

This afternoon, everyone. It's good to be here. Almost ended up in Bethany this morning.

This 35 was blocked. Oh, yeah. So we had to make up, what, 20 minutes of the tour? Oh. That's why we were late. Wow, we were late. Yeah.

So the world, I mean, we drove into a back road, it was not plowed. It was white. Wow. Wow. So I started getting, Cody was driving, so I started getting a little nervous. Boy, we can't afford to run off. It must have been an accident. Yeah, it's something, some accident there on the road. Anyway, I'm glad to be here. See you all having a good time. See a Christmas tree right here.

The green one's yours.

Yeah, gifts too.

You know, on the 27th I'm doing a presentation in Toronto.

And there was a puppet king, Zedekiah. When I said puppet, he was like those yes, we call those yes men or yes king, bow to everybody. And he was an uncle of Jehovah King. And so the Babylonians installed him as the vassal king or the overlord under Nebuchadnezzar. In chapter 28 though just back one chapter we read about the prophet Hananiah and it says in verse 3 within two full years this is Hananiah prophesying now to Judah and he told you that within two years God is going to bring back bring them back to this place and all the vices of the Lord's house that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away.

prophecy from the prophet Hananiah telling Judah they will be back,

oh, just two years. Don't worry. Taking into captivity just a two years. Two years go back quickly. So don't worry.

And then we go back now to verse 29 and verse 21. Thus said the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning Ahab, the son of Colio and Zedekiah, the son of Massaeo, who prophesied a lie to you in my name.

Jeremiah 29, verse 21.

Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. So this was the prophecy, you know, about the captivity, and he shall slay them before your eyes, and because of them a curse shall be taken up by all the captivity of Judah who are in Babylon, saying the Lord make you like Zedekiah and Ahab, whom the king of Babylon were roasted in the fire, because they have done disgraceful things in Israel. They have committed adultery with their neighbor's wives and have spoken lying words in my name which I have not commanded them indeed I know and I'm a witness says the Lord so what unfolded in this scenario there were words going around that the captivity would be short and the Jehoek kitchen to Jeremiah saying, sent to all those in captivity, saying, Thus said the Lord concerning Shemamaya, the Nihalamite, because Shemamaya has prophesied to you and I have not sent him. He has caused you to trust in a lie.

Therefore, thus said the Lord, behold, I will punish Shemamaya, the Niharamite and his family. he showed rebellion, an apostate nation, and God wanted to humble them.

I mean, in the scripture reading, we talk about long -suffering and patience.

They didn't want that. They want it over and done with. So in verse 10, we read,

Thus said the Lord that after 70 years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you and perform my good word toward you causing you to return to this place.

So it wasn't two years. A big difference. It was 70 years. Many of them would die during that period.

So Jeremiah in this letter counseled Judah, although they were in captivity, say you know what?

Continue living your life.

God's will is God's will. Continue to build your houses. Cultivate the land. Get married and have normal lives. He even told them to pray for the foreign land and seek its welfare.

But the leaders and the people didn't want to do that. They wanted to do the up. over and done with quickly we want to pray to God today and tomorrow we want the answer or even tonight and it's not like that so patience is a lesson coming out of this as well in verse in verse 29 he told him to build houses dwelling them plant gardens eat of the fruit of them

Continue with your life, because what I deem for you will continue until the captivity is over. I learned a lesson. I think when I was here last time,

I gave you a little experience about Melissa when I was going through. You know, this sermon was written last year, the last year. Well, I was in Florida because sometimes I spend my time doing Bible studies, stockpiling them, stockpiling sermons as well. I've never been altered them. I always have them and something in the can I can always take.

So I'm only saying it in Kowat. I won't say it anywhere else. You're inspirational. But I have, no, I have three Bible studies that are already prepared. I'm doing one now and I have three.

there is a consequence. There is a punishment for it. God forgive us.

He forgives us. And the prime example is David when he committed adultery.

God forgave him. But the punishment came to his household. His son died and he prayed and he organized over that and he lay prostrate on the floor and he begged Yahweh not not allow his son to die, but his son died.

And he bounce back beautifully after that. Go through the sounds, and those sounds of breathing and not losing faith in God. Not losing faith.

So,

at times,

we want God to answer us.

of Jeremiah 11, sorry, Jeremiah 11 verse 11, sorry, Jeremiah 29 verse 11.

God says, I know the thoughts that I think toward you.

And here's the thoughts that he has for us. Thoughts of peace,

not of evil. So many times people ask the question. Did God bring down evil on us?

No.

He allows it though.

So when you see in Isaiah forget the chapter right now where it says God created evil is a mistranslation. God didn't create evil.

The proper translation is calamity. And that's all for that when that happens.

Like Hurricane Minister, God didn't create it, but the conditions existed for that to happen. But he allows it for a reason.

That only he knows. When we're in the kingdom one day, you can ask him, why did he allow that bus to crash and kill young people and seniors?

Sometimes going to gamble.

And maybe, you know, you talk about it as a little.

because of what they were doing. Not for me to judge, not passing a judgment, just wondering. I don't know, I can't answer it. But sometimes we have to wonder some of the things we're engaging if the protection is lifted. Because remember, each and every one of us have a guardian angel. That's what the word of God says. The angels that go with us all around. But sometimes we are in situations where you wonder, could I angel?

And his thoughts for us are thoughts of peace, not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then you shall call upon me and you shall go and pray unto me. And guess what happened? He says, I'm going to listen to you. I will listen to you. I will happen unto you. So that's the tool we have when in situations like this. Even if we are going to Casino -Rama in a situation, you're going with friends or whatever. You pray for God's protection. He says, pray and I will listen to you. And you shall seek me, and you shall find me. And when you shall search me with all your heart, that's the thing. God knows the desires of our heart. He knows. That's why He's God. does

That goes up. The Bible says it's like a sweet savor to him when those prayers come up. And there's a text in Revelation that talks about the prayers coming up to the throne of grace to God. And he's hearing them. He's hearing them.

He answers them to every single one of them. He answers.

But The answers we get sometimes, the answers we are listening for is not the answer that God gives us. No.

His answers are according to His will. And that's why in the model prayer, very important line in the model prayer,

thy kingdom come thy will be done even that when Jesus left that prayer for us to model after to pray we should always pray according to God's will not according to our desires and we must not treat God like a theory godmother or a genie everything we wish we run to him and ask him because sometimes the things you wish can harm us. They can harm us.

So we must always be listening to his will or his call.

A prayer is like a telephone. Call a friend. You know it's a two-way street, a communication, took up the phone and you call your friend. You talk to God and you lay down your desires to him. And as long as they are in keeping with his will, so and so could benefit the church and I'm going to go on a little business I tried a little business could be successful you could get a lot of money and I

could help brethren and I could help the church good intentions but guess why God doesn't see that way and it doesn't grant us that desire and we may say why though because it will be a big help And maybe, brethren, it is for our own good.

Why God answers otherwise. A few years ago, we had someone in the church, and this person was a very humble person, at least come across as a very, very humble man.

And when we go to the pulpit, and, for example, when I speak, you would come and say, boy.

praising God and song leading, saying prayer, getting involved, traveled with us all the way to the feast in Florida, drive. Yeah.

And then he started, we started allowing him to speak, to do ceremony.

And that was a

We call all the little humility left him. Yeah.

And after a while, it was just about him.

So you realize, sometimes things may not appear what it seems to us.

God, I mean, perhaps if he didn't occupy the Pope, he would still be the church today, but he got carried away.

So one has to be careful. There's a scripture in the Bible that talks about pushing leaders in position too quickly. It's there. So we have to be very careful.

He told Israeli captivity would be 70 years a long time and then you will return to Jerusalem but they were not listening who were they listening to the false prophets not the road of God we live in an age today where people love to hear things when it comes to religion they love to hear things.

But they would prefer to hear from the false teaching than the real truth. Because the truth offends

and the truth bites to the core. The truth makes us guilty.

That's what it does.

And we are in a society that after a while you keep hearing a lie, becomes truth.

Becomes truth.

Because I guarantee you now,

90 % of the household in this town has one of this in the tree, in the room. And it's an abomination. I call it the abomination tree. Because you look in the Old Testament, there are so many references to the

truth and so again we have to be careful so

verse 14 29 says i will be found of you said the lord and i will turn away your captivity i will gather you from all the nations and from all the places which i have driven you said the lord i will bring you again into the place where i cause you to be carried away captive and God allows us to be carried away captive

quotation in some situations because he wants to teach us a lesson so they return to Jerusalem they built the second temple and the worship resumed but give them time and guess what happened they went right back hoaring after other gods Thank you.

The word.

The word. That's what is the word? Because what is the word? John 17. Thy word is truth.

Only the Bible can define what is true. Or what is truth? Word of God is true. He says in Jeremiah 33, 3. Call to me. I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things that you do not know.

According to His will, he hears us. So he hears us.

And then in Psalm 116, verse 1, it's there again. I love the Lord, for he heard my voice. He heard my cry for mercy because he turned his ear to me. I will, and this is David, the same man who lost his son. I will call on him as long as I live.

Blessed are they, blessed are they, that hear the word of God and keep it. So it's a two-way thing. You hear it and you also keep it. In another place, he said, the people honor me with their lips and their heart, their mind is far from me. Their thoughts are far from me. So we must keep doing what God asks us to do. themselves.

And there was no answer, nothing. And I don't blame Elijah for doing this. I mean, I would have had a bell full of laugh. Elijah mocked them. Oh, shout a little louder, man. Shout a little louder. Maybe he's asleep. I would be laughing. Of course. Godemaking Because they mock him, Yahweh, shout, Lord. And they showed their Lord, no answer. But pick up in verse 37, 1 Kings 18.

Elijah now, answer me, Yahweh, answer me. So these people will know that you, Lord, are God. And that you are turning their heart. Lord, he is God. And they didn't stop there.

They killed the 450 prophets of bail. You know what example?

They're advised, the admonition there, and it's also backed up in other scriptures. God says when there's an evil in the land, must get rid of it.

get rid of it and if for society with all of these crime going around if they if they had any intention of getting to the root of it a lot of them would have been minimized but we would have the numbers now that's how the bible looks at it and that's how god told israel get rid of the eve from out of your sight remove it because if you don't remove it the other generation is going to go up So, So it's within our control to have adequate punishment. And that is one of the reasons why it tells us in the Word of God that Jesus Christ, when he sets up his kingdom, he's coming to rule with equity and justice. Only he alone really knows through justice.

Elijah then, as his story goes on, must have been familiar with Moses' story of wanting to see God.

So Elijah went through all of this experience here. And I'm going using this experience to show you something else.

He was, as I said,

I would call a brave prophet. All the prophets should be brave, but he's in a

different category. because when you stand up against 450 priests it says a lot so he wanted to see God just like Moses remember Moses prayed to God to show him face and he just give my little glimpse of his back walking now God tells Elijah to go stand outside because the Lord is about

He says the Lord was not in the earthquake.

And after the earthquake came a fire. Are you instantly going to remember the burning bush? Moses, Moses, take your shoes from off your feet because where you stand this holy ground. And you must or would have thought this is God's presence here. But the word tells us that the Lord was not in the fire.

of the cave then a voice said to him what are you doing here Elijah so all of what Elijah witnessed the hurricane the earthquake the firestorm God was not there the least place he expected God to be in a in a whisper that's where he was he heard the silence and the voice again what are you doing here Elijah so in this story note that God answered Elijah consuming the offering on the altar through an angel who brings food and gives direction by the word of the Lord but there he came in a small voice a gentle wisdom

He was not there.

I don't know if I related this story to you. If I did,

I don't have amnesia because, you know, I speak so many different places. I have a hard track keeping time, keeping track. But it was some years ago we had to pick up someone at the airport in person. And we went too early and a flight was delayed.

A stable.

Because I'm certain I heard a donkey brain,

a cow mooing, and a goat,

and a sheep bleating. Not telling a lie, she can back me up. And it's like, what's going on here?

I mean, So we opened the door and we peeked inside. Spies now, right?

James Bondster. And what we saw at the, they had like an altar.

What we saw at the altar, sorry I didn't get a, you know, at that time we didn't have any phone cameras and all of that because probably I could have captured some really vital footage. Because people were gyrating and they were tumbling on the floor and they shak, chak, chaka. They were speaking in tongues and moving around. Holy Spirit moving them and making animals songs and I said oh this is it this is it so what we were listening for was just something totally different I would just walk away because I said there's no way I cannot see any precedence in the scriptures for this the Bible said we should test every spirit to see if they are of God is not

in the whirlwind or in the fire or whatever. Or, more importantly,

are we hearing and listening to his word? We have the Bible on audio too,

so we can listen. In Hebrews 1, I alluded to that further. Hebrews 1 tells us,

verse 1, that in the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and that's why we just went through some of the prophets there read that and

in various ways too the example with Elijah God is speaking to us that all the false prophets there they're gonna come to nothing and they should be removed from out of our system not advocating any massive slaughter like what happened here but in these last days meaning our time here he has spoken to us by who his son yeshu whom he appointed heir of all things and through whom also he made the universe and then it goes on in verse 3 to says the

is telling us that anything he has to reveal to us is in his word he has spoken to us in the last days through his son and his son gave the scriptures if we can agree on that we can see where this is going the prophets first and then in the last days Jesus

in September I didn't get to come here I know Stefan bombarded with predictions that the rapture would be on the day of trumpet. I chuckled back at that and I'll tell you why. Because nobody before, they weren't talking about Feast of Trumpets before. Like they didn't know about Feast of Trumpets, but somehow they got a revelation that Christ is coming on the Feast of Chumpets. So one good thing that came out of that is at least they know now what the FISA Chumpet is.

And I'm wondering, are we really listening? Are they really listening? Are they really reading the Word of God for what it is and what it says to us?

We go to 1st, 21st, 11th 16, because if they have been reading their Bible, you realize that this cannot be true.

It says he alone is immortal

God alone is immortal and note this and that he dwells in unapproachable light what that means nobody can approach God in his glory and his throne it's unapproachable I don't care what ministers past that they say on TV that him talk to God and see God and he'll be

It says God alone is immortal.

And in the big teaching about immortality of the soul doesn't fit here either. God alone is immortal. He dwells in an unapproachable light. And watch this.

No one has ever seen Him. Nobody has ever seen God.

Nor anyone can see Him. Not anyone can see him.

To him, honor, and eternal dominion. Amen. So the phrase that God was in an unapproachable life is a biblical concept that signifies God's supreme holiness, purity, transcendence that is beyond our comprehension. So when you turn on a TV and hear this man telling you about God, and they're still going on, you know.

into practice. And then in Malachi 2 -2, it's like the opposite, Malachi 2 -2.

If you do not listen and if you do not resolve to honor my name, says the Lord Almighty, I will send a curse on you and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them because you have not resolved to honor me. So all of the mockery against God, there's going to be payment for that.

Whether in this time or times gone by, there'll be punishment for that.

Isaiah 42 .20, Isaiah 4220 says, You have seen many things, but you pay no attention. Your ears are open,

but you do not listen.

more songs within like a week through AI technology and I have the song if I played for you think there some big artists from out there I used my promotional stuff I saw AI now telling us that if you for example if you have a black -and -white picture from when you're a child you can get what you look like back then life not still picture I'm still picture but it can make you life it can make you smile can make you lips move can give you the color you had take all the wrinkles for some of us who have wrinkles and make you look pretty nice AI

I don't know where this is going

They just keep eating and you want to where all this food is going. I mean, they have some in Korea. In South Korea, I know they forget what they call them. And it's like a TV show. But I've seen some with some guys with so much food and they just eat it off. And I'm wondering, where did that food go? I want to discover its AI.

The AI makes it look so real. It's unbelievable. And the warring thing is, even the people behind this technology, they two are wondering where it's going.

Knowledge is out there. We are seeing many things,

Isaiah says.

But you pay no attention. Your ears are open, but you do not listen. There's something. I came across a program day the day, and it's from a pastor too.

I didn't get to listen, but maybe I'll look it up. He says that AI has all the marks of demonism. There's an angel,

a falling angel who controls AI, has been put in charge of AI.

So it's deception. Remember the Bible talks about deception. It's part of the whole deception. Matthew 24 when Jesus, the followers asked Jesus what would be the sign of his coming, his first response was, there will be widespread deception.

It's part of the package. It may not be the direct thing or the only thing, but it's part of the package.

German 713 while you were doing

the soil and bread for the evening. It's preparing for the spring.

Soil is regenerating with all of what's going on over there. So it's just not just snowing. And he says, so is my word that goes out from my mouth.

It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. So God Yes.

We are told in 2nd Moses 316, it's God breathed.

It's God breathe, the word. It comes from God. Of course, there are a lot of talk or questioning whether the Bible is true and whether these are man's word or whether it's God world. It takes faith to believe that it is the word of God. That is why we are people of faith. The Bible says it is considered useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, training in righteousness. Either we accept it or not.

So I don't waste time like some detractors going around. Oh, I wonder if God really said this or you really said that. I wonder if this book should be in the Bible or this one was left out. I don't bother with that. I have to take it on faith.

That whatever God, Eboo's one whatever God wants me and you to know he has revealed

it through his son the Bible didn't say you know what maybe the word of God is is God breathe he didn't say maybe he said it is and so I have to accept that that's what faith is you know people don't have a good grass or what what faith really entails I'm not gonna question I mean I can ask question of little things that are neither here nor dear came in some story with Ananias and Sapphires and he's questioning something and said listen I said I have more important in fact I gave him a lesson because he said yes you know I'm a born again Christian I said born again say you born again so oh yes I'm a born again Christian I said oh it's a pity you're on the phone because are you like the So is someone that is born again, which means you're invisible. Someone said, are you invisible? He said, no, no, no, no, no, no. So I said, oh, what do you mean born again then? Because if Jesus said, you told Nicodemus, if you're born again, this is what you look like. I said, no, no, no, no, you have it all around. So I said, give me a few minutes. Do you have your Bible? And I walk him through the experience with Nicodemus. And then when he said, he said, oh.

The translators might have just inadvertently just write the wrong number or the people who wrote it, who are writing down the account. It's that a big deal.

It doesn't, what does it take away that God is real and Jesus Christ is coming back the second time? What does it have to do with it? So we have to make sure we are listening to the right things. We are hearing for the right things.

Some years ago, I went to the feast.

carry your tent and pitch it outside the Feaside and camp there. That's my advice. Camp there. Because if you're going to try to please everybody, you won't have a feast. I tell you that. We have to accept, brethren,

as we listen and try to listen to God, as I wind down here, that the word of God reveals his nature. It helps us to build faith. It's our guidance for daily life.

And it offers us the most important thing in human history and civilization here and to come. It offers us and tells us how we can achieve salvation through the recent Christ. We have to accept that. And in order to listen to him,

we have to accept that. You know, sometimes we are afraid

Philippians 4 .6, it says, do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with Thanksgiving. Let your request be made known to God.

And in Isaiah 410, Isaiah 4110, it says, do not fear,

I am with you, be not dismayed. I am your God.

I am your God. 2 Timothy 1 .7 says, For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self -discipline.

And Psalm 563, Psalm 563, when I'm afraid, I put my trust in God.

And in Matthew 625, Matthew 625, therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or

we have to know that God comes first and everything else comes second. God is always first.

He is our focus.

And no matter what situation we are in, sorry, Romans 828 advises,

Romans 8:28 says, as we know that for those who love God, all things, not just a few things. All things work together for good.

For those who are called according to his purpose. All those who are called.

And in Psalm 33, 11, the plans of the Lord stand firm forever. The plans of the Lord stand firm forever. The purposes of his heart through all generations.

examples there in the scriptures. One of them I usually use is Samuel, the experience of Samuel when God called in three times. And his father, the priest Eli, I said, anytime again you hear the voice to say, you know, your servant hears. You're not going to hear a voice from God calling you, but God communicates to us in different ways. And one of the ways I realized God really communicates with those sure thoughts.

Sometimes you're uncertain about something and you're inclined to... Some people have told me that I hear a small still voice. I have no problem with that. I whisper. But audibly, like a load, I don't think you're going to hear that. Because the... you and God.

Not for us. Because whatever God wants us, wants to reveal to us, it's here already. He boos one. Sometime ago a lady came to me, oh, I have a, God told me that this church must start pray more. I say, it's in the word of God already. We should be praying. So pray without seizing. I don't need any special revelation for that. They're ready for us to see it. So we have to be careful because people can get carried away with that. And we have to test every spirit.

Satan is active. He's not sleeping. He's working overtime.

And when over time, we don't work over time for God, do we? In our study, we work over time for God in our study. Remember, Satan has nothing else to do and to create mischief? So he's at it all the time. He's working over time. He's working over time. So if we're not working the hours that we should get into know God, then be careful. Be careful. So brethren,

as I wind down here in Psalm 30 verse sorry Psalm 50 verse 3 it says our God shall come and shall not keep so the question is not whether God still speaks to us his words speak to us all the time all the time and that's what we must harken to So that's

to get an answer. Because if you wait 50 years for something and it doesn't happen, it could very well be God's saying, no, that's not my will. Or if you wait a long, long time and you realize it's not happening,

maybe it's just not God's will. And his answer, long answer you already.

But you know your relationship with him, so you'll have to weigh that. You don't have to assess it. I can't tell you.

It's relative to each person, because only you and God have that relationship.

I don't know what relationship individually you have with God. I can't.

It's not my prerogative to know either.

So if you're fasting,

don't come before me and tell me, oh, I'm fasting, you know, look at my lips. It's crack up.

It's between you and God. I keep telling people and I'm leaving that word with you again today. Jesus is not coming to save CGI.

Jesus is not coming to save this congregation. Sound outrageous?

Maybe. Jesus is coming to save you, the individual. Salvation is a personal thing.

It's an individual thing. The church is only here to nurture us. But when Jesus returned, he's marrying his bride. The church, wherever it is, and we are a part of the church. Well, he's not coming to save the church. He said the church doesn't need any saving. He says the gates of the grave will, the church will always prevail. Always save the church. That's why people walk away from church and church is still there.

Some people think when they walk away from the church, the church is going to go down? No, the church is still there. The word of God, go back to the word again, it says the gates of the grave of death will not prevail against the church.

The church don't need saving. We need saving, but it's coming for individuals.

So what does it say? Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

So are we listening? Yes. Thank you.