; that’s counterfeit Christianity.

The False Prophet doesn’t oppose the church — he infiltrates it. He’ll turn pulpits into propaganda centers and preachers into PR agents for the Beast.

And when the fire falls from heaven, it won’t be revival — it’ll be deception.

6. The Sedation of the Saints – Entertainment as Anesthesia

You want to know why the church won’t resist the Beast system? Because it’s too busy livestreaming entertainment to notice the invasion.

When the Antichrist comes, most Christians won’t fight him — they’ll follow him on Instagram.

They'll say, "Wow, he's such a great speaker." "He's bringing people together." "He's finally solving the world's problems."

Brother, the only problem he's solving is Satan's timeline.

When a church spends more on lighting than missions, when worship looks like a rock concert, and when sermons are reduced to motivational speeches about "unlocking your potential," you've got a church that's *ready to take the mark*.

Because the Beast doesn't need to convince you to bow. He just needs to convince you to stop caring.

You think a generation that can't handle a 45-minute sermon is going to handle persecution? You think a church that won't attend Wednesday night prayer is going to resist a world dictator?

Not a chance. They'll call him "the anointed one" before they call him "the Antichrist."

And while the real saints get hunted, the fakes will be hashtagging, "We stand with the global community."

7. The Mark of the Believer – Sealed, Not Sold

Praise God, not everybody's joining the program. The real church — the blood-bought, born-again body of Christ — doesn't take marks; it bears one already.

Ephesians 1:13 says, "After that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise." You see that? Sealed — not scanned. Stamped by God — not by globalism.

The devil can't counterfeit that seal. He can copy your DNA, map your retina, and track your heartbeat, but he can't imitate the Holy Ghost.

When the mark of the Beast is offered, the true believers will be gone. The rapture removes the redeemed before the regime begins. But the shadow's already stretching over this age.

And if the world's system already makes you nervous, remember — you're not staying here. Don't panic; prepare. Don't bow; believe. Don't plug in; pray up.

Because while they're connecting to the grid, we're waiting for the trumpet.

8. The Final Upload – The Image of the Beast

Revelation 13:15 says, “*And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast.*” Brother, that’s artificial intelligence before they even had electricity.

AI is the devil’s attempt to counterfeit the breath of God. The world says, “We’ve created life!” No, you created code. And you’re about to worship it.

The “image of the Beast” isn’t just a statue — it’s a sentient system. A global network that can see, hear, speak, and kill. You don’t need imagination — just look at what’s already on your phone.

They said it was about convenience. Then it became about compliance. Soon it’ll be about *consequences*.

You won’t need guards with guns when you’ve got cameras with AI. You won’t need inquisitors when your own devices confess for you. The Image of the Beast won’t be hanging in a temple — it’ll be running on a server.

And every knee that bows to that machine will be bowing to the Devil behind it.

But don’t worry — God’s still got the firewall of heaven. The Lamb still holds the scroll. And before that AI ever gets the last word, the Almighty will unplug it with a single shout from His throne.

9. The Separation – “Come Out of Her, My People”

The time for fence-sitting is over. The world’s being divided right down the middle — sheep or goats, saved or lost, sealed or marked. There’s no neutral ground.

You can’t have one hand on the Bible and the other on the Beast’s data pad. You can’t sing hymns on Sunday and swipe filth on Monday. You can’t claim to be the Bride of Christ while flirting with the world’s system.

Revelation 18:4 says, “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins.” That’s not a suggestion; that’s an evacuation order.

If you’re still more worried about losing followers than losing fellowship with Christ, you’re already halfway marked.

You’d better decide now — before the pressure hits. Because when it comes, you won’t rise to the occasion; you’ll sink to your level of commitment.

And for most modern churches, that level is about an inch deep and twice as wide.

10. The Trumpet vs. the Tower

While the Beast system builds up, the Lord's preparing to break in.

The Antichrist is setting his throne on earth; Jesus is preparing His seat in the sky. The world is waiting for a signal from the U.N.; the Church is waiting for a sound from heaven.

The Beast has a mark for the hand; the Lord has a name written on the heart. The Beast says "conform"; the Lord says "be transformed." The Beast says "join the system"; the Lord says "come up hither."

So mark it down, friend — the world's tower is about to meet its final download. The Lord's going to crash the network, fry the system, and establish a Kingdom that can't be hacked, crashed, or corrupted.

The Beast gets seven years. The Lord gets eternity.

And when He comes, He's not coming with a peace plan — He's coming with a sword. (Rev. 19:15)

Every screen will go dark, every tower will fall, and every mark will burn off in the heat of His glory.

Conclusion – The Lines Are Drawn

So go ahead, Church of Laodicea. Keep preaching comfort while the Devil installs control. Keep clapping for tolerance while the Beast drafts your future. Keep dancing under your disco lights while the world burns under judgment.

But mark it down — the Beast system is coming.

And half of you already signed up.

You uploaded your worship, downloaded your convictions, and synced your heart to the wrong kingdom.

But for those who still believe the Book — those who still call sin "sin," hell "hell," and Jesus "Lord" — this isn't our world anymore, but our Commander hasn't changed His orders.

Hold the line.

Preach the Word.

Refuse the system.

Wait for the shout.

Because one of these days, the Devil's going to log in for the last time, and the screen of this world will flicker out in fire.

And while the world mourns the fall of its network, the Bride will rise to meet her King.

The Rapture: Leaving This Dump Behind – Blessed Hope, Not Blasted Hype

Introduction – The Trumpet Is About to Blow

Let's get something straight right from the jump: the Rapture isn't wishful thinking, it's the next event on God's calendar. It's not a fairy tale for fundamentalists—it's the blessed hope of the blood-bought believer. Paul didn't call it hype; he called it hope. Titus 2:13 says, *"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."*

You can mock it, ignore it, or "spiritualize" it like the modernist preachers do—but that trumpet's going to blow whether CNN covers it or not.

This world is circling the drain, and the Church isn't called to fix the sewer—it's called to get out before the flood hits. We're not waiting for a golden age or a political utopia. We're waiting for the Son of God to split the sky and say, "Come up hither."

Brother, when that trumpet sounds, we're not sticking around to argue theology. We're *leaving this dump behind*.

1. The Blessed Hope—Not a Blasted Theory

The word *"rapture"* might not show up in your King James Bible, but the event sure does. "Rapturo" is the Latin translation of *harpazo*—the Greek word for "caught up." That's exactly what Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 4:17: *"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air."*

Now that's not allegory—that's air travel without Delta.

Every real Christian believes in the Second Coming, but only the rightly dividing believer understands the two phases:

- The **Rapture** – Christ comes *for* His saints (1 Thess. 4:17).

- The **Revelation** – Christ comes *with* His saints (Rev. 19:14).

At the Rapture, we go up.

At the Revelation, we come back down.

At the Rapture, He comes for His Bride.

At the Revelation, He comes to beat the bride's enemies to powder.

Confuse those two, and you'll end up building bunkers, buying solar panels, and tweeting survival verses instead of preaching salvation.

The Rapture is our exit strategy, not our evacuation plan. It's not about fear—it's about fulfillment. The Lord promised He'd come again and receive us unto Himself (John 14:3), and when God makes a promise, you can mark it down like it's already done.

2. The Dump We're Leaving Behind

Let's face it—this world's done. Every government is corrupt, every system is crooked, and every nation's on life support. If you think this planet's getting better, you're either blind, brainwashed, or Baptist-denomination optimistic.

The Rapture isn't escapism—it's realism. You don't stay in a house after the foundation's cracked and the termites have eaten the beams. You move out.

The world laughs at "pie in the sky religion," but they're the ones choking on the smog of their own rebellion. They say, "We're going to make this world a better place." Sure, by outlawing truth, promoting filth, and calling it "progress."

This dump is under condemnation. Romans 8:22 says, "*For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.*"

You want to know why earthquakes, hurricanes, and fires keep hitting? The earth is groaning for its Creator to come back. It's tired of being rented by sinners.

When Jesus calls us home, He's not abandoning the world—He's repossessing it. He bought it with His blood, and He's coming to clean house.

But before He burns it down, He's pulling His people out. That's mercy, not mythology.

3. The Pattern of Rescue—Before Judgment Falls

God always removes the righteous before He drops the hammer. That's His pattern from Genesis to Revelation.

- **Enoch** – walked with God and was translated before the flood (Genesis 5:24).
- **Noah** – sealed in the ark before judgment drowned the earth (Genesis 7:16).
- **Lot** – dragged out of Sodom before the fire fell (Genesis 19:22).
- **Rahab** – spared before Jericho’s walls collapsed (Joshua 6:25).

And Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 1:10 that believers are to “*wait for his Son from heaven... which delivered us from the wrath to come.*”

If you’re saved, you’re not waiting for wrath—you’re waiting for rescue.

Don’t you let some post-trib preacher steal your hope. They say, “Oh, the Church will go through the Tribulation to purify itself.” Friend, that’s like saying you’ve got to swim through sewage to prove you’re clean.

The Bride doesn’t go through the Tribulation to earn her white robe. She’s already got it, washed in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 7:14).

If you think Jesus is going to beat up His Bride before the wedding, you’ve been listening to the wrong preacher.

4. The Sound of the Trumpet—The Shout Heard ‘Round the World

1 Thessalonians 4:16 says, “*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God.*”

That shout will be the most divisive sound in human history. One half of humanity will vanish; the other half will stand in confusion.

They’ll blame it on aliens, wormholes, solar flares—anything but sin and Scripture. The globalist crowd will call it “The Great Disappearance.” The Pope will call it “a sign of divine transition.” The U.N. will call for calm. And CNN will call it a conspiracy.

But heaven will call it *the homecoming*.

The trumpet’s not a warning—it’s a wedding bell. The shout isn’t fear—it’s fulfillment. The same voice that called Lazarus from the tomb will call the saints from the ground. And when He does, the cemeteries will be the busiest construction sites on earth.

5. The Transformation—From Corruption to Glory

1 Corinthians 15:52 declares, *“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye... we shall be changed.”*

That’s faster than a camera flash, quicker than a neuron fires. The mortal puts on immortality, and gravity loses its grip.

You’ll drop your arthritis, your cancer, your bifocals, your mortgage, your depression, your anxiety—all of it. Gone in a flash.

You won’t need a doctor, a therapist, or a credit score. You’ll be outfitted for eternity.

The body that’s buried will be raised in glory; the body that’s groaning will be glorified in grace.

And you’ll look up to see Jesus not as the carpenter’s son, not as the suffering Savior—but as the conquering King.

6. The Counterfeit Hope—The Devil’s Post-Rapture Religion

The devil knows his time is short, and he’s got his backup plan ready for when the saints vanish. The moment the Church goes up, hell breaks loose.

Out comes the Antichrist, the man of sin, the son of perdition. He’ll be the world’s messiah, the U.N.’s poster boy, and the Pope’s best friend. He’ll promise peace and deliver persecution.

You say, “Would people really believe a lie that big?” Brother, they already do. They believe a blob of protoplasm exploded and made Beethoven. They believe genders are optional and sin is therapy.

They’ll believe anything but the truth.

After the Rapture, religion won’t disappear—it’ll get stronger. The churches that never preached salvation will keep preaching inclusion. The preachers that mocked the Rapture will say, “See, we told you those radicals were holding us back.”

The Beast system will rise on the back of false peace, and the False Prophet will call it revival.

But the real revival will have already happened—in the air, when the saints meet the Savior.

7. The Mockers and Scoffers—Professional Critics of the Sky

Peter warned us about them: “*There shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming?*” (2 Peter 3:3-4).

They mock, not because they have logic, but because they have lust. They don’t want Christ to come back because they love their sin more than His appearing.

These modern mockers have theology degrees and YouTube channels. They preach “Kingdom Now” and “Heaven on Earth,” while ignoring the fact that the world’s burning like Sodom and Gomorrah with a Wi-Fi signal.

They say, “You escapists just want to avoid responsibility.”

No, friend—we’re fulfilling obedience. The Bible says, “*Occupy till I come,*” not “*Rebuild Babel while you wait.*”

The problem isn’t that Christians believe in the Rapture; it’s that too many preachers stopped believing in it. They’re too busy playing politics, pushing prosperity, or puffing up pride to preach the promise.

But the trumpet doesn’t wait for theologians—it waits for the timetable of the Almighty.

8. The Rewards—Why We’re Running the Race

Romans 14:10 says we’ll all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. That’s not for condemnation—it’s for compensation.

The sinner faces the Great White Throne; the saint faces the Bema Seat. The lost get judged for their rejection; the saved get rewarded for their service.

You won’t be judged for your sin—it was judged at Calvary. But you *will* be judged for your stewardship.

Crowns for faithfulness, soul-winning, endurance, righteousness, and love for His appearing.

And you know what the real glory is? Casting them back at His feet. Because when you see the scars that bought your salvation, you’ll realize every good thing you did was powered by grace.

The Rapture isn’t just an escape—it’s an entrance exam for eternal reward.

So if you’re saved, don’t just wait—*work*. Don’t just sit—*serve*. Because when the trumpet sounds, time sheets close and payday begins.

9. The Counterfeit Bride—The Church That Missed the Ride

Let's be clear—everybody sitting in a pew isn't going in the Rapture. Salvation is personal, not positional.

There are churches full of lost preachers preaching to lost deacons who voted in lost members. They've got their names on the church roll, but not in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Jesus said in Matthew 7:22, *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord... and then will I profess unto them, I never knew you.”*

They had religion without regeneration, faith without fruit, motion without the Master.

When the trumpet blows, that crowd's staying put. The music will stop, the microphone will drop, and they'll realize they missed the main event.

Imagine it: pulpits empty, pews half-full, planes without pilots, hospitals without doctors, and headlines reading, *“Millions Vanish.”*

And yet, the real tragedy isn't the chaos—it's the complacency. People will go to hell holding church bulletins and thinking they're saved because they signed a card.

Friend, if your faith is in anything but the blood of Jesus Christ, you'll still be here when the trumpet sounds.

10. The Departure—When the Trumpet Interrupts History

You can feel it coming. The tempo of time is accelerating. The news reads like prophecy in motion. Israel's surrounded, the nations are aligning, and the church is apostatizing.

We're not waiting for signs—we're hearing sirens.

Any moment now, a voice will pierce the sky. Maybe while you're at work, maybe while you're scrolling your phone, maybe while you're praying.

It'll start in heaven, roll through the clouds, and hit the ground like thunder wrapped in grace.

Every grave of a believer will pop like popcorn. Every saint on earth will disappear in an instant. Gravity will lose its hold, and corruption will lose its claim.

You won't need wings—you'll have the will of God propelling you upward.

And while the world trembles, heaven will erupt in rejoicing. The family reunion begins—the dead in Christ, the living saints, and the Savior Himself at the head of the table.

What a meeting that will be!

11. The Application—How to Live While You Wait

Knowing all this, how should we live?

Not as dreamers, but as doers. Not as cowards hiding from the end, but as soldiers standing till the call.

Paul said, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.*” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

We’re not to set dates; we’re to stay ready. We’re not supposed to predict; we’re supposed to prepare.

Every sunrise could be our last on this side of glory. Every prayer could be our final communiqué from the battlefield. Every soul you win could be your last recruit before the trumpet blows.

If you knew Jesus was coming tonight, what would you change? Then why wait until tonight?

The time for repentance is now. The time for holiness is now. The time for preaching is now.

The trumpet’s in the Lord’s hand, and it’s closer to His lips than it’s ever been.

12. The Mock Revival vs. The Real Return

You’ll hear people talk about “a great revival sweeping the world before Jesus comes.” That’s sentimental nonsense. The Bible doesn’t predict revival—it predicts rebellion.

2 Thessalonians 2:3 says there’ll be a *falling away first*. And brother, we’re knee-deep in it.

Churches that once preached against sin now sponsor it. Preachers that once quoted the King James now question it. Saints that once shouted “Amen” now scroll silently on their phones.

That’s not revival—that’s rot.

You’re not going to fix Laodicea with a worship playlist. You can’t prop up a corpse with carnal music. The only cure for the lukewarm church is departure—the Rapture will finish what rebuke couldn’t fix.

When that trumpet sounds, the thermometer of religion will shatter. The real gold will rise; the dross will burn.

13. The Grand Finale—The Blessed Hope Fulfilled

Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 4:18, *“Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”*

Notice—comfort, not chaos. The Rapture isn’t supposed to scare the believer; it’s supposed to steady him.

You can have the stock market, the elections, and your global peace plans. I’ll take the blessed hope.

We’re not looking for the Antichrist; we’re looking for the Advocate.

We’re not waiting for the mark; we’re waiting for the meeting.

We’re not planning for tribulation; we’re praying for translation.

And when it happens, this old world will finally realize what it lost—the light that kept it from total darkness.

The salt of the earth will be gone, and decay will take over.

But up there—oh, up there—no more tears, no more pain, no more politicians, no more funerals, no more goodbyes.

We’ll see the One who bore the nails, hear the voice that said, “It is finished,” and know it was all worth it.

Conclusion – Pack Up, We’re Going Home

The Rapture isn’t just doctrine—it’s destiny.

You can argue theology all you want, but when that trumpet blows, theology turns to reality.

So don’t get too comfortable in this dump. Don’t get attached to a world that’s about to burn. Don’t decorate your prison cell when the warden just handed you a pardon.

We’re not staying—we’re leaving.

The only question is: are you ready?

Because one of these mornings, you’ll roll over to hit the snooze button and hear a sound that doesn’t belong in your alarm clock.

The shout will split the sky, graves will split the ground, and time will split into eternity.

And in the twinkling of an eye—just like that—you’ll be gone.

Leaving this dump behind.

When the Church Imitates the Circus – Clowns in the Pulpit

Introduction – Step Right Up, Folks! The Greatest Show on Earth Is in the Sanctuary

You can almost hear the ringmaster now: “Step right up! Come see the lights, the lasers, the fog machines, and the skinny-jeaned preacher with the microphone glued to his face!” Friend, we’re living in a day when the Church has traded the cross for a clown act, and the pulpit has become a performance stage. Instead of preachers thundering out “*Thus saith the Lord!*” we’ve got showmen asking, “Are you entertained?”

The world used to go to the circus for entertainment and the church for conviction. Now they go to church for entertainment and leave without conviction.

The modern church looks more like a carnival than Calvary. The lights are flashing, the crowd is clapping, and the ringmaster in the pulpit is juggling Scripture, psychology, and social relevance to keep the crowd happy.

But make no mistake—God never called His preachers to juggle, dance, or amuse goats. He called them to feed the sheep.

When the church imitates the circus, you can be sure the lions aren’t in the arena—the clowns are in the pulpit.

1. The Sacred Became a Spectacle

Jesus Christ never needed a fog machine to get attention. He didn’t need a worship team to warm up the crowd. He didn’t dim the lights and play emotional chords on a keyboard while He called sinners to repentance.

He preached under the open sky, not a spotlight. His pulpit was a mountainside, His amplifier was the Holy Ghost, and His invitation was repentance.

But what do we have now? A church service that looks like a halftime show. Lights flashing, people screaming, and preachers strutting on stage like celebrities. And they call it *worship*.

It's not worship—it's witchcraft dressed in religious glitter. It's emotional manipulation disguised as spiritual movement.

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 14:40, "*Let all things be done decently and in order.*" But there's nothing decent about turning the house of God into a house of theatrics.

When the sacred becomes a spectacle, the message loses its sting and the people lose their fear of God. They clap, they cheer, they shout—but they never repent.

Entertainment can make you feel good, but only the Word of God can make you right.

2. The Pulpit Became a Platform

In the Book of Acts, the apostles didn't stand on platforms—they stood on the Word. They didn't use their pulpits to promote themselves—they used them to proclaim Christ.

Today, preachers measure success not by souls saved, but by followers gained. They're influencers, not intercessors. Their sermons are curated for clicks, not conviction.

And the congregation? They're an audience, not an army.

The modern pulpit has become a stage for self-promotion, not soul salvation. They've got branding, slogans, sponsorships, and merchandise—but no burden.

They've learned how to "relate" but forgot how to rebuke.

You won't find these pulpiteers crying over sin, weeping over souls, or warning about hell. Why? Because that doesn't sell tickets.

The average sermon today wouldn't offend the devil himself—it's that soft.

They're experts at presentation but bankrupt in power.

You see, a real preacher doesn't seek applause; he seeks awakening. He doesn't flatter the flesh; he feeds the spirit. He doesn't sell tickets to a show; he preaches the truth even when it empties the pews.

3. The Worship Became a Warm-Up Act

When did worship become a concert? When did praising the Lord turn into performing for the crowd?

The worship team isn't supposed to be a band of entertainers—it's supposed to be a choir of intercessors.

But now, it's all about the mood, the rhythm, and the production value. They dim the lights, hit the fog machine, and try to "set the atmosphere."

What atmosphere? You think the Holy Spirit needs a light show to show up?

He showed up in Acts 2 without a single smoke machine!

Today's worship leaders don't sing to heaven—they perform for the crowd. They've turned the altar into a stage, and the sanctuary into a sound studio.

They're more concerned with pitch than purity, more obsessed with harmony than holiness.

And don't misunderstand—God loves a joyful noise, but He doesn't bless a fleshly performance. Psalm 66:18 says, *"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."*

It's not the sound of your voice that moves God—it's the state of your heart.

We've got churches full of people who can sing about grace but have never experienced it. They can raise their hands but have never bowed their knees.

Friend, worship without holiness is just noise—and the Bible says God's not listening.

4. The Preacher Became a Performer

Once upon a time, preachers preached like men who believed every word of their Bible. They thundered from the pulpit with conviction, courage, and compassion. They didn't care who it offended because they knew the truth would set people free.

But those days are gone. Now the preachers wear skinny jeans, read from iPads, and give "motivational talks" instead of messages. They quote TikTok more than Titus.

They're not shepherds; they're salesmen. They're not prophets; they're performers.

They use stage lighting to dramatize what the Holy Ghost used to energize. They play with tone and pacing like actors reading scripts.

You'll never hear them preach on sin, hell, or judgment. You'll never see them weep over lost souls. But you will see them laugh, tell stories, and smile for the cameras.

The old prophets cried, “Thus saith the Lord!”
These new ones cry, “Let’s not offend anybody.”

Jeremiah was thrown in a pit, John the Baptist lost his head, and Paul was beaten with rods—because they preached truth.

But the modern preacher doesn’t even risk losing followers.

They’ve confused charisma for calling. They think an emotional crowd means a spiritual church. They don’t realize that not every shout comes from heaven.

Some of the loudest “Amen’s” come from devils who love distraction.

5. The Church Became a Carnival

You can tell a lot about a church by what draws its crowd.

If you have to bait them with the world, you’ll have to keep them with the world.

Carnival Christianity is all about *flash, feel, and fun*. They’ve got bounce houses, coffee bars, celebrity guests, and sermons so shallow you could drown a flea in them.

They promise “community,” but deliver compromise. They promise “connection,” but avoid conviction.

They call it “relevant,” but the Bible calls it rebellion.

God never told the Church to imitate the world to win it. He told it to come out from among it (2 Corinthians 6:17).

But these modern ministries look like amusement parks. They’ve got a “fun zone” for the kids, a “life group” for the adults, and a “no judgment” slogan for the sinners.

But judgment’s coming whether they like it or not.

Jesus didn’t die to give us a good time. He died to give us eternal life.

You can’t entertain a man into repentance. You can’t amuse a sinner into salvation. And you can’t fill the pews with carnal bait without emptying heaven of souls.

6. The Gospel Became a Gimmick

The Gospel used to be simple: Christ died for your sins, was buried, and rose again. Now it’s been rebranded.

They call it “your best life now.” They call it “spiritual self-improvement.” They call it “God’s dream for your destiny.”

That’s not the Gospel—that’s snake oil.

They’ve replaced repentance with relevance. They’ve swapped conviction for convenience.

The old Gospel broke the sinner’s heart. The new gospel strokes it.

The old Gospel said, “You’re a sinner who needs a Savior.”

The new gospel says, “You’re awesome, and God just wants to enhance your awesomeness.”

Friend, if your gospel doesn’t offend sin, it can’t save sinners.

Paul said in Galatians 1:9, *“If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”*

That’s not a suggestion; that’s a sentence.

You can have the biggest crowd in town, the best band, and the brightest lights—but if you’re not preaching the blood, you’re just running a circus with Christian décor.

7. The Holy Ghost Became the Hype Man

In the book of Acts, the Holy Ghost moved with conviction and clarity. He broke hearts, birthed churches, and emboldened men to die for their faith.

Now He’s treated like a stage effect.

The modern church has reduced the Spirit of God to emotional hype. They confuse excitement for anointing and goosebumps for glory.

But the Holy Ghost doesn’t show up because you hit the right chord progression. He doesn’t manifest because you shout louder or jump higher.

He comes where He’s invited—by obedience, not ambiance.

And when He truly shows up, people don’t dance around; they fall on their faces. They don’t laugh hysterically; they cry in repentance. They don’t “catch the Spirit”; they’re filled with Him.

You can’t fake fire. The devil can imitate tongues, miracles, and music—but he can’t imitate holiness.

And that's the one thing missing from most churches today.

The Holy Ghost isn't impressed by your lighting budget—He's looking for broken hearts and contrite spirits.

8. The Saints Became Spectators

The early church didn't sit around and watch. They prayed, preached, and suffered for the cause of Christ.

Today's Christians sit, sip coffee, and watch a performance. They'll shout at football games but whisper in prayer meetings.

They'll stay up for late-night TV but fall asleep during sermons.

We've raised a generation of Christians who think discipleship is watching livestreams and posting verses on Instagram.

The Church isn't called to be entertained—it's called to engage. It's not a theater; it's a training ground.

Ephesians 6 doesn't say, "Put on your show clothes." It says, "Put on the whole armor of God."

But modern believers don't want armor—they want comfort.

They want to clap but not carry the cross. They want to dance but not deny themselves.

They've forgotten that Christianity isn't a spectator sport—it's a battlefield.

9. The Devil's Applause

You think the devil's upset about the modern church? Not a chance.

He's thrilled.

He's watching from the sidelines as preachers trade holiness for humor, and choirs trade hymns for hype.

He doesn't have to shut down churches anymore—they've already shut down their message.

He doesn't have to persecute believers—they're too busy entertaining themselves.

The devil loves a carnal church because it's harmless. He loves a preacher who's funny because he's ineffective. He loves a congregation that's comfortable because they'll never carry the cross.

When the church imitates the circus, the devil doesn't need to send persecution—he sends applause.

10. God's Remedy for the Clown Show

The only cure for this circus Christianity is old-fashioned preaching and Holy Ghost repentance.

We don't need another concert; we need a confrontation. We don't need another worship experience; we need weeping at the altar.

It's time to throw out the smoke machines and pick up the Sword of the Spirit. Time to shut down the light show and open up the Bible.

Jesus Christ didn't die to create a Christian entertainment industry—He died to redeem souls from hell.

We need preachers who'll stand up again and preach like there's still a heaven to gain and a hell to shun.

We need Christians who'll separate from the world, not imitate it.

We need churches that smell like prayer closets, not coffee bars.

It's time to stop clowning around.

The show's almost over. The trumpet's about to sound. And when it does, God's not calling up the ringmasters—He's calling up the remnant.

Conclusion – The Curtain's About to Drop

Friend, the Church that tries to entertain the world will end up being judged with it.

You can't serve God and the spotlight. You can't please both Christ and the crowd.

It's time for preachers to stop acting, singers to stop performing, and saints to stop spectating.

The world doesn't need another circus—it needs a church on fire for God.

The hour's late, the clowns are preaching, and the people are laughing their way to hell.

But the few who still believe in holiness, still preach repentance, and still stand on the Book—they're not the joke. They're the ones holding the light while the tent burns down.

So let the world have its circus. Let the clowns have their stage.

As for me and my house—we'll stand with the Word of God until the trumpet blows.

Because when that curtain falls and the lights go out, the only spotlight that will matter is the one from the Throne.

Seeker Friendly, Spirit Empty – Why Entertainment Isn't Evangelism

Introduction – From Soul-Winning to Show-Business

We've got a generation of churches that think the Great Commission is a marketing strategy. They've traded the upper room for the green room, the pulpit for a platform, and revival for relevance. The modern church has become a performance hall where the band plays louder than the preacher, the lights shine brighter than the Spirit, and the only fire in the place comes from the fog machine.

They call it "seeker-friendly." I call it **Spirit-empty**.

Friend, when the church bends over backward to make sinners comfortable, it stops being a church and starts being a club. The gospel of Jesus Christ was never designed to be comfortable—it was designed to **convert**. And you can't win a soul by entertaining the flesh.

Entertainment can fill a building, but it can't fill a heart.

It can draw a crowd, but it can't draw conviction.

It can make you feel good, but it can't make you born again.

That's why Jesus didn't say, "*Take up your ticket and follow Me.*" He said, "*Take up your cross.*"

1. The Gospel Isn't a Product, and Sinners Aren't Customers

Somewhere along the way, pastors traded their Bibles for business plans. They started calling their congregations “consumers” and their sermons “content.”

They hold marketing meetings to brainstorm how to “appeal to seekers.” They study demographics more than doctrine. They use branding consultants instead of burdened prayer warriors.

It’s not evangelism anymore—it’s enterprise.

The message has been repackaged, repolished, and repurposed for maximum appeal. Gone are the words “*repent*,” “*judgment*,” “*hell*,” and “*blood*.” They’ve been replaced with “*purpose*,” “*potential*,” and “*personal growth*.”

Listen, friend: the gospel isn’t supposed to sell—it’s supposed to **save**.

You can’t “soften” the message of the cross without stripping it of its power. The old-time preachers didn’t have marketing budgets or social media strategies, but they had fire from heaven because they feared God more than losing followers.

They didn’t craft messages—they **declared** them.

They didn’t try to be liked—they tried to get men right with God.

And yet today’s churches will do anything to avoid offending a lost man’s feelings—even if it means offending the Holy Ghost.

2. You Don’t Have to Attract the Flesh to Reach the Soul

We’ve got this modern myth that says, “You’ve got to meet people where they are.” Sure—but not **stay** where they are.

Jesus met the woman at the well, but He didn’t sip water with her all afternoon and say, “You do you.” He confronted her sin. He said, “*Go, and sin no more.*”

But that kind of preaching doesn’t fill auditoriums anymore. It empties them.

So what do these seeker-sensitive churches do? They dim the lights, crank up the music, and sell a Jesus that won’t hurt your ego. It’s “faith without fire,” “grace without godliness,” and “salvation without surrender.”

They try to *lure* the world in by looking like it. The worship looks like a nightclub. The sermon sounds like a TED Talk. The preacher acts like a motivational coach.

You don’t win people to Christ by hiding Christ.

You don't draw people to the cross by removing it from sight.

You don't save souls by soothing sinners.

Jesus said in John 12:32, *"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."* Not if the band is lifted up. Not if the preacher's personality is lifted up. But **Christ**.

And if your "evangelism" doesn't involve the blood, the cross, and repentance—you're not drawing men to Christ; you're drawing them to yourself.

3. The Spirit Doesn't Compete With Smoke Machines

You can't manufacture revival. You can't schedule a move of God between the opening number and the offering.

But try telling that to a modern megachurch pastor.

They'll spend millions on lighting, sound systems, and stage design, but not five minutes on their knees in prayer. They think the Holy Spirit can be "invited" with a good setlist and the right key change.

They'll say, "We felt the Spirit move tonight!" No, friend—you felt the subwoofers.

The Holy Ghost doesn't move because of ambiance; He moves because of **obedience**.

You can sing all night, shout all day, and spin in circles, but if there's sin in the camp, the Spirit's grieved.

The Bible says in Ephesians 4:30, *"Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God."*

And the quickest way to grieve Him is to replace Him with entertainment.

You can tell a Spirit-filled church from a seeker-friendly one by what happens when the lights go out. In one, the power stops; in the other, the power just starts.

The early church didn't need concerts. They didn't need fog machines. They had fire from heaven, not fireworks from a budget. They didn't try to attract the world—they turned it upside down.

That's the difference between a church on fire and a church putting on a show.

4. Seeker-Friendly Means Sin-Friendly

The word “seeker” shows up one time in your King James Bible—in Hebrews 11:6: *“He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”*

So if they’re truly seeking God, they don’t need entertainment—they need **truth**.

But seeker-friendly churches aren’t full of seekers; they’re full of people who want comfort without conviction.

The average sermon in those places sounds like a self-help manual sprinkled with Bible verses. The preacher never preaches against sin because sin doesn’t fit the brand.

You’ll never hear a message on hell, holiness, or hypocrisy. But you’ll hear plenty on happiness, health, and how to “find your purpose.”

That’s not the Gospel—it’s a spiritual placebo. It makes you feel better while you’re dying inside.

The preacher pats them on the back all the way to judgment, saying, “You’re doing great! God loves you just the way you are!”

Sure He does—but He loves you too much to **leave** you that way.

The gospel offends before it redeems. It wounds before it heals. It exposes before it saves.

That’s why Paul said in Galatians 4:16, *“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?”*

If a preacher never steps on your toes, it’s because he’s too busy polishing his shoes.

5. The Church That Pleases the World Can’t Please God

You can’t please both heaven and Hollywood. You can’t serve both Christ and the crowd.

The church used to be the place that changed the world. Now it’s the place that copies it.

You’ve got churches hosting “movie sermon series,” “Star Wars Sundays,” and “Superhero sermons.” They bring in comedians, pop bands, and celebrities to “connect with culture.”

You don’t connect with culture—you confront it!

John the Baptist didn’t connect with Herod. Elijah didn’t connect with Jezebel. Jesus didn’t connect with the Pharisees.

They stood up and spoke the truth, whether anyone liked it or not.

But today, we've got pastors too afraid to offend people because they don't want to lose donors. They'd rather lose the Spirit than lose their sponsors.

They forget that the Bible still says in James 4:4, "*Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*"

If the world applauds your message, heaven probably isn't impressed.

6. The Devil Doesn't Mind a Packed Church—As Long as It's Empty of Power

The devil doesn't care how full your church is. He doesn't mind a thousand people singing, clapping, and shouting—as long as nobody's repenting.

He doesn't care how much money you raise, how many events you host, or how fancy your sanctuary looks—as long as there's no Holy Ghost conviction.

In fact, the devil loves seeker-friendly churches. He built most of them.

Why? Because they keep people entertained, emotional, and **unsaved**.

They replace doctrine with diversity, preaching with psychology, and repentance with relevance. They're not fighting the devil; they're helping him recruit.

A preacher who refuses to preach on sin is like a doctor who refuses to diagnose cancer. He's not helping you—he's killing you softly.

And when a church stops warning about hell, it stops saving anyone from it.

The devil doesn't need to close a church that preaches no truth—he just gives it more followers.

7. Real Evangelism Isn't Comfortable

Jesus didn't tell the disciples, "Go into all the world and make it fun."

He said, "*Go into all the world and preach the gospel.*" (Mark 16:15)

The gospel isn't meant to entertain—it's meant to **evangelize**.

It's not supposed to make you comfortable; it's supposed to make you clean.

The reason we've lost the fire in our pulpits is because we've lost the burden in our hearts. Preachers are more worried about being liked than being right. They want to be relevant more than righteous.

But the cross has never been “relevant.” It’s always been offensive.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:18, *“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*

If the message of your church never sounds foolish to the world, it’s probably not the Gospel.

Real evangelism doesn’t aim to entertain sinners—it calls them out. It doesn’t promise prosperity—it promises persecution. It doesn’t promise comfort—it promises conflict.

But it also promises something seeker-friendly churches will never know—**power**.

8. The Power’s in the Blood, Not the Branding

The secret to revival isn’t a rebrand—it’s repentance.

The early church didn’t have marketing departments, camera crews, or merchandise. They had fire from heaven because they were filled with the Holy Ghost and unashamed of the Book.

They preached the blood, not “blessings.” They preached sin, not self-esteem.

And God moved.

The modern church preaches self-help and wonders why there’s no help from heaven.

They’ve taken the blood out of the hymns, the cross out of the sermons, and the conviction out of the services—and they wonder why nobody’s getting saved.

Friend, you can’t have the power of God without the purity of the message.

You can’t have the blessing of God without the burden for souls.

You can’t have Pentecost power while you’re living like a Philistine.

You can paint your stage, polish your sermon, and perfect your branding—but if you’ve lost the fire, you’ve lost it all.

9. The Only Way Back – Preach Again Like It’s Life or Death

We don’t need cooler churches—we need holier ones.

We don’t need better sound systems—we need better prayer lives.

We don't need friendlier services—we need fiery sermons.

We don't need preachers who entertain—we need prophets who weep.

The only cure for a seeker-friendly, Spirit-empty church is repentance from the top down.

Tear down the stage. Burn the fog machines. Turn off the lights.

Get on your knees and beg God for His power again.

Because when the Holy Ghost shows up, you don't need a show.

You don't need a marketing plan.

You don't need to "attract" people—they'll come running when they see the fire fall.

That's what happened in Acts 2, and that's what can happen again—if we stop playing church and start being the church.

Conclusion – The Show's Almost Over

The seeker-friendly movement is the devil's distraction. It's the world's church in religious clothes. It promises life but produces lukewarmness. It entertains goats while starving sheep.

But friend, the trumpet's about to sound. The Judge is about to step out. And when He does, there won't be any more encores.

God's not looking for performers—He's looking for preachers.

He's not looking for audiences—He's looking for armies.

He's not looking for applause—He's looking for repentance.

It's time to stop trying to make sinners feel good and start warning them to flee from the wrath to come.

Because when the lights go out and the music fades, all that'll matter is whether you knew Jesus Christ—or just attended the show.

The Gospel Is Not a TED Talk – You Don't Need Polish, You Need Power

Introduction – The Day the Pulpit Became a Podium

The modern pulpit has gone soft. The old wooden pulpit where men thundered “Thus saith the Lord!” has been replaced by sleek glass stands and wireless headsets. The Bible has been traded for a PowerPoint. The preacher’s voice has been replaced by smooth tones, the Holy Ghost by clever graphics, and the message by motivational fluff.

You know what that is? That’s not the gospel—it’s a **TED Talk with a cross logo** slapped on it.

We’re living in an age where preachers want to be influencers, not intercessors; coaches, not soldiers. They want applause from men, not approval from God. They stand behind their podiums with polished delivery, but no divine power.

The gospel doesn’t need polish. It needs power.

Paul didn’t come to Athens with a projector; he came with the **Spirit of God and a backbone made of Scripture.**

He said in 1 Corinthians 2:4–5, *“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”*

That’s the problem right there—modern churches are running on man’s wisdom instead of God’s power.

1. The TED Talk Gospel Has No Teeth

The TED Talk gospel sounds good, but it’s got no bite. It’s smooth, safe, and sterile.

You’ll hear about purpose, potential, peace, and prosperity—but never about **sin, repentance, or the blood.**

The modern preacher doesn’t want to hurt feelings; he wants to help branding. He’s not worried about conviction; he’s worried about his image.

He crafts his message with precision, rehearses his gestures, and checks his lighting cues. He’s not praying in the Spirit; he’s practicing in the mirror.

You know why he never preaches about hell? Because it’s “too negative.”

You know why he never calls sin by name? Because it’s “too divisive.”

Well, friend, the cross was divisive. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 1:18, *“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*

The old-time preachers didn’t care if you liked them—they cared if you got saved.

But the TED Talk preachers care more about being liked than being right.

They want followers, not converts. They want platforms, not pulpits.

And when you trade the sword of the Spirit for a self-help slogan, don’t be surprised when the devil stops bleeding and starts laughing.

2. The Gospel Isn’t a Presentation—it’s a Confrontation

The gospel doesn’t come to comfort your flesh; it comes to crucify it.

A real sermon doesn’t make you feel smarter—it makes you feel smaller before a holy God. It doesn’t make you clap—it makes you confess.

The TED Talk preacher wants you to think better of yourself. The gospel preacher wants you to die to yourself.

That’s why Paul said, *“I am crucified with Christ.”* Not entertained, not improved—**crucified.**

Jesus didn’t come to inspire mankind; He came to **redeem it.**

He didn’t come to raise your self-esteem; He came to raise the dead.

The problem with modern preaching is that it’s horizontal—it looks at man. But gospel preaching is vertical—it looks at God.

The TED Talk gospel says, “You’re enough.”

The true gospel says, “You’re lost.”

The TED Talk gospel says, “Follow your dreams.”

The true gospel says, “Follow Christ.”

The TED Talk gospel says, “You can do it.”

The true gospel says, “You can’t—only He can.”

When preaching stops confronting sin, it stops converting sinners.

3. When Power Is Replaced by Performance

There's a difference between presentation and presence.

You can rehearse presentation—but you can't rehearse the presence of God.

A real preacher doesn't need a spotlight. He doesn't need a hype man. He doesn't need stage smoke or background music. He just needs **heaven to show up**.

That's what's missing in the modern pulpit—the *power*.

They've got the look, the mic, the energy, and the polish—but no unction.

You can have charisma without Christ, but you can't have **power** without Him.

When Peter preached on Pentecost, he didn't have a sermon series graphic. He didn't rehearse his transitions. He didn't pause for applause or worry about camera angles.

He preached one message—and 3,000 souls hit their knees.

Why? Because it wasn't Peter's words—it was the Holy Ghost.

Acts 4:13 says the crowd "marveled" because they saw that Peter and John were "unlearned and ignorant men." That means they weren't polished—but they were **possessed** by the Spirit of God.

And I'd rather have one minute of unpolished preaching with the fire of heaven than a lifetime of smooth talk with no power.

4. The Devil Loves Polished Preaching

The devil doesn't mind a polished preacher. He minds a **powerful** one.

He doesn't care if you go to seminary, study homiletics, or learn the art of "effective communication."

He just doesn't want you to pray, fast, and depend on the Holy Ghost.

Because polished preaching tickles ears—but powerful preaching tears down strongholds.

The devil will let you use all the big words you want, as long as you don't use the **name of Jesus**.

He'll let you quote books, cite statistics, and talk about leadership—but the moment you say "*Thus saith the Lord*," hell trembles.

You know why? Because the devil recognizes the difference between a performance and a proclamation.

You can impress men with polish, but you can only impact eternity with **power**.

5. The Bible Isn't a Prop, It's a Sword

You've seen it—the modern pastor walks on stage with no Bible in his hands. He's got an iPad, a latte, and a list of talking points, but no Book.

He'll flash a verse on the screen, give a motivational spin on it, and move on.

Friend, that's not preaching. That's commentary on human potential.

Hebrews 4:12 says, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.”*

But how can a man wield the sword if he's too afraid to draw it?

You can't cut sin with a stylus. You can't pierce hearts with PowerPoint.

The Word of God was meant to **cut**, not coddle.

When's the last time you heard a sermon that sliced through your pride and made you hit your knees? That's what the old Book is supposed to do.

The preacher's job isn't to make the Bible sound smarter—it's to unleash it.

You don't have to defend a lion. You just let it out of the cage.

And when the Book starts roaring, sin starts running.

6. The Crowd Isn't the Measure of a Man's Ministry

We're living in a day where pastors are judged by their following instead of their faithfulness.

If you've got a big audience, they say you're successful. But friend, if Jesus preached in most churches today, they'd cancel Him before He finished His first sermon.

Why? Because He didn't preach to fill buildings—He preached to **fill heaven**.

He didn't measure His ministry by numbers but by obedience.

When He said, *“Eat my flesh and drink my blood,”* most of His followers left. You think He chased them down to adjust His message? No, sir. He turned to the few left and said, *“Will ye also go away?”* (John 6:67).

That's not seeker-sensitive. That's truth-sensitive.

But today's preachers would have called a marketing meeting after that sermon. They'd rebrand, soften the tone, and relaunch the series next week with new slogans.

But the man of God doesn't adjust truth to please the crowd—he adjusts the crowd to face the truth.

You can have a full building and an empty pulpit. You can have applause from men and absence from God.

It's not the crowd that proves the preacher. It's the **cross** he's willing to carry.

7. You Don't Need to Be Clever—You Need to Be Clean

You don't need to be eloquent; you need to be obedient.

Moses wasn't eloquent, but he spoke for God. Amos wasn't trained, but he thundered judgment. John the Baptist didn't dress right, but his message shook the wilderness.

It's not about presentation—it's about purity.

You can't preach power when you're living powerless. You can't deliver truth when you're drowning in sin.

The Holy Ghost doesn't fill polished performers; He fills broken vessels.

That's why revival doesn't start in boardrooms—it starts on your face before God.

The preacher who prays more than he performs will shake more hell in five minutes than a celebrity pastor will in five decades.

When the man behind the pulpit gets right, the church in the pews will get real.

We don't need another Ted Talker. We need another thunderer.

8. The Power Is in the Preaching

Romans 1:16 says, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation.”*

Notice—it doesn't say it *contains* power. It *is* power.

When you preach the Book straight, the Spirit moves. When you start editing it to make it palatable, He leaves.

The power isn't in the illustrations. It's not in the diction. It's not in the delivery. It's in the declaration.

That's why Paul told Timothy, *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”*

Reprove. Rebuke. Exhort. You ever notice those first two aren't popular?

You know why? Because real preaching steps on toes before it saves souls.

If the message of the cross doesn't offend somebody, you're not preaching it right.

Preaching isn't a performance—it's warfare. You're swinging the Sword of the Spirit into the kingdom of darkness.

You're not supposed to make people clap. You're supposed to make the devil cry.

9. A Call Back to Real Preaching

We need a generation of men who will preach again like they believe every word of this Book is from God Almighty.

Men who aren't scared of being labeled “intolerant,” “harsh,” or “divisive.”

Men who know that the same Book that saves souls also splits churches, shatters pride, and exposes sin.

The gospel doesn't need an upgrade—it needs a backbone.

We've tried to impress the world so long that we've forgotten how to impact it.

We've invited the culture into the church instead of taking the church into the culture.

The early church turned the world upside down. The modern church can't even turn off the smoke machine.

The old preachers used to say, “If there's a mist in the pulpit, there'll be a fog in the pews.”

Well, today there's nothing but fog everywhere—spiritual fog, doctrinal fog, moral fog—because we've got men behind pulpits who can talk for 40 minutes and never say anything worth repeating.

We don't need more clever outlines. We need **divine outpouring**.

10. The Gospel Still Works—If You'll Let It

The same gospel that worked in the first century still works in the 21st. The problem isn't the message—it's the messengers.

We've tried to help God out, as if the Almighty needs a PR department.

We're afraid the world won't like the Bible, so we rewrite it. We're afraid they'll be offended by preaching, so we entertain them instead.

And all the while, hell widens her mouth and takes in another generation of lost souls.

But let me remind you—when a man stands up with this Book and preaches it straight, without apology or compromise, the gates of hell still shake.

The gospel still breaks chains. It still saves drunks. It still heals broken homes. It still changes hearts.

And it doesn't need a microphone, a spotlight, or a TED stage to do it. It just needs a preacher full of the Holy Ghost and unashamed of the truth.

Conclusion – Power Over Polish

One day, all the lights will go out. All the platforms will crumble. All the motivational speakers will fade into silence.

And when that day comes, it won't be the smooth talkers who stand before God—it'll be the blood-washed preachers who preached without fear or favor.

God's not impressed with polish. He's looking for power.

He's not impressed with eloquence. He's looking for **unction**.

He's not impressed with TED Talk Christianity. He's looking for crucified men.

The question isn't, "How well can you say it?"

The question is, "How much of God's fire is in it?"

You don't need polish. You need power.

The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead still fills the preacher who dares to stand on this Book and say, "Thus saith the Lord."

And if that means you lose the crowd, so be it—because the One who called you is still watching from above.

So, preacher, forget the applause. Forget the polish.

Stand up, open that King James Bible, and **preach it like hell's still hot, heaven's still real, and the Book still works.**

Because the gospel is not a talk—it's a trumpet blast.

And it's time we start blowing it again.

Christian Rock, Devil's Beat – Mixing Jesus with Judas

Introduction – When the Devil Joined the Choir

Once upon a time, church music sounded like heaven. The saints sang with tears in their eyes and fire in their hearts. The hymns were born out of conviction, not composition. Men like Newton, Watts, and Wesley wrote songs that broke chains—not eardrums.

But somewhere along the way, somebody opened the church door and let the devil's band march right in.

And instead of throwing him out, the church said, *“You know, he's got a good beat.”*

Now we've got electric guitars where the Holy Ghost used to be. Drum sets where the prayer altars used to be. Stage fog where conviction used to be.

We've gone from **“Amazing Grace”** to **“Amazing Bass.”**

Friend, the devil's music doesn't get sanctified just because you put the name “Jesus” in the lyrics. You can spray perfume on a skunk, but it's still a skunk.

The modern church calls it “Christian Rock,” but heaven calls it **spiritual adultery**. You're mixing Jesus with Judas—and you're shocked when the outcome stinks of betrayal.

1. The Devil Was the First Musician

Let's get something straight. The devil didn't start as a murderer or liar—he started as a **musician**.

Ezekiel 28:13 says of Lucifer, *“The workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.”*

That's Bible, not opinion. He was heaven's anointed cherub, and his very being was built around music. The tabrets (drums), the pipes (wind instruments), the jewels (visual glory)—he was the total package.

When he fell, he didn't lose his musical ability. He just changed his **audience**.

He went from praising God to perverting men.

That's why the devil's favorite backdoor into a believer's heart isn't drugs, lust, or pride—it's **music**. Because music bypasses logic and goes straight to emotion. It slips into your spirit while your guard is down.

That's why modern "Christian Rock" is so dangerous. It pretends to be holy while carrying the rhythm of hell. It looks like worship but sounds like rebellion.

When you take the devil's beat and wrap it in Bible words, you haven't sanctified it—you've **polluted** it.

2. You Can't Serve Two Masters—or Two Rhythms

Jesus said, "*No man can serve two masters.*" (Matthew 6:24)

And He could just as easily have said, "No man can serve two rhythms."

The rhythm of heaven lifts your spirit toward God. The rhythm of hell drags your flesh toward sin.

You can't sing "*Holy, Holy, Holy*" on Sunday and headbang to "*Christian Metal Worship*" on Monday. You're feeding both wolves and wondering why you've got no peace.

The church today is trying to blend the sacred with the sensual. They think if they slap "Jesus" on a rock beat, it'll win young people.

But that's not evangelism—it's **entertainment**.

You don't win the world by acting like the world. You win the world by preaching **against** it.

The Apostle John didn't say, "*Love not the world unless you can get good ticket sales from it.*" He said, "*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.*" (1 John 2:15)

That includes the beat, the look, and the spirit of the world's music.

3. The Beat of the Flesh Always Overpowers the Words of the Spirit

Music isn't neutral. It carries a **spirit**.

When David played his harp before Saul, the evil spirit left. (1 Samuel 16:23)

When Nebuchadnezzar blew the trumpet and the cornet, men bowed to an idol. (Daniel 3:5)

You see that? Music always moves the **spirit**, one way or the other.

So tell me—what kind of spirit do you think comes through when the church borrows its beat from bars, mosh pits, and drug concerts?

You can sing about Jesus all you want, but when your rhythm stirs up the flesh instead of the Spirit, you're worshipping a **different Jesus**.

Rock, rap, pop—it all stirs the same fleshly drive: rebellion, sensuality, and pride.

It's the sound of defiance. It's the anthem of fallen man.

You can't sanctify rebellion by changing the lyrics. That's like baptizing a cobra and calling it a Christian snake.

The beat dominates the message. That's why even when you throw in "hallelujahs," the spirit behind it still says, "I will ascend." (Isaiah 14:13)

4. The Church Band Is Not the Holy Ghost

Walk into most modern churches and you'll find the lights dimmed, the fog machines running, and the crowd swaying like it's a concert.

They call it "*worship*."

But the Holy Ghost doesn't need a smoke machine. He's not impressed with strobes, amps, or crescendos.

He moves where there's **holiness, not hype**.

People say, "But I feel something when the band plays!"

Of course you do. So did the pagans in Exodus 32 when they danced around the golden calf. Moses came down from the mountain and heard **music**—not prayer, not preaching, not praise. Music.

And the Bible says they "rose up to play." (Exodus 32:6)

That's what you've got today—**churches rising up to play**.

They think it's revival when it's really rebellion. They call it worship, but it's just warmed-over worldliness with a cross decal.

If the Spirit that fell at Pentecost showed up today, He'd probably flip half the soundboards over and tell the praise team to go get saved.

5. The Devil Knows How to Rebrand

The devil's a master marketer. He knows you wouldn't buy "Satan's Metal Mayhem," so he rebrands it as "*Christian Rock Worship Night*."

He doesn't come with horns and a pitchfork. He comes with a guitar and a fog light.

2 Corinthians 11:14 says, "*For Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.*"

Well, in 2025, he's transformed into a worship leader.

He's got the skinny jeans, the half-sleeve tattoo, and the emotional voice. He closes his eyes, raises his hands, and croons about "the fire of God" while the bass shakes the floor.

But the only fire in that room isn't the Holy Ghost—it's strange fire.

Leviticus 10:1 says Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire before the Lord, and He killed them on the spot.

So don't tell me God doesn't care how we worship.

You can have the lyrics of heaven with the rhythm of hell—and God still calls it an abomination.

6. The Fruit Tells the Truth

Jesus said, "*Ye shall know them by their fruits.*" (Matthew 7:16)

So let's look at the fruit of Christian Rock.

Where are the revivals? Where are the weeping altars? Where are the broken hearts?

You know what you see instead?

- Flashing lights.
- Merchandise tables.
- Crowd surfing.

- Instagram posts.
- And “worship nights” that look more like concerts than consecration.

When was the last time somebody came down from a “Christian Rock Worship Experience” under conviction of sin?

I’ll tell you when—never. Because when the flesh is entertained, the spirit is ignored.

Rock music can stir your emotions, but it can’t cleanse your heart.

That’s why Paul said in Galatians 3:3, *“Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?”*

The modern church thinks it can finish in the flesh what began in the Spirit.

They think if they just make the gospel cool enough, slick enough, and loud enough, the world will love it.

But Jesus said, *“Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.”* (1 John 3:13)

If the world’s clapping for your worship, you’re doing it wrong.

7. The Spirit of the Age Is in the Music

The Bible calls Satan “the god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4), and he’s conducting the orchestra.

Every generation has its soundtrack—and this one’s tuned to rebellion.

You think God’s behind music that glorifies lust, ego, and rhythm over righteousness?

The devil knows that what you sing shapes what you believe. That’s why modern Christians don’t mind sin anymore—they’ve been singing about “freedom” and “grace” so long they’ve forgotten about **holiness**.

And now the church sounds just like the world.

The Rolling Stones sang “Sympathy for the Devil.”

Christian Rock sings “Jesus is my friend.”

Same beat, different lyrics—same spirit.

You don’t fix rebellion by renaming it.

When Israel brought idols into the temple, God didn’t say, “Well, at least they’re worshiping in the right place.” He said, *“I will cast you out of my sight.”* (Jeremiah 7:15)

And if you think God's sitting in heaven nodding along to "Christian Metal Worship," you've lost your mind and your Bible.

8. Worship Is About Holiness, Not Hype

Real worship isn't about volume—it's about **value**.

It's not about how loud you sing—it's about how low you bow.

When Isaiah saw the Lord high and lifted up, he didn't start clapping and swaying—he said, *"Woe is me! for I am undone."*

When John saw Jesus in Revelation, he didn't grab a mic—he fell as dead.

You show me a generation that's dancing more than they're repenting, and I'll show you a church that's lost its fear of God.

The reason modern Christianity is powerless is because it's **too comfortable** in the presence of a holy God.

They've mistaken goosebumps for glory and volume for victory.

But the Holy Ghost doesn't move through noise—He moves through **brokenness**.

The sound of revival isn't distortion pedals—it's the sound of tears hitting the altar.

9. The Gospel Isn't Meant to Be Marketed

The early church didn't need a concert to attract people. They had something the world didn't—**power**.

They didn't market the gospel—they **manifested** it.

Peter didn't need a sound system; he needed the Spirit.

Paul didn't need lighting; he needed boldness.

John didn't need a rhythm section; he needed revelation.

But today, churches spend more time perfecting their sound checks than their souls.

They've traded the Book for branding, the altar for ambiance, and the call to repentance for the call to "feel good."

And friend, that's not the gospel. That's the **broad road** Jesus warned about—the one lined with flashing lights and emotional highs but ending in a ditch of deception.

The gospel doesn't need to be modernized—it needs to be **mobilized**.

If the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead can't draw people to church, you think a rock band can?

10. When Judas Joins the Praise Team

Let me tell you something—Judas knew how to blend in.

He talked like a disciple, walked with the disciples, and sang with them too.

But he never knew the One he sang about.

And that's what you've got in half the "Christian music industry" today—talented Judases cashing in on the name of Jesus while betraying Him with every beat.

They've turned worship into a business, and the sanctuary into a stage.

It's no longer "Come, let us worship the Lord," but "Come, let us promote the brand."

The devil doesn't care if you sing about Jesus—as long as you're not singing to Him.

He's got Christian radio, Christian pop stars, Christian festivals—all pushing unity over purity and feelings over faith.

But remember: Judas kissed Jesus before he betrayed Him.

And every time you try to mix holy words with hell's rhythm, you're planting another kiss on the cheek of the Savior—right before you sell Him out for the applause of men.

Conclusion – The Music of Heaven or the Noise of Hell

When Jesus comes back, He's not coming for a band—He's coming for a **bride**.

A pure one. A holy one.

Not a church drunk on the world's rhythm but washed in the blood.

Revelation 15:3 says the saints in heaven "sing the song of Moses and of the Lamb."

That's no rock anthem. That's a victory song.

The devil's music will burn with the world that made it, but the hymns of Zion will echo through eternity.

So choose your soundtrack wisely, Christian.

You can't march to both beats. You'll either march to the drums of the flesh—or the melody of the Spirit.

The cross doesn't need a remix. It needs repentance.

The gospel doesn't need rhythm. It needs **righteousness**.

And the church doesn't need another concert. It needs a **consecration**.

So turn down the volume, pick up that old hymn book, and sing again from your heart—not your hips.

Because when you mix Jesus with Judas, you'll get betrayal with a backbeat.

And brother, **that's not worship—that's war**.

The Cowards Behind the Pulpit – Afraid to Offend, So They Never Defend

Introduction – The Spineless Shepherds of Our Time

We're living in the generation of **butterfly preachers**—men with soft hands, softer spines, and even softer sermons.

They're afraid to raise their voices lest someone in the pew stop putting money in the plate.

They call themselves "*men of God*," but the only thing they've manned up to is a microphone. They've got the suit, the seminary degree, and the social media account—but they wouldn't know real preaching if Elijah himself showed up in their pulpit with a leather girdle and a handful of fire.

This generation of preachers has traded **boldness for business, conviction for comfort, and truth for tolerance**.

They no longer thunder from the pulpit—they whisper from a platform.

They don't *preach*, they *present*. They don't *warn sinners*, they *woo audiences*.

And they don't *offend anyone*, because they never *defend anything*.

We've got pulpits full of men who can tell you the Greek word for "love" but can't tell you the last time they wept for a soul going to hell.

And the churches they lead? Dead as a doornail. Entertained, comfortable, emotionally stirred—but spiritually starved.

Jesus said in John 10:13, “*The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.*”

And brother, that’s your modern pastor to a tee—a **hireling**.

He’s not a shepherd; he’s a **salesman**.

He’s not guarding the sheep; he’s guarding his paycheck.

1. The Fear of Man Has Replaced the Fear of God

Proverbs 29:25 says, “*The fear of man bringeth a snare.*”

And these preachers are caught in it—hook, line, and pulpit.

They’re scared to death of offending the crowd.

They won’t preach against sin because they don’t want to be called “judgmental.”

They won’t call out false doctrine because they might lose their “unity.”

They won’t name the devil’s works because the devil might unfollow them online.

The modern preacher trembles before men but stands tall before God.

They’ve reversed the order!

Peter and John said in Acts 5:29, “*We ought to obey God rather than men.*”

But the average preacher today says, “We ought to obey the deacons, the donors, and the denominational board.”

You know why the church has no power? Because the pulpit has no courage.

They think gentleness means godliness and silence means spirituality.

They mistake being “nice” for being “Christlike.”

Listen, Jesus called Herod a *fox* (Luke 13:32). He called the Pharisees *vipers* (Matthew 23:33). He flipped tables, not just opinions.

So, if you think preaching truth means always playing nice, you haven’t met the Jesus of the Bible—you’ve met the one in the **Children’s Illustrated Version**.

2. When the Pulpit Goes Silent, the Devil Starts Speaking

Wherever there’s a vacuum of truth, the devil fills it with lies.

And when the preacher stops crying aloud, the devil starts broadcasting.

The prophets didn't whisper—they *wailed*.

Isaiah 58:1 says, “*Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression.*”

That's not what you hear today.

Today it's:

“We just want to create a positive experience.”

“We want people to feel seen, safe, and supported.”

You mean **comfortable in their sin**.

Let's be honest: half the sermons today wouldn't offend a corpse.

Ezekiel 33 says God set up watchmen on the walls. But today's watchmen are asleep with earplugs in and a latte in their hand.

They see the wolf coming, and instead of sounding the alarm, they post:

“Let's not be divisive, brothers.”

Meanwhile, the sheep are getting torn apart by false teachers, false Bibles, false prophets, and false worship—and the shepherds just keep smiling for the camera.

They've forgotten that God didn't call them to build a **brand**—He called them to bear a **burden**.

3. They'd Rather Be Popular Than Prophetic

Let's face it: today's preachers don't want to be prophets—they want to be **influencers**.

The prophets of old stood **alone**.

They were hated, rejected, imprisoned, stoned, and sawn asunder.

The preacher today can't handle being *unfollowed*.

Jeremiah wept alone.

Elijah hid in caves.

John the Baptist lost his head.

Paul was beaten, shipwrecked, and jailed.

But your average pastor today complains when someone unsubscribes from his email list.

They want crowds, not crosses.
They want applause, not anointing.
They want likes, not lashes.

And they're too cowardly to preach against sin because sin is where the money is.

You start calling out fornication, sodomy, adultery, worldliness, gossip, and lukewarm living, and watch how fast your congregation evaporates.

But the truth is: God never told us to fill pews—He told us to **preach truth**.
And sometimes truth empties the pews before it fills the altars.

4. Afraid to Preach on Hell

If you want to find out how spineless a preacher really is, ask him when he last preached on hell.

You'll see that nervous smile. He'll clear his throat and say,

“Well, we try to focus more on God's love here.”

That's code for: *“I'm scared to death of losing my crowd.”*

Friend, the most loving man in history—Jesus Christ—preached more on hell than He did on heaven.

He said in Luke 16 that the rich man lifted up his eyes in torment.

You know what that means? Hell's not symbolic, it's literal.

It's not temporary, it's eternal.

And it's not crowded with demons—it's filled with damned souls.

But the modern preacher avoids the subject like it's a bad Yelp review.

They talk about “the unconditional love of God” but never mention the unrelenting wrath of God.

They say “come as you are” but never “repent or perish.”

They say “you're enough” when the Bible says *“all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”*

That's not grace—that's garbage.

You can't love people into heaven while lying them out of hell.

5. Afraid to Name Names

Another mark of a cowardly preacher: he refuses to name names.

Paul didn't mind naming them. He said:

"Demas hath forsaken me." (2 Tim. 4:10)

"Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil." (2 Tim. 4:14)

John didn't mind naming them.

"Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence..." (3 John 9)

Jesus didn't mind naming them either.

He said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!" (Matthew 23:13)

But today's preacher says, "*I don't like to mention specific people.*"

Oh really? The Bible you claim to preach from does.

When Paul named names, he wasn't gossiping—he was **guarding**.

He wasn't tearing down brethren—he was **warning** the body.

But the modern pulpit won't touch false teachers because it might cause "division."

Brother, there's already division—the Word of God does that by itself.

Hebrews 4:12 says the Word "divides asunder." It cuts. It convicts. It exposes.

But these preachers dull the blade until it's nothing but a butter knife—soft enough for everyone to handle and dull enough to never hurt.

6. Cowards Turn Preaching into Performing

Real preaching isn't about performance—it's about **proclamation**.

You stand between heaven and hell, open that Book, and thunder what God said—whether they like it or not.

But these clowns behind the pulpit have turned preaching into performance art.

They have stage lights, fog, graphics, countdown timers, and camera crews.

They walk the stage like talk show hosts and smile like car salesmen.

They don't feed sheep—they **entertain goats**.

The Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:4,

“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.”

Where’s the power today?

Gone.

Because the pulpit’s no longer a battlefield—it’s a stage.

You can’t cast out devils when you’re more worried about your brand image.

You can’t preach the blood when you’re afraid of red-lighting your sponsors.

You can’t defend truth when you’re too busy defending your reputation.

7. When the Shepherd Becomes a Hireling

Let’s not sugarcoat it: most preachers today are **employees**, not emissaries.

They serve at the pleasure of committees, not Christ.

They answer to a payroll, not to prayer.

And when the wolves come, they don’t fight—they **flee**.

The Apostle Paul said in Acts 20:29,

“After my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.”

That’s happening right now.

Wolves have taken over Christian schools, publishing houses, seminaries, and churches.

And what are the pastors doing?

They’re smiling, clapping, and quoting “judge not.”

The hireling spirit has infected the pulpits of America.

They’ll tell jokes to keep people happy.

They’ll avoid doctrine to keep people comfortable.

They’ll quote the NIV because it sells better than the KJV.

And all the while, the sheep starve while the shepherds fatten themselves.

8. Afraid to Stand on the Bible

These cowards can’t even pick a Bible to believe in!

They've got a dozen translations on their desk and no conviction in their heart. They say, *"I like how the ESV reads here,"* and then jump to the NIV when it suits their point. That's not faith—that's **fickle**.

A man who can't stand on a Book won't stand for anything.

Psalms 119:89 says, *"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."*

If it's settled in heaven, it ought to be settled in your pulpit.

But the modern preacher treats the Bible like a buffet—take what you like, leave what you don't.

They call the KJV outdated, archaic, and irrelevant.

No, friend—the KJV isn't outdated, **you are**.

The problem isn't that the Bible changed—it's that the preachers did.

The Book is as sharp as ever; it's just being handled by dull men.

9. Afraid of Persecution

Jesus said in John 15:18, *"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you."*

But today's preacher doesn't want the world to hate him—he wants the world to hire him.

He wants interviews, book deals, and talk show invitations.

He wants to be seen as the "reasonable voice of Christianity."

Well, the reasonable voice of Christianity has always been the cowardly voice of compromise.

You can't stand for Christ and blend in with the crowd.

You can't be bold for truth and be beloved by rebels.

If you're preaching the real gospel, you're going to get hated. That's not a glitch—it's a guarantee.

And if you've never been hated for preaching, you're probably not preaching.

10. Real Men Still Stand

Thank God there's still a few left—a handful of men who haven't bent their knees to Baal or their sermons to the culture.

They preach the Book straight. They don't flinch, don't fold, and don't apologize.

They still say *sin is sin, hell is hot, the Bible is perfect, Jesus is coming, and repentance is necessary.*

They don't care if it empties the pews. They'd rather please God than please grandma.

Those are the men God uses.

God doesn't anoint cowards—He anoints warriors.

Elijah stood alone against 450 prophets.

Jeremiah preached while the nation rotted.

Paul stood before kings and said, *“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.”*

And one day, every preacher who ever hid the truth to save his skin will stand before Jesus Christ—face to face.

And when the Lord asks, “Why didn't you preach My Word?”

There won't be a fog machine or a lighting cue to hide behind.

Conclusion – Stand or Shut Up

Let's close this plain:

If you're not willing to preach the whole counsel of God, **get out of the pulpit.**

If you're scared to offend sinners, **you're unfit to defend saints.**

If your sermons never sting, **they'll never save.**

The church doesn't need more cowards—it needs more **watchmen.**

The world's on fire, and preachers are roasting marshmallows.

It's time for the men of God to put the fire back in their bones, the Book back in their hands, and the truth back in their mouths.

Because in this last hour, when the wolves are howling, and the hirelings are hiding—God's looking for a man who'll stand up, square his shoulders, and declare with holy boldness:

“Thus saith the LORD.”

Not “thus suggesteth the committee.”

Not “thus recommendeth the denomination.”

But **“THUS SAITH THE LORD.”**

And brother, when that kind of preaching comes back—

Hell will tremble again.

You’re in a War, Not a Vacation – Time to Pick a Side

Introduction – The Church That Overslept on the Battlefield

We’ve got a generation of Christians today who think the Christian life is a **cruise ship**, not a **battleship**. They want spiritual suntans, not spiritual scars. They want peace without persecution, crowns without crosses, and heaven without holiness.

Brother, the devil’s not worried about the Christian asleep in his hammock singing “*Jesus loves me*” between Netflix binges. He’s worried about the one with his Bible open, knees on the ground, and fire in his heart. But sadly, most of the modern church wouldn’t know spiritual warfare if the devil himself walked in with horns, a clipboard, and a worship team contract.

We’ve traded **armor for pajamas, the sword for a selfie stick, and the Word of God for whatever’s trending on YouTube.**

And the world is marching toward hell while the church is busy planning potlucks, movie nights, and “non-offensive sermons.”

You say, “Well, I just want peace.”

Sure you do. But Jesus said in Matthew 10:34 —

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.”

That’s not a verse you’ll hear in your average Sunday service. It doesn’t fit the fog-machine gospel.

We’re at war — spiritual, doctrinal, moral, and eternal — and the average Christian doesn’t even know which side he’s on.

1. The Church That Forgot It's in a War

Ephesians 6:12 says,

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world.”

You'd think that would be enough to wake up the church. But no — half the saints act like it's **optional reading**, and the other half treat it like **symbolic poetry**.

This isn't a metaphor. This is a military dispatch!

We're not wrestling with flesh and blood — that means your problem isn't your boss, your spouse, your neighbor, or the government. It's the **spirit behind them**. It's the devil that's running the show behind the curtain, and Christians are sitting there applauding like it's good theater.

You think Satan's afraid of your Christian playlist or your bumper sticker that says “Blessed”? He laughs at that stuff!

He's not afraid of your church attendance. He's not afraid of your motivational preacher.

He's afraid of one thing — **the Word of God in a believer's heart who actually believes it**.

The devil doesn't mind you going to church as long as you don't go to war.

He doesn't mind your worship songs as long as you don't pick up your sword.

And while most of the church is sleeping through roll call, hell is fully awake — recruiting, training, and conquering.

2. The Devil's Favorite Soldiers Are the Lukewarm Ones

You know who the devil doesn't have to fight? The lukewarm Christian.

They're already doing his job for him.

Jesus said in Revelation 3:16,

“Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.”

You can't get any plainer than that. God said lukewarm Christians make Him sick.

You say, “Well, at least I'm not cold.”

No, you're worse! The cold man knows he's lost. The lukewarm man thinks he's fine.

The cold man stays out of church. The lukewarm man **sits in it and infects others**.

They talk about “balance.” You know what they mean by that?

They want **just enough Jesus to ease their conscience, but not enough to change their life.**

They say, “We just don’t want to be too extreme.”

Brother, hell’s extreme! The cross was extreme! The blood of Christ was extreme! The devil’s attacks are extreme!

And you want to play it safe?

The lukewarm church loves neutrality. They love “dialogue,” “open-mindedness,” and “unity.” But Jesus didn’t die to make you neutral — He died to make you **holy**.

And when you refuse to pick a side, you’ve already picked one — the wrong one.

3. Comfortable Christianity Is Killing the Church

We’ve got a Christianity that’s **comfortable, carnal, and cowardly.**

They want God’s blessing without His burden.

They say, “Well, I don’t want to get involved in controversy.”

Friend, truth is always controversial!

You can’t follow Christ and stay out of the fight. You can’t love truth without offending lies.

We’ve replaced **revivals** with **retreats**, **altar calls** with **self-care Sundays**, and **holy ground** with **coffee grounds**.

Today’s church looks more like Starbucks than Sinai.

They serve comfort, not conviction. They hand out smiles, not swords.

The early church turned the world upside down. The modern church can’t even turn off the Wi-Fi for one hour of prayer.

We are supposed to be **the army of the living God**, not an audience for Christian entertainment.

The church used to storm hell with the gospel. Now it tiptoes around feelings with “inclusive language.”

You say, “Well, we just want to be relevant.”

Relevant? The gospel has always been relevant! It’s sinners that aren’t!

You can’t modernize the message of the cross to fit a crowd that’s allergic to conviction.

4. Spiritual Slackers in a Time of War

Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:3,

“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”

You hear that? Soldiers endure hardness. They don't complain when it rains, they don't quit when they're tired, and they don't negotiate with the enemy.

But half the church today wants **Christianity with cushions** — a gospel that never demands, never divides, and never disturbs.

They cry persecution when the air conditioning breaks.

They say, “I just don't like that confrontational preaching.”

Well, neither does the devil. That's why he wants it gone!

They say, “We want to make church a safe space.”

Brother, the church is supposed to be a *launch base* for battle, not a *spa* for sissies.

This generation has turned Christianity into a **comfort cult**.

They treat prayer like therapy, preaching like entertainment, and the Bible like an optional accessory.

It's no wonder the world doesn't fear the church anymore — it can't tell the difference between us and them.

5. The Armor of God Is Gathering Dust

Ephesians 6 lists the armor of God — truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, salvation, the Word, and prayer.

That's your battle gear.

But today's believer has traded it in for *ease, approval, entertainment, and prosperity*.

The helmet of salvation's been swapped for a baseball cap with the church logo.

The breastplate of righteousness has been replaced by a t-shirt that says “*Love Wins.*”

And the sword of the Spirit? They left that in the pew last week.

You can't fight the devil in flip-flops and a latte.

You think Satan's going to back off because you posted a verse on social media? He doesn't fear posts — he fears power.

The devil isn't trembling at your playlist; he's terrified of a believer on his knees, bleeding Scripture, and living holy.

6. Churches That Wave the White Flag

Modern churches don't fight anymore — they **negotiate**.

They don't confront evil — they **collaborate** with it.

They say, "We're not against the culture; we just want to engage it."

Well, while you're engaging it, it's enslaving you.

You can't win a war by holding hands with the enemy.

Every time a pastor refuses to preach against sin, he waves a white flag.

Every time a church compromises the gospel for "unity," it surrenders another hill.

Every time a Christian hides their convictions for fear of offense, they strengthen hell's grip.

The church is supposed to be salt and light — not sugar and glitter.

But now we've got entire denominations apologizing to the world for what the Bible says.

They say, "We're reimagining Christianity for a new generation."

No, you're **repackaging apostasy** for the old serpent.

This isn't a remodel; it's a **rebellion**.

7. The World Is Getting Ready for War — Why Isn't the Church?

Friend, you can feel it. The world is being groomed for global control — a one-world government, one-world religion, one-world currency, and one-world deception.

And while the devil's building his army, God's people are busy playing church.

They argue over music styles, carpet colors, and coffee bars while prophecy unfolds like a newspaper headline.

The Antichrist doesn't fear your programs or your branding strategy — he fears a church that still believes in the **power of the blood and the authority of that Book**.

The devil knows the Bible better than your average pew-sitter, and that's the tragedy of it.

He's training for war while the saints are training for brunch.

The early church survived Rome.
The modern church can't survive a bad Yelp review.

8. Time to Choose Your Side

Joshua stood before Israel and said,

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve.” (Joshua 24:15)

And that's the same call today.

This isn't the time for neutrality.

This isn't the time to hide behind denominational politics, popularity, or comfort.

You are either fighting for Christ or helping the enemy by doing nothing.

You say, “I'm not against God.”

That doesn't matter — if you're not standing for Him, you're still standing in the wrong camp.

Jesus said in Matthew 12:30,

“He that is not with me is against me.”

You can't have one foot in the church and one foot in the world.

You can't love the cross on Sunday and live like the crowd on Monday.

It's time to pick up your sword or admit you've already surrendered.

9. Real Christianity Still Costs Something

We've been sold a cheap Christianity — no cost, no conflict, no cross.

But the Book says:

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” (2 Timothy 3:12)

Notice that word “*will*.” Not *might*, not *could*, not *possibly*.

If you live godly, you will suffer.

But that's the problem — most believers aren't living godly enough to get the devil's attention.

We've got prosperity preachers promising comfort while Jesus promised conflict.

Real Christianity costs time, tears, blood, and backbone.
It costs friends, jobs, and sometimes even life.

The martyrs didn't die for the right to have a contemporary service and a light show. They died because they refused to bow to the spirit of the age.

They didn't cower before Caesar. But today, Christians bow before convenience.

We want to reign with Christ but refuse to suffer with Him.

10. The Call to Arms

The trumpet's about to sound, brother. You can feel it.

The lines are drawn, the enemy's advancing, and the church is still asleep at the gate.

Romans 13:11 says,

“It is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.”

The Laodicean church doesn't want to wake up because it's comfortable in its coma.
But God's not raising an audience — He's raising an **army**.

And this army doesn't need celebrities. It needs soldiers.

It doesn't need hype. It needs holiness.

It doesn't need trendiness. It needs truth.

The world doesn't need another preacher trying to go viral — it needs one who's willing to go down swinging.

You say, “But what if people hate me for it?”

Then you'll finally be in good company! They hated Jesus first!

The same world that applauds compromise crucified Christ.

So stand up, strap on your armor, and get in the fight.

Because this war isn't coming — it's already here.

And the worst thing you can do in a war is sit in the middle of the battlefield holding a latte and singing “Kumbaya.”

Conclusion – No More Vacation Christians

You're in a war, not a vacation.

This is not the time to sightsee — it's the time to stand.

You can't be neutral when eternity's at stake.

You can't play church when souls are perishing.

It's time for Christians to stop hiding behind comfort and start marching under conviction.

Take up your sword. Tighten your armor. Get back in the fight.

Because when the smoke clears and the dust settles, there'll only be two kinds of believers standing:

those who **fought** for Christ,

and those who **fled** from Him.

The question is — which one will you be?

Demons Don't Retire – They're Working Overtime While You're Napping

Introduction – Spiritual Warfare Isn't Seasonal

Brother, I've got news for the modern, lukewarm church that thinks Satan's gone on sabbatical — **the devil doesn't take coffee breaks.**

He doesn't punch out at 5 p.m. He doesn't take weekends off. He doesn't stop working because you stopped praying.

The average Christian today acts like the devil's retired, living in Florida, sipping lemonade, and reading Revelation like it's a scrapbook.

Meanwhile, demons are working **overtime**, planting confusion in pulpits, deception in doctrine, and delusion in disciples.

They don't sleep, they don't age, and they don't quit.

And while the church is napping on the couch of compromise, **hell is running a night shift.**

Ephesians 6:12 says:

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world.”

You'd think that verse would wake up the saints — but most of them can't even find it. We're in a spiritual war, and half the soldiers are **on sick leave**.

1. The Devil Didn't Retire — He Rebranded

Satan's too smart to show up in a red suit with a pitchfork. He's running a corporate empire now.

He's got **demons in marketing, demons in entertainment, demons in theology**, and more than a few in church leadership.

He doesn't need to scare you anymore — he just needs to **distract you**.

He's turned from roaring lion to subtle serpent to smiling preacher.

You see, when the church stopped fearing sin, Satan stopped roaring. He just started whispering.

Paul warned us in 2 Corinthians 11:14–15:

“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness.”

You hear that? The devil's got ministers. They wear suits, carry Bibles, and preach “love” while avoiding repentance.

They preach unity without truth and grace without conviction.

Demons haven't retired — they've gone to seminary.

2. Hell Runs 24/7 — Why Doesn't Heaven's Army?

There's no union break in hell.

Demons don't clock out because they're tired or offended. They don't need eight hours of sleep and a coffee to get going.

But look at the modern Christian soldier — overslept, underfed, and out of ammo.

The Bible's dusty, the prayer closet's empty, and the armor of God is hanging in the closet next to the Easter outfit.

You say, “Well, I'm not under attack.”

That's because **you're not a threat**.

The devil doesn't bother with the neutral Christian. He's after the one who still believes the Book, still witnesses, still preaches truth.

Demons work harder to destroy your testimony than most Christians do to defend it.

If you could see the spiritual realm right now — demons whispering in ears, twisting Scripture, blinding minds, and distracting hearts — you'd stop yawning and start praying.

The devil's working overtime, and most believers can't even stay awake through a sermon.

3. The Church Age: The Devil's Playground

Paul called this the “**present evil world**” (Galatians 1:4).

You know what that means? We're living in the devil's system.

1 John 5:19 says:

“The whole world lieth in wickedness.”

That's not poetic — that's positional. The entire world system is lying in the lap of the wicked one.

And yet Christians still act shocked when the world acts worldly.

You say, “Can you believe Hollywood put that filth in their movie?”

Yes, I can. They've been doing it since Genesis 4.

The problem isn't that demons are working — they always have.

The problem is that **Christians stopped working**.

The early church shook the world because they fought like soldiers, not like spectators.

They didn't have megachurches, microphones, or marketing budgets — but they had power.

They turned the world upside down because they refused to play dead.

But now?

Most churches can't turn a doorknob without a committee meeting.

Demons don't hold church votes; they act.

They don't wait for permission; they execute.

They're active, strategic, and united — while the average believer is passive, distracted, and divided.

4. While You Nap, They Plot

You think the devil takes holidays off?

While you're planning a vacation, he's planning your temptation.

He's mapping out how to discourage you, how to isolate you, how to discredit you.

He's studying your weaknesses like a general studies an enemy base.

You say, "I don't believe demons are real."

That's cute — they're counting on that.

Demons don't need you to believe in them to destroy you. They just need you to ignore them.

And when they find a Christian who doesn't believe in warfare, they've already won the first battle.

Peter said in 1 Peter 5:8:

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Not annoy. Not irritate. **Devour.**

You can nap if you want to, but you'll wake up in a trap.

While you're resting, they're recruiting.

While you're scrolling, they're scheming.

While you're ignoring, they're infiltrating.

Satan's demons aren't sleeping — they're scripting the next scandal in the church, the next deception in doctrine, the next compromise in leadership.

They're not lazy — but the modern Christian sure is.

5. The Devil's Greatest Weapon: A Drowsy Church

The devil doesn't fear an active church — he fears a **holy one**.

He doesn't mind your singing as long as you don't obey.

He doesn't mind your attendance as long as you don't resist.

You see, he's not just after your sin; he's after your surrender.

He knows he can't possess the believer, but he can **paralyze** him.

You can be saved and useless — that's the devil's favorite trophy.

A saint who's spiritually sound but practically asleep.

Romans 13:11 says,

“It is high time to awake out of sleep.”

You know what that means? Some Christians are saved but snoozing.

They’ve been rocked to sleep by sermons that never confront, worship that never convicts, and lifestyles that never cost.

They think because they’re not doing wickedly, they’re doing well — but idleness is wickedness in a war.

Demons don’t need you to blaspheme; they just need you to back off.

When you stop praying, they start plotting.

When you stop witnessing, they start whispering.

When you stop standing, they start spreading.

They don’t retire — but the church does every Sunday afternoon.

6. How Demons Exploit the Sleeping Saint

Let’s be plain: when you stop watching, you start wandering.

And when you stop fighting, you start falling.

A Christian without discernment is a demon’s playground.

They’ll use three main tactics:

1. **Distraction** – They don’t need to get you to sin; they just need to keep you busy. You’ll spend all day doing “good things” while the **best things** go undone.
2. **Discouragement** – If they can’t distract you, they’ll drain you. They’ll whisper lies: “You’re not making a difference.” “Nobody cares.” “God’s done with you.”
3. **Deception** – This is their masterpiece. They twist Scripture, distort doctrine, and disguise error as enlightenment.

They love a church that doesn’t test the spirits.

They love a pastor who studies leadership books more than the Bible.

They love Christians who rely on emotion instead of exposition.

You can’t fight spiritual enemies with emotional energy.

You need the sword of the Spirit — the **Word of God**.

And that Book's sharper than any sermonette from a preacherette in a Christianettes church.

7. The Battlefield Is in the Mind

You want to know where demons work hardest? **Your thoughts.** They don't need to rattle chains when they can whisper doubts.

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 10:5:

“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God.”

That's mental warfare.

Demons attack through media, philosophy, false religion, and pride. They plant ideas that sound good but rot your faith.

You hear them in phrases like:

- “Follow your heart.”
- “Truth is relative.”
- “Love wins.”
- “Don't judge.”

That's not the Holy Spirit — that's **hell's marketing team.**

The mind of a lazy Christian becomes a **workshop for wickedness.** And when your thoughts go unguarded, your faith goes ungrounded.

That's why Paul said in Ephesians 6:17,

“Take the helmet of salvation.”

You better protect your head, soldier — demons aim for the mind before they ever touch the body.

8. The Sleeping Church Is a Demonic Playground

You think demons fear your worship setlist? They choreographed half of it.

When the focus shifts from holiness to hype, the devil says, “Amen.”

When the message is “You’re enough” instead of “Christ is enough,” the devil says, “Preach it.”

When the preacher says, “We don’t talk about sin here,” the demons take a coffee break — job well done.

They’ve turned pulpits into performance stages and altars into selfie spots.

The devil doesn’t need to destroy a church if he can **distract** it.

He doesn’t need to persecute believers if he can **pacify** them.

The average modern church looks more like a comedy club than Calvary.

Where are the tears? Where’s the trembling? Where’s the truth?

They’ve been replaced with laughter, lights, and lies.

And while the crowd claps, hell laughs louder.

9. Wake-Up Call for the Soldiers of the Cross

You can’t stop demonic activity — but you can stop **yielding ground**.

James 4:7 says:

“Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

You hear that? He doesn’t retire — he **flees**.

But not from the lazy. Not from the carnal. Not from the cowardly.

He flees from **resistance**.

The church doesn’t need another program; it needs power.

It doesn’t need another celebrity pastor; it needs soldiers.

We’ve got Christians wearing armor that still has the tags on it.

They love the doctrine of warfare but hate the discipline of it.

You can’t be victorious if you never get in the fight.

The world is dark, the devil’s active, and the demons are working double shifts.

But praise God — **greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.** (1 John 4:4)

You’re not called to cower — you’re called to conquer.

You’re not called to retire — you’re called to **reignite**.

So wake up, soldier. The trumpet's about to sound, and you've still got armor to wear and souls to win.

10. Conclusion – Don't Let Hell Work Harder Than You

Demons don't retire, but too many Christians already have. They've hung up their armor, canceled their watch, and joined the choir of complacency.

But this war isn't over.

The enemy is still advancing.

And the time is shorter than you think.

The devil knows his time is short (Revelation 12:12) — that's why he's accelerating his attacks.

And yet the church, the one armed with eternal truth, acts like it has all the time in the world.

Brother, this isn't a time for naps; it's a time for knees.

It's not a time for comfort; it's a time for combat.

If demons are working overtime, then believers better stop part-time Christianity.

You've been given the blood, the Book, and the blessed hope — use them.

Because when the trumpet sounds, the battle's over — and some of you are going to realize you slept through the whole war.

The devil's not tired, but he's doomed.

And it's about time God's people started living like it.

So get up, gear up, and **go to war**.

Because **demons don't retire — and neither should you**.

Satan's Favorite Seat: The Pulpit – Wolves with Collars

Introduction – The Devil's Desk in the Church

You better believe it, brother — the devil doesn't just prowl the bar, he **preaches from the pulpit.**

He's not just outside the church throwing rocks through stained glass; he's standing behind the pulpit polishing his halo.

He's got a Bible in his hand, a grin on his face, and a heart full of hellfire — but it's not the kind that saves.

Every age has had its wolves, but this one? It's got 'em wearing clerical collars, skinny jeans, and wireless mics.

The devil's not stupid — he knows if he can't beat the church from the outside, he'll **join it from the inside.**

You say, "Not my pastor!" Well, I didn't say yours, but if he's preaching tolerance instead of truth, motivation instead of salvation, psychology instead of Scripture, and comfort instead of conviction — you better check his employer.

The serpent's first sermon wasn't in a nightclub. It was in a garden.

And his pulpit? A tree.

His message? "Yea, hath God said?" (Genesis 3:1).

The first preacher to question the Word of God was **the devil himself.**

And friend, he's still got an active ministry today.

1. The Pulpit Is Satan's Most Strategic Throne

The devil's not dumb. He doesn't waste his best demons on drunkards or drug dealers.

He saves his top-tier tempters for pulpits.

He knows if he can corrupt the preacher, he can **contaminate the whole congregation.**

When a wolf climbs the pulpit steps, the flock doesn't know it — because he's smiling, quoting Scripture, and telling stories that make you feel "seen."

But brother, the devil doesn't want you seen — he wants you **soothed.**

A real man of God will **comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.**

But these pulpit puppies today only want followers, not fighters.

They'd rather build a fanbase than a fellowship.

Satan's strategy is simple:

If he can get you a preacher who's too afraid to offend, he'll give you a congregation too weak to defend.

2. Wolves with Collars: The Professional Preachers

The devil's favorite disguise isn't a horror movie monster — it's a **religious man**.

2 Corinthians 11:15 says his ministers are “transformed as the ministers of righteousness.”

He's not against preaching — he's against the **right kind** of preaching.

He loves the sermons that make sinners feel safe and saints feel sleepy.

The modern pulpit is filled with CEOs, influencers, and brand-builders — but you can't find a **Jeremiah** among them.

They'll cry over bad reviews before they cry over lost souls.

You ever notice how smooth they sound?

They never raise their voice. They never mention hell. They never name sin.

You could listen for an hour and not break a sweat of conviction.

Friend, that's not preaching — that's a sedative.

They wear robes or sneakers, depending on the trend, but their message is the same: **peace, peace, when there is no peace** (Jeremiah 6:14).

They're wolves with microphones — and the sheep are paying for the tickets.

3. The Devil's Sermon Outline

If Satan could publish a preacher's manual, it would go something like this:

1. **Never mention sin — it's bad for attendance.**
2. **Never preach repentance — it ruins the mood.**
3. **Never talk about blood — it sounds too violent.**
4. **Avoid doctrine — it divides.**
5. **Keep it positive — people like feeling good.**

That's the gospel according to **Lucifer Light Ministries**.

And it's working.

You think demons hate church? Not this kind. They love it.

They clap along to the fog machines, nod during the self-help talks, and laugh as the offering plate goes around.

They're comfortable — because there's no fire in that pulpit and no sword in that sermon.

A Christless sermon is the devil's lullaby.

And most pews are sound asleep.

4. When the Shepherd Becomes a Salesman

Christ said, “Feed my sheep,” not “Feed my ego.”

He didn’t say “entertain my goats,” but that’s the new model.

The modern pastor’s success is measured by numbers, not **new births**.

He’s worried about seating capacity, not spiritual condition.

A man of God preaches because he must — not because it’s marketable.

He fears God, not Google reviews.

But these modern wolves? They’ll tailor the sermon to the crowd like a politician at a fundraiser.

They’re not shepherds — they’re **spiritual salesmen**.

They sell comfort with a smile and conviction with a coupon.

And they’ll quote just enough Scripture to look holy while dodging every verse that cuts too deep.

The devil doesn’t care how many Bibles are on the stage — as long as they’re closed.

5. The Devil’s Pulpit Always Avoids the Blood

Hebrews 9:22 says, “Without shedding of blood is no remission.”

That’s not poetry — that’s doctrine.

And any preacher that won’t preach the blood is a **hireling**, not a shepherd.

You can always spot Satan’s substitute gospel. It’s clean, clinical, and **bloodless**.

They talk about “love,” “grace,” “purpose,” and “destiny,” but never the **cross**.

You know why? Because the cross exposes sin.

The blood confronts guilt.

And the devil hates both.

You can talk about Jesus all you want — as long as He’s just a life coach, not a Lamb.

Satan will sit in the front row, nodding his head.

But when a man preaches the blood — oh, the devil starts sweating.

The modern pulpit has turned the message of salvation into a TED Talk about self-worth.

But the gospel isn’t about self-esteem — it’s about **self-denial**.

6. Hirelings: The Devil's Middle Managers

Jesus said in John 10:12,

“He that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep.”

You know what that means?

The devil's got a team of cowards on payroll.

They don't fight for truth — they flee from it.

They don't guard the flock — they **groom** it for compromise.

When the wolves come in, they call it “dialogue.”

When false doctrine spreads, they call it “unity.”

When sin increases, they call it “progress.”

You know what God calls it? Apostasy.

You can tell a hireling because he's always **negotiating** truth.

He won't take a stand unless the wind is blowing in his favor.

He'll defend sin if it keeps his paycheck safe.

The old-time preachers used to say,

“If there's no fire in the pulpit, there'll be no fear in the pews.”

Now we've got both missing.

7. Why the Devil Loves the Mega-Church Model

You know why the devil loves a stadium church? Because you can **hide a thousand hypocrites** under a fog machine.

The early church met in homes and preached in the streets.

Now the modern church meets in arenas and sells merchandise.

The Book of Acts had persecution.

The book of “Acts 2.0” has **public relations**.

Satan's pulpit doesn't preach Christ crucified — it preaches Christ commodified.

The message has gone from “**deny yourself**” to “**treat yourself**.”

The pulpit isn't the problem — the message is.

Because the devil knows one powerful sermon from a Spirit-filled man can undo a

thousand demonic schemes.

But one compromising preacher can ruin a thousand souls.

8. The Devil's Preacher Loves Applause

When a man of God preaches truth, somebody always gets mad.

When a man of the devil preaches compromise, everybody claps.

Luke 6:26 says,

“Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.”

If your pastor's never made anyone uncomfortable, he's probably not preaching the Bible.

Truth divides before it delivers.

And the Word of God doesn't tickle — it **cuts**.

But the wolves? They love the applause.

They'd rather be popular than prophetic.

They'd rather be celebrated than sanctified.

You don't need a Ph.D. to spot them — just listen.

They never rebuke sin. They never exalt the cross.

They just sell slogans with Scripture sprinkles.

Friend, that's not preaching — that's a performance.

9. The Powerless Pulpit Breeds a Godless People

You show me a weak church, and I'll show you a compromised pulpit.

As goes the preacher, so goes the pew.

The devil's favorite weapon isn't persecution — it's **pollution**.

He'll let churches grow as long as they don't **glow**.

He doesn't care how many bodies fill the seats as long as the Spirit doesn't fill the house.

The pulpits are filled with soft men preaching soft messages to soft congregations that can't stand hard truth.

They've traded conviction for charisma, doctrine for diversity, and holiness for hype.

The devil's not attacking from outside anymore — he's managing from within.

The church used to scare hell — now it entertains it.

10. What Real Preaching Does

A real preacher isn't afraid to step on toes — because he's trying to reach hearts.

He knows that before you can comfort a man, you've got to **convict him**.

Before you can heal him, you've got to wound him with the truth.

Hebrews 4:12 says,

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.”

The devil's preachers carry dull blades.

They couldn't cut butter, let alone bondage.

But a man full of the Spirit and the Book — that's a nightmare for hell.

Because he doesn't care about reputation, revenue, or relatability.

He just wants to **please the Captain of his salvation**.

You can spot a true preacher by his scars.

He's been hated, mocked, and lied about — but he's still standing.

Because he knows this isn't a popularity contest; it's a battlefield.

11. The Sheep's Responsibility

You can't just blame the pulpit.

The pew's got blood on its hands too.

2 Timothy 4:3 says,

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.”

The people **wanted** wolves.

They didn't want preachers; they wanted performers.

They didn't want the sword; they wanted a lullaby.

And brother, when the sheep start hiring the shepherds, you're in trouble.

If you want to kill a real preacher, just starve him with indifference.

If you want to feed a false one, just keep clapping for compromise.

The devil's not sneaking in — he's been **invited**.

12. God's Judgment on the False Prophet

You say, "Well, God will deal with them."

Yes, He will — and He's not gentle.

Jeremiah 23:1 says,

"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!"

That "woe" is coming like thunder.

Every false preacher, every smooth-tongued deceiver, every money-loving motivational speaker who stood where the man of God should've — will give account before the Judgment Seat of Christ or the Great White Throne.

God's not impressed with your stage lights, your followers, or your eloquence.

He's looking for blood on your message, not polish on your delivery.

Preacher, if you're reading this — repent while you can.

Because when God shuts the pulpit, no microphone can open it again.

13. Final Warning – The Devil's Still Hiring

The devil's still looking for preachers who will soften sin, twist Scripture, and love the spotlight.

He's not picky — he'll take Baptist, Catholic, Pentecostal, or Non-Denominational.

As long as they don't preach repentance, he'll print their flyers.

But God's still calling too.

He's calling men who'll stand, bleed, and thunder the Word without apology.

Men who fear God more than man.

Men who'll preach **thus saith the Lord**, even if it empties the room.

Choose your seat carefully, preacher.

Because **Satan's favorite seat is the pulpit** — and too many have already sat down in it.

When a preacher becomes a performer, the devil becomes the pastor.

When the cross becomes optional, the crowd becomes blind.

When truth becomes hate, the pulpit becomes hell's microphone.

You can keep your fog machines.
You can keep your stage lights.
You can keep your popularity.

Give me the old wooden pulpit, the open Bible, and the burning truth — because that's where **God still speaks**.

Armor Gathering Dust – Christians Who Never Fight

Introduction – The Rusted Army of the Lord

There's something pitiful about a soldier who never saw battle. He's got the uniform, the medals, the polished helmet, the regulation boots — but not a scratch on him. He struts around the barracks bragging about his "faith," yet the only war he's ever fought was with the snooze button on Sunday morning.

That's the modern Christian army — a bunch of **armored pacifists** polishing their gear while the enemy marches right through their living room.

Paul said in **Ephesians 6:11**, "*Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*"

But most of God's people haven't even *found* their armor, let alone put it on. They treat the Christian life like a vacation cruise instead of a combat zone.

The average believer today couldn't rebuke a demon if he had a manual, a flashlight, and three commentaries open. His sword's got cobwebs, his shield's got cracks, and his breastplate's collecting dust in the corner — right next to his unused Bible.

Brother, if you think Christianity is about comfort instead of conflict, you've already surrendered without firing a shot.

1. The Missing Soldiers of Christ

You can spot them a mile away — the "Sunday soldiers."
They show up for inspection once a week, shine their halos for an hour, and then disappear until next roll call.

They say, *“I’m saved by grace!”*

Amen — but grace wasn’t given so you could **go AWOL**.

Paul told Timothy, *“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ”* (**2 Timothy 2:3**).

You know what that means? Christianity isn’t for sissies. It’s for men and women who’ll stand when it costs them something.

But today’s church is filled with spiritual tourists, not troops.

They want blessings without battle, crowns without conflict, and victory without vigilance.

They’ve got the talk — *“I’m a warrior for Jesus!”* — but the moment trouble hits, they duck and cover behind *“God’s will be done”* like it’s a foxhole.

They want to reign with Christ without suffering with Him.

Friend, that’s not discipleship. That’s **desertion**.

2. The Devil Loves Lazy Christians

You say, *“Well, the devil’s not really after me.”*

No kidding. Why would he bother? You’re not a threat!

He doesn’t waste ammo on the wounded or effort on the idle.

The devil’s favorite Christians are the **lukewarm loafers** who think sitting in church once a week earns them combat pay.

You’ve got armor that never sees daylight.

You’ve got a sword that’s never swung.

You’ve got faith that’s never tested.

And you think you’re doing God a favor by staying out of trouble?

Brother, the devil’s already won that battle — you’re neutralized!

Jesus didn’t say, *“Well done, thou good and faithful observer.”*

He said, *“Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”*

You can’t serve sitting down.

You can’t fight half asleep.

You can’t win a war polishing your armor while the enemy is at the gate.

3. The Armour of God Was Meant to Be Used

Now, notice it says, “*Put on the whole armour of God.*”

Not parts of it. Not “pick your favorite piece.”

The **whole** armor.

You’ve got Christians who love the *helmet of salvation* — “I’m saved, I’m saved!” — but they don’t want the *breastplate of righteousness* because it interferes with their Netflix habits.

Others carry the *shield of faith* but wouldn’t touch the *sword of the Spirit* because it’s too sharp — it cuts their pet sins.

Some strap on the *belt of truth* but never lace up the *shoes of the gospel of peace* because evangelism might make people uncomfortable.

The armor wasn’t given for display; it was given for **deployment**.

You don’t hang it on a rack and admire it. You wear it till it dents, dings, and drips with the sweat of battle.

A Christian who’s afraid to fight is like a cop afraid to draw his weapon — useless when it counts.

4. The Sword That Stays in the Sheath

Hebrews 4:12 says, “*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.*”

But most Christians treat their Bible like it’s a fragile antique.

They say, “I don’t want to offend anyone.”

Brother, truth offends by its very nature.

You think Jesus died on a cross because He was polite?

They didn’t crucify Him for being tolerant — they crucified Him for telling the truth.

And you? You’re sitting on your couch reading devotionals written by people who don’t even believe their own Bibles.

That’s not fighting. That’s **faking**.

The sword was meant to swing, not to shimmer in a display case.

If your Bible’s still shiny after ten years of salvation, something’s wrong.

You can’t slice through lies with a sword you never draw.

5. The Rust of Neglect

Some Christians talk about “spiritual warfare” like it’s a video game.

They’ve got all the buzzwords — “binding,” “casting down,” “taking authority” — but no battle scars to prove it.

They don’t wrestle with principalities; they wrestle with pillow fluff.

They’ve traded their war cries for worship concerts and their prayer closets for podcasts.

The devil’s not afraid of your playlists, friend. He’s afraid of your **knees**.

You let your armor sit too long, and it starts to rust.

The mind dulls. The faith weakens. The conscience hardens.

Before you know it, you’re a museum piece — a relic from a revival that never happened.

God didn’t save you to be a trophy; He saved you to be a **tool** in His hand.

You want revival? Clean off the cobwebs.

Oil the hinges. Tighten the straps.

And **get back in the fight**.

6. The Church That Forgot It Was in a War

The modern church is a peace corps in a war zone.

We’ve traded our swords for smiles, our shields for slogans, and our battle hymns for bedtime lullabies.

You walk into most churches today and it’s like a **spiritual spa** — mood lighting, calming music, and a pep talk about “living your best life.”

No conviction, no confrontation, no cross.

The devil doesn’t even bother attacking some of these places. Why would he? He already owns the pulpit.

They forgot what Paul said:

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world.” (Ephesians 6:12)

That means you’re not at war with people — you’re at war with **hell itself**.

And if that doesn’t put some fire in your bones, you might already be a casualty.

The church used to **storm the gates of hell**.

Now it can’t even storm a donut table without division.

7. Battle-Tested Saints vs. Bench-Warm Believers

You ever meet an old saint who's been through it all — sickness, loss, persecution, betrayal — and they're still shouting glory?

That's a battle-tested warrior. Their armor's got dents, but it shines brighter than yours ever did.

Then you meet the new-age believer who panics if their Wi-Fi cuts out during livestream church.

They think “spiritual warfare” means blocking negative vibes.

The difference?

One's been to war; the other's been to workshops.

Real Christianity isn't learned in comfort. It's forged in combat.

You can't develop faith if you never face a fight.

You can't build endurance if you never meet resistance.

You say, “But I just want peace.”

Brother, there's no peace without war first.

Christ made peace “*through the blood of His cross.*” (Colossians 1:20)

You want peace? Pick up your cross and **bleed for it.**

8. The Prayer Room: Heaven's War Room

You know why the modern Christian army's losing? Because they stopped **praying.**

Prayer isn't sweet talk with God — it's **combat communication.**

It's calling in artillery on enemy territory.

But these believers treat it like a therapy session.

“Dear Lord, make me happy, make me rich, make me rested...”

Meanwhile, hell's breaking down the door, and they're asking for a bubble bath.

You want to see demons run? Get back to **prayer that shakes heaven.**

The kind that breaks chains, not just breaks bread.

The kind that makes devils nervous, not deacons comfortable.

When the early church prayed, prisons opened.

When today's church prays, coffee brews.

You say, “That’s harsh.”

No, that’s history. Acts 4:31 — *“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken.”*

When’s the last time your prayer life shook anything but your phone?

9. Training for War or Tanning for Vacation?

You can tell how serious a believer is by what he does with his time.

Some Christians are more committed to the gym than the Great Commission. They can quote protein macros but not Proverbs.

Others are so busy “unplugging” from stress they’ve unplugged from Scripture. They’ve traded the armor for aromatherapy and call it self-care.

Listen — rest has its place, but retreat isn’t rest when the enemy’s advancing. The devil doesn’t take sabbaticals.

He’s not down at the beach sipping coconut water waiting for you to “recharge.”

He’s working overtime while you’re napping on duty.

He’s prowling while you’re posting.

And he’s laughing at a generation that can’t tell the difference between warfare and worshiptainment.

If you don’t train now, you’ll **tremble later**.

10. What Victory Looks Like

You want to win the war? Stop playing defense.

The Bible doesn’t say, “Sit still and hope for the best.”

It says, *“Having done all, to stand.”* (Ephesians 6:13)

That means you hold your ground — even when it costs you friends, family, followers, or freedom.

You don’t compromise with the enemy. You don’t make peace treaties with temptation. You **fight** until you hear the Trumpet.

Victory isn’t about comfort. It’s about **courage**.

It’s about standing on the battlefield with your armor scarred, your sword bloody, and your faith unbroken.

When Paul said, “*I have fought a good fight,*” (2 Timothy 4:7) — he didn’t say, “*I had a good time.*”

He fought, bled, and died for something eternal.

The question is — what are you dying for?

Your reputation? Your comfort? Your convenience?

Because if you’re not living for Christ, you’re just existing for yourself.

11. Revival Begins in the Trenches

You want revival? It doesn’t start in a conference — it starts in a foxhole.

It starts when believers stop hiding behind excuses and start **fighting for souls**.

When pulpits preach again, when saints pray again, when sinners weep again — that’s when hell shakes.

You say, “The world’s getting worse.” Sure it is. But the darker it gets, the brighter the armor should shine.

If you’re saved, you’re the last line of defense between heaven and hell.

Revival doesn’t need more conferences. It needs more **combatants**.

You want the power of God? Then stop playing church and **start charging gates**.

You’re not waiting on a move of God — He’s waiting on a move of *you*.

12. The Final Roll Call

Someday soon, the trumpet’s going to blow.

The Captain of our salvation will call His troops home.

And when He does, He’s not looking for spotless armor — He’s looking for **used armor**.

Dented helmets. Torn shields. Swords worn down from use.

You can polish it now or present it then — but He’ll know which you did.

You say, “I don’t want to be in a fight.”

Too bad — you’re already in one.

The question isn’t *if* you’re fighting; it’s *which side* you’re on.

When the smoke clears and the battle's over, only two kinds of Christians will stand before Him:
those who **fought** and those who **fled**.

Which will you be?

Conclusion – Get Back in the Fight

If your armor's gathering dust, it's time to repent.
You're not called to be a spectator. You're called to be a soldier.

The devil's advancing. The world's decaying. The church is asleep.
And you've got the sword that still pierces hearts, the shield that quenches hellfire, and the Spirit that raises the dead.

So why are you sitting there polishing medals you never earned?

The Lord's looking for fighters — not philosophers.
For soldiers — not scholars.
For warriors — not worriers.

Get off the bench, Christian.
Pick up your sword.
Tighten your armor.
And **get back in the fight** — because the war isn't over yet.

The Commander's coming soon — and when He does, I don't want Him finding my armor collecting dust.
I want Him finding me **swinging**.

Prayer Is Ammunition – You're Either Loaded or a Sitting Duck

Introduction – Welcome to the War Zone

Let's get one thing straight, Christian — you are in a **war zone**, not a waiting room.
This isn't heaven, and it sure isn't neutral territory. You're behind enemy lines. Every day the devil takes shots at your family, your mind, your faith, and your testimony. And the tragedy

of our time is that most of God's people are walking around **unarmed**, smiling like tourists while the bullets of hell whistle past their heads.

They've got the armor (Ephesians 6:11), but they forgot the ammunition.

They've got the sword of the Spirit, but no fire to back it up.

They've got all the doctrine, but no dynamite — and that dynamite is **prayer**.

You say, "Well, I believe in prayer." Sure you do — everybody does. Even atheists start praying when the plane's going down. But belief isn't the same as **battle**.

If your prayers don't shake hell, you're not fighting — you're just mumbling.

Brother, you can't win a war with empty magazines.

You can't scare the devil with blank rounds.

Prayer is ammunition — and most Christians are **spiritually unloaded**.

1. The Battlefield of the Knees

The devil doesn't fear your talent. He doesn't tremble at your theology degree.

He's not impressed by your platform, your followers, or your polished words.

But when a believer gets on his knees — heaven listens, and hell starts sweating.

That's why Satan will do everything he can to **keep you from praying**.

He doesn't mind you reading about prayer.

He doesn't mind you preaching on prayer.

But the moment you **actually pray**, you've declared war.

The battle for prayer starts long before you ever bow your head.

It's in the distractions, the busyness, the phone buzzing, the kids yelling, the thoughts wandering.

The devil knows — if he can keep your mouth shut, he can keep your gun jammed.

Daniel prayed and moved kingdoms. Elijah prayed and stopped rain. Peter prayed and escaped prison.

And you? You scroll through social media and call it "devotions."

Prayer is not a suggestion — it's your **supply line**.

Cut that off, and you're stranded behind enemy lines without backup.

2. The Ammunition That Never Runs Out

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians about the armor of God, he didn't stop at verse 17. He said, "*Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit.*" (Ephesians 6:18)

That's the trigger that fires the whole arsenal.
Without prayer, your armor is just dead weight.
You might look like a soldier, but you're carrying an unloaded rifle.

Prayer loads the gun.
Faith aims it.
And the Word of God pulls the trigger.

See, prayer isn't the spare tire of Christianity — it's the **engine**.
Without it, you can still look like a car, but you won't move an inch.

The devil has no problem with lifeless churches, powerless preachers, and empty pews.
He loves when Christians have meetings about revival but never pray for it.
He knows you can't hit what you won't aim at.

You want power? Pray.
You want peace? Pray.
You want to make hell nervous? Pray.

Because every time you pray in faith, you're loading the chamber of heaven.

3. Empty Guns and Silent Saints

The average Christian today talks more about prayer than he practices it.
He's got "Prayer Warrior" on his T-shirt, but "Prayer Weakling" in his schedule.

He says, "God knows my heart." Sure He does — and He also knows your laziness.
You've got time for entertainment, but not intercession.
You've got time for politics, but not for power.
You've got time to complain about the darkness, but not to **call down the light**.

You can't fight the devil with podcasts.
You can't win souls with sarcasm.
You can't move mountains with memes.

Elijah didn't take down Baal with a clever tweet — he took him down on his **knees**.
And the church today thinks it can fight spiritual battles with coffee bars and "vision casting."

Friend, when you stop praying, you're walking into war unarmed — and that's suicide.

You can quote verses, sing hymns, and talk theology all day long, but if your prayer life is dead, your power is too.

4. Prayer Is the Trigger That Fires Heaven's Artillery

The Bible says in **James 5:16**, "*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*"

That means real prayer moves things.

Prayer is not positive thinking. It's not emotional therapy.

It's **artillery fire** on the devil's strongholds.

You're not whispering into the void — you're calling in coordinates for heaven's strike team.

But God doesn't hand out ammo to deserters.

He gives power to those who fight.

You've got to be willing to sweat, bleed, and believe.

When you pray, you're aligning your will with the Captain's orders.

That's why Jesus taught His disciples, "*Thy will be done.*" (Matthew 6:10)

Prayer isn't bending God to your plan; it's **loading up on His**.

Every answered prayer is a victory.

Every unanswered prayer is a training exercise.

Every unspoken prayer is a wasted bullet.

5. Why the Devil Fights Prayer So Hard

You ever wonder why it's easier to binge-watch a show than to spend fifteen minutes in prayer?

That's not a coincidence. That's **warfare**.

The devil's not threatened by your entertainment — he's threatened by your **engagement** with heaven.

He'll let you go to Bible studies, read devotionals, and post verses online — as long as you never get serious about praying.

Because once you do, you're no longer a spectator. You're a **soldier**.

He knows the moment you pray, angels start moving, chains start breaking, and sinners start trembling.

So he keeps you distracted, discouraged, or disbelieving.
If he can't stop your salvation, he'll settle for silencing your communication.
Hell's not afraid of your Sunday attendance. It's afraid of your **Monday prayers**.

6. Loaded vs. Lukewarm

A loaded Christian walks differently.
He prays before he speaks, listens before he acts, and fights before he flees.
He knows that his words mean nothing without power from above.

A lukewarm Christian, on the other hand, treats prayer like a magic wand — something to wave around in crisis and then tuck away once the storm passes.
No wonder his spiritual aim is terrible. He's shooting blanks.

You can tell who's loaded and who's not.
The loaded ones radiate peace in the middle of chaos.
The unloaded ones panic and post about it.

You say, "How do I get loaded again?"
Get back on your knees. Confess your sins.
Get your sights aligned with God's Word.
Start talking to heaven like you mean it.

God's ammunition is unlimited — you're just not drawing from the armory.

7. The Secret Weapon of the Saints

Prayer is the believer's secret weapon because it bypasses every earthly obstacle.
Governments can ban churches. Nations can silence preachers. Platforms can censor truth.

But they can't stop a **kneeling saint** from shaking heaven's throne.

The underground church in China doesn't have fancy buildings — but they've got power because they've got **prayer**.
The early church didn't have budgets or branding — but they prayed until prison walls fell.

Acts 4:31 says, "*When they had prayed, the place was shaken.*"

You can't fake that. You can't fabricate that.
You either have that kind of power or you don't.

Prayer doesn't just change circumstances — it **changes soldiers**.

It hardens your resolve. It strengthens your spirit.

It fills your magazine with live rounds.

You don't have to shout to be heard — but you do have to shoot to hit something.

8. The Church That Forgot Its Weapon

The modern church has replaced prayer with programming.

We've got committees, not callouses.

We've got lighting design, not Holy Ghost fire.

We've got "strategic initiatives," not spiritual intercession.

We talk about revival like it's a conference you register for.

Brother, revival doesn't come by scheduling it — it comes by **praying it down**.

You can have the slickest music and the nicest facility, but if the altar's cold, you're running on fumes.

You can fill a stadium with believers and still be powerless if nobody's praying.

The devil's not worried about your attendance — he's worried about your **authority**.

And authority only comes through **knees worn down by war**.

Until the church starts praying again, it'll keep confusing motion for momentum and hype for holiness.

9. The Prayer Life of a Real Soldier

Real prayer isn't convenient — it's costly.

It's not five minutes before bed with a yawn. It's wrestling with God until something breaks loose.

Jacob didn't "say his prayers." He **fought** in prayer.

He said, "*I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.*" (Genesis 32:26)

That's not passive — that's powerful.

Jesus didn't pray to impress people. He prayed until His sweat became blood.

And you think God's going to hand you power because you whispered half a verse before lunch?

If you want the fire, you've got to pay the price.
Prayer is the work. Everything else is the result.

The devil knows when a man's serious.
He knows when your prayers are empty chatter and when they're loaded with faith.

Some prayers bounce off the ceiling — others blow the roof off hell.
Which are yours?

10. Keeping Your Magazine Full

If prayer is ammunition, then daily prayer is your **reload time**.
You can't fight today's battles on yesterday's bullets.

The enemy attacks every morning, so you'd better load every morning.
Before your feet hit the floor, your heart should hit the throne.

You say, "But I don't feel like praying."
That's when you need it most.
The flesh hates prayer because prayer kills the flesh.

You don't wait to load your weapon in the middle of battle.
You load it **before** the enemy attacks.
Because when he shows up, you won't have time to fumble through empty pockets.

Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 26:41, "*Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation.*"

He didn't say, "Pray when you fall." He said, "Pray so you won't."

Stay loaded. Stay ready. Stay dangerous to hell.

11. The Sound of Firepower

You ever hear a church that knows how to pray? You can feel it.
It's not quiet, polite, or predictable. It's electric.
It's men and women storming heaven like they mean business.

They don't just say words — they **wage war**.
Every "Amen" sounds like artillery. Every tear is a tracer round.
The devil hates that sound.

But the modern church has replaced the roar of prayer with the hum of production equipment.

We've silenced the saints and amplified the stage.

And we wonder why hell isn't trembling.

You can't microwave spiritual power. It's forged in the furnace of prayer.

When God's people cry out in unity and truth, heaven moves — and hell panics.

That's the sound of firepower.

12. Victory Comes from the Knees

You'll never stand tall for God until you learn to **kneel low before Him**.

Every victory in Scripture started with a bowed head.

Moses' arms lifted in prayer won battles Joshua couldn't.

Hannah's whispered prayer brought forth a prophet.

Daniel's daily prayer silenced lions.

Victory doesn't come from shouting louder than your enemy — it comes from surrendering harder to your Commander.

The devil doesn't retreat from talkers; he retreats from **pray-ers**.

You can outthink him, outplan him, or outargue him — and still lose.

But you can't outpray him without winning.

Because prayer puts you under divine air support.

The bullets might fly, but the outcome's already decided.

13. Final Roll Call – Loaded or Sitting Duck

So here's the real question, Christian — are you loaded or a sitting duck?

You might have your salvation helmet on, your Sunday suit pressed, and your theology straight — but if your prayer life is cold, you're a walking bullseye.

The devil's not afraid of empty Christians with full calendars.

He's afraid of empty men with full magazines.

You can't coast through a battlefield.

You can't "delegate" prayer.

You can't survive off somebody else's faith.

If you're prayerless, you're powerless.
If you're powerless, you're defenseless.
And if you're defenseless, you're done.

Prayer is ammunition.
Every "Our Father" is a bullet.
Every "Thank You, Jesus" is a grenade.
Every "In Jesus' name" is a missile.

Load up. Stay sharp. Fire often.

Because the day's coming when the trumpet will sound, the battle will end, and the Commander will inspect your weapon.

Will He find it smoking from use — or collecting dust?

The Lamb Is Also a Lion – Don't Mistake His Meekness for Weakness

Introduction – The Modern Church's Toothless Christ

You'd think by listening to half the pulpits in America that Jesus Christ was some sentimental, soft-spoken pacifist walking around in sandals giving motivational speeches about "self-love."

That's the new Christ being preached — the smiling hippie who just "understands you."
No wrath. No judgment. No power.

But the real Christ — the one of that Book — is both **Lamb and Lion**.

He's gentle, yes. But He's also terrible in majesty. He's merciful, but He's not a pushover.

The problem with the modern church is that they've **neutered the Lion of Judah**.

They've turned Him into a housecat — tame, purring, and declawed.

But the Bible says He's the **Lion of the tribe of Judah** (Revelation 5:5), and when He comes again, He won't be coming with a flower crown.

He'll be wearing many crowns and drenched in blood — and that's not the blood of Calvary this time, brother, that's the blood of His enemies.

You better get this settled right now:

The same Jesus who wept over Jerusalem will one day **burn it down** under His fury.

The same Lamb who hung on the cross will one day roar from His throne.

Don't mistake His meekness for weakness.

1. The Lamb That Was Slain – The Meekness of Majesty

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming, he said, *“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”* (John 1:29)

That's the side of Christ everyone loves — the Lamb.

The spotless sacrifice. The humble Servant who said, *“Father, forgive them.”*

It's the side that reveals the mercy of God.

At Calvary, He didn't call twelve legions of angels — though He could have.

He didn't retaliate. He **restrained** His power.

That's meekness.

Meekness isn't weakness; it's power under control.

The Son of God hung naked before men He created, while they spit on Him, mocked Him, and drove nails into His hands.

And He said, *“It is finished.”*

That's the Lamb.

Gentle enough to heal lepers, strong enough to bear the sins of the world.

The meekness of God is not cowardice — it's calculated restraint.

Every drop of blood He shed on that cross was the purchase price for your soul.

The Lamb was silent before His shearers (Isaiah 53:7) because redemption required obedience, not retaliation.

The world saw weakness; heaven saw victory.

But make no mistake — that same Lamb who refused to fight at His first coming is coming back **with a sword**.

2. The Lion of Judah – The Strength of the Sovereign

You say, “Well, Jesus wouldn't hurt anyone.”

Then you haven't read Revelation lately.

“Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed...” (Revelation 5:5)

Brother, when He comes the second time, He's not coming to negotiate — He's coming to **dominate**.

He came the first time on a donkey, but He's coming the second time on a war horse.
He came the first time to save; He's coming the second time to **slay**.

That's not the Sunday school Jesus you see on the felt board with sheep on His lap.
That's the Commander of heaven's armies with a two-edged sword coming out of His mouth.

You see, the world has seen the Lamb. They crucified Him.
But they haven't met the Lion yet.

When He roars, every knee will bow.
When He speaks, every mouth will shut.
When He moves, every crown will fall.

And the church better stop acting like the Lion's still asleep.

3. The Church That Forgot the Roar

The modern pulpit preaches a **declawed Christ** — gentle enough to tolerate sin, timid enough to fit in the culture, and polite enough not to offend anyone.

They've turned the roar of Judah into a whisper.
They talk about His love but never His law.
They talk about His mercy but never His majesty.
They talk about His forgiveness but never His **fire**.

They've forgotten that the Lamb who opened not His mouth on the cross will open His mouth in judgment one day — and the heavens and earth will flee away.

You say, "But God is love!"

Amen. And He's also **holy, jealous, righteous**, and **furious** against sin.

That's why Revelation 6:16 says the world will cry out, "*Hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.*"

Imagine that — the **wrath of the Lamb**.

That's a side the televangelists never talk about.

The Lamb has teeth, and He's coming to bite.

4. The Lion in the Temple

You want to see both sides of Christ in one picture?
Look at Him in the temple.

The Lamb enters quietly, then the Lion shows up with a whip.
He overturned tables, drove out the money changers, and shouted, *“Make not my Father’s house an house of merchandise.”* (John 2:16)

That wasn’t “gentle Jesus meek and mild.”
That was the Lion roaring in righteous fury.

He didn’t need permission from the Sanhedrin.
He didn’t take a poll from the Pharisees.
He saw sin and He judged it.

That’s the Christ of the Bible — full of grace and truth.
The world loves grace, but it hates truth.
They’ll take the Lamb, but they’ll reject the Lion.

But you can’t separate them.
If you want the Savior, you’ve got to take the **Sovereign**.
He’s not just Redeemer — He’s **Ruler**.

5. The Roar That’s Coming

One day, the meek Lamb who died for sinners will roar again — and it won’t be an altar call.

Revelation 19:11–16 paints the picture:
Heaven opens, and here He comes on a white horse. His eyes are flames of fire.
On His head are many crowns. His vesture is dipped in blood.
And the armies of heaven follow Him.

The same mouth that spoke, “Come unto Me,” will speak, *“Depart from Me.”*
The same hands that blessed children will crush the Antichrist like a grape.
The same eyes that wept at Lazarus’ tomb will burn through the armies of earth.

That’s not a myth — that’s your **King returning for war**.
Every dictator, every blasphemer, every false prophet will meet the Lion of Judah face to face.

And when He roars, there won’t be any debates.

6. The Balance of Christ's Nature

You can't understand the Lord until you grasp the balance between His **mercy** and **might**. He's not half-Lamb, half-Lion. He's fully both.

At the cross, His mercy was displayed.

At the Second Coming, His majesty will be unleashed.

He stooped low enough to wash His disciples' feet — and He'll stand tall enough to trample the winepress of the wrath of God.

He forgave the thief on the cross — and He'll condemn the beast and false prophet to the lake of fire.

That's balance.

That's divine symmetry.

The Lamb satisfies justice through sacrifice.

The Lion enforces justice through sovereignty.

If all you preach is the Lamb, you'll raise soft Christians with no backbone.

If all you preach is the Lion, you'll raise angry zealots with no compassion.

But preach both, and you'll raise **soldiers of the cross** who know when to weep and when to roar.

7. The Lion's Spirit in the Believer

If Christ lives in you, then His nature — both Lamb and Lion — ought to show through you.

As a Lamb, you endure persecution.

As a Lion, you stand for truth.

You forgive your enemies — that's the Lamb.

But you refuse to compromise the Word of God — that's the Lion.

When false doctrine creeps into your church, you don't shrug — you roar.

When sin walks in the front door, you don't hide — you drive it out.

The world hates both sides of Christ — His meekness makes them uncomfortable, and His majesty terrifies them.

But the saint who walks with both will shine like a torch in this dark age.

8. The World Wants the Lamb, Not the Lion

Let's face it — this world loves the Lamb as long as He stays silent.

They'll hang pictures of Him in hospitals and schools as long as He doesn't speak against sin.

They love "Jesus the Teacher," "Jesus the Healer," "Jesus the Moral Example."

But they'll crucify "Jesus the Judge."

That's why the Antichrist's world religion will talk about "Christ consciousness" and "unity" but never about **truth**.

They'll use the Lamb's language but reject the Lion's authority.

Friend, when you take away the Lion, you've got another Jesus — the one Paul warned about (2 Corinthians 11:4).

And that "Jesus" will gladly sit next to Buddha, Allah, and Krishna — because he's just another lamb in a zoo of lies.

But the **Lion of Judah doesn't share His throne**.

9. The Coming Clash – When Meekness Ends

This world is marching toward a confrontation it cannot avoid.

The Lamb gave them grace; they gave Him rejection.

The Lion will give them wrath; they'll beg for death.

They mocked the Lamb on Calvary.

They'll meet the Lion at Armageddon.

That's why Psalm 2 says, "*The kings of the earth set themselves... against the Lord.*"

And what does God do? He laughs. He holds them in derision.

Because the joke's over when the Lion stands up.

He's not coming to negotiate peace treaties. He's coming to tear them up.

The nations that defied Him will be crushed under His heel.

The armies that followed the beast will melt in the brightness of His coming.

Every courtroom, every parliament, every false pulpit will stand before His throne.

And then every knee will bow — willingly or not.

10. The Christian's Roar in the Meantime

Until that day, it's our job to **roar in His stead**.

Not in arrogance, but in authority.

Not in pride, but in power.

The world is loud with sin — we'd better be loud with truth.

It's not time for the church to whisper.

It's time to preach like lions, not purr like kittens.

Too many pastors are more concerned with popularity than purity.

They've forgotten that the same Christ who said "Come unto Me" also said, "*Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!*"

When Jesus spoke, sinners trembled and demons screamed.

When today's pastors speak, audiences clap and sin keeps sitting comfortably.

Brother, that's not Christianity — that's cowardice.

You've got the Lion of Judah living in you, but you're meowing at the world.

Stand up. Speak out. Roar truth in the face of lies.

11. The Lamb's Love, The Lion's Loyalty

The Lamb loved you enough to die for you.

The Lion loves you enough to defend you.

When Satan accuses you, the Lamb intercedes.

When the world persecutes you, the Lion avenges.

He's not just your Savior — He's your Defender.

You're not following a philosopher; you're following a **warrior-King**.

That's why Revelation 17:14 says, "*The Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings.*"

Notice it says the **Lamb** shall overcome — not the Lion.

Why? Because in Christ, the Lamb and the Lion are the same Person.

Grace conquers sin. Mercy defeats evil. Love wins the war.

And that's the mystery of His majesty — the Lamb is the Lion, and the Lion is the Lamb.

12. Final Judgment – The Roar That Ends It All

At the end of time, when heaven and earth flee away, there will be silence — until the roar.
The Great White Throne will blaze, and there He'll sit — the One they called “gentle Jesus.”

Every unbeliever will face Him, and every excuse will die on their lips.

They'll meet the eyes that once wept for them.

They'll face the voice that once called them.

And the Lion will say, “*Depart from Me.*”

That's not cruelty — that's justice.

That's the roar of righteousness.

But to the redeemed, the Lion's roar is the sweetest sound in the universe.

It's the sound of victory, of vengeance, of vindication.

It's the announcement that the battle's over, the Lamb has triumphed, and the King has taken His throne.

Conclusion – Bow to Both

The Lamb bought your soul.

The Lion will rule your eternity.

Don't come to Him for salvation if you won't submit to His sovereignty.

Don't sing about His mercy if you'll deny His majesty.

You either bow now to the Lamb in grace — or later to the Lion in judgment.

But one way or another, you **will** bow.

And when that roar shakes the heavens and hell itself trembles, you'll know:

The meek Lamb was never weak — He was just waiting.

Conclusion – The War Isn't Over

If these sermons did anything, they weren't meant to make you smarter — they were meant to make you **dangerous**.

Not polished. Not popular. Not liked.

But armed. Awake. And **standing when others fold**.

You don't need more information — you need **ammunition**.

And now you have it.

The world is getting darker.

The church is getting softer.

But the Bible hasn't changed, the battlefield hasn't shifted, and the Commander hasn't surrendered.

So don't salute the sermons — **live them.**

Don't admire the armor — **wear it.**

Don't quote the verses — **fire them.**

The devil isn't scared of a Christian who listens.

He's terrified of a Christian who **acts.**

So take what you've been given, load every round, and step back onto the front line.

Because this war isn't won by spectators —
only by **soldiers.**

Lock. Load. Advance.

If you want a **shorter, punchier version**, here it is:

The sermons are over — the war isn't.

Don't leave equipped and stay inactive.

Take the ammo. Load the weapon. Win the fight.

Spiritual Ammunition was never meant for storage —
it was meant to be fired.