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John 3:16

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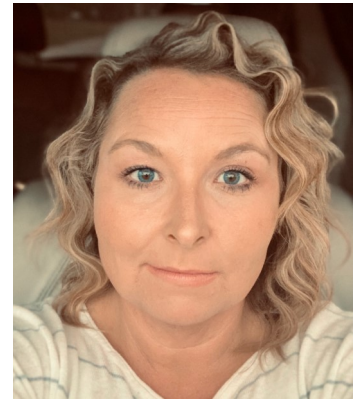
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This Gazette is intended to share ideas, discuss theology, and to inform. This is a volunteer-based publication. It is through the hard work of many people that we can produce and share this.

If you have any questions please reach out to us!

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John 15:12

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.



The Last Days: Part Seven

Pastor Larry Mitchell



ALRIGHT, Now, For the LAST Several of Months, WE'VE Talked About 5 LITERAL RAPTURES in the BIBLE, . . . THAT PROVE, [Whether It's ONE PERSON, . . Or THOUSANDS,] . . GOD Has No Trouble In Carrying Out HIS PLAN and PROMISE,

And THAT PLAN IS, . . To BRING HOME A BRIDE, . . Which is HIS CHURCH ! SO NOW, We'll GO BACK, And WE'LL TALK About "RAPTURE Number FOUR," Which RIGHT NOW, . . is the All IMPORTANT . . .

"RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH !"

JOHN Accounts the Words of JESUS IN JOHN 14:1- 3 . . " Let not your Heart be Troubled; You believe in GOD, Believe also in Me." In my Father's House are many mansions; If it were not so, I would have told you. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and RECIEVE YOU unto Myself; That where I Am, . . There [With Me] YOU, May Be Also."

Another Scripture We've Quoted Quite Often In This Study; PAUL Writes To the Church at Thessalonica; I THESS. 4:16-18 says; "For the Lord himself, shall descend From heaven with a shout, with the Voice of the archangel, And with the Trump of GOD; And the dead in Christ shall RISE First." "Then we, which are alive and remain, shall Be "CAUGHT UP," Together with Them in the clouds, to Meet the Lord in the air; And so shall we ever be with the Lord." "Wherefore, COMFORT one another with these words."

AND Then Again, in the BOOK of MATT. 24:37-39 . . JESUS says; "But as in the days of Noah, So shall IT Also Be in the COMING of the SON of MAN." For as in the days that were before the Flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the DAY that Noah entered into the Ark," " And knew Not until the

Flood came, and took them all away; So Shall it Also Be, in the COMING of the SON of MAN."

I BELIEVE The EVIDENCE FOR The SOON RETURN of JESUS CHRIST IS OVER-WHELMING ! "IT COULD BE AT ANY MOMENT !!" PROPHECY HAS BEEN, . . And IS PRESENTLY Being FULFILLED !

. . . ONE BIBLE Scholar LISTS 167 CLUES . . AS To WHY, WE BELIEVE . . . JESUS IS COMING SOON !

. . AND I'D LIKE To REVIEW JUST A FEW of Those, That You'll Recognize;

1. IN MATT. 24:32-35 "Now LEARN A PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE: "When His branch is yet tender, and puts forth it's leaves, You know by This, that summer is nigh. So likewise, when you SEE ALL THESE THINGS Happen, You KNOW that it is Near, even at the door.

"Verily, I say unto you, THIS GENERATION shall not pass, 'til all these Things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, BUT my words shall not pass away."

NOW, People ASK; " WHAT'S So Important About The "BUDDING of the FIG TREE:" "WELL, THE FIG TREE is "ISRAEL !!!"

In the Late 1800's, Jewish Immigrants Began to COME From All Over the WORLD, And Began Arriving in Palestine and Began Draining Swamps, and Irrigating Deserts, and Drilling Wells and Planting Trees.

FARM Settlements Began to Appear, And Useless LAND Became Fertile. AND By 1948 . .The PROPHETIC WORD, . . That EZEKIAL SPOKE Of, . . In (EZE. 37:1-14) . . Had Come To PASS ! . . Where The VALLEY of DRY BONES, would Come together, and LIVE; . ."

WELL, Lets Just READ Vs's. 11-14 . . . Vs11 "Then HE said to me, These BONES are the Whole HOUSE of ISRAEL;" . . Vs12 "Therefore SPEAK and

Prophecy to these DRY BONES, “Oh My People, I will Open Your Graves and I will Cause You to COME UP Vs13 – “And You Shall Know that I AM the LORD, . . . “ Vs14 – And I shall put My Spirit in You, and You Shall LIVE, and I Shall Place You in Your OWN LAND, AND Then you shall know, that I the LORD, Have Spoken IT and PERFORMED IT !”

“WELL,” Those DRY BONES, . . . The HOUSE of ISRAEL, BUDDERED, . . . AND Became a NATION ON MAY 14, 1948; – They Built Factories, Schools, and TODAY, . . . ISRAEL is ONE the Most Advanced Countries in the Middle East, . . .IF NOT IN THE WHOLE WORLD !!

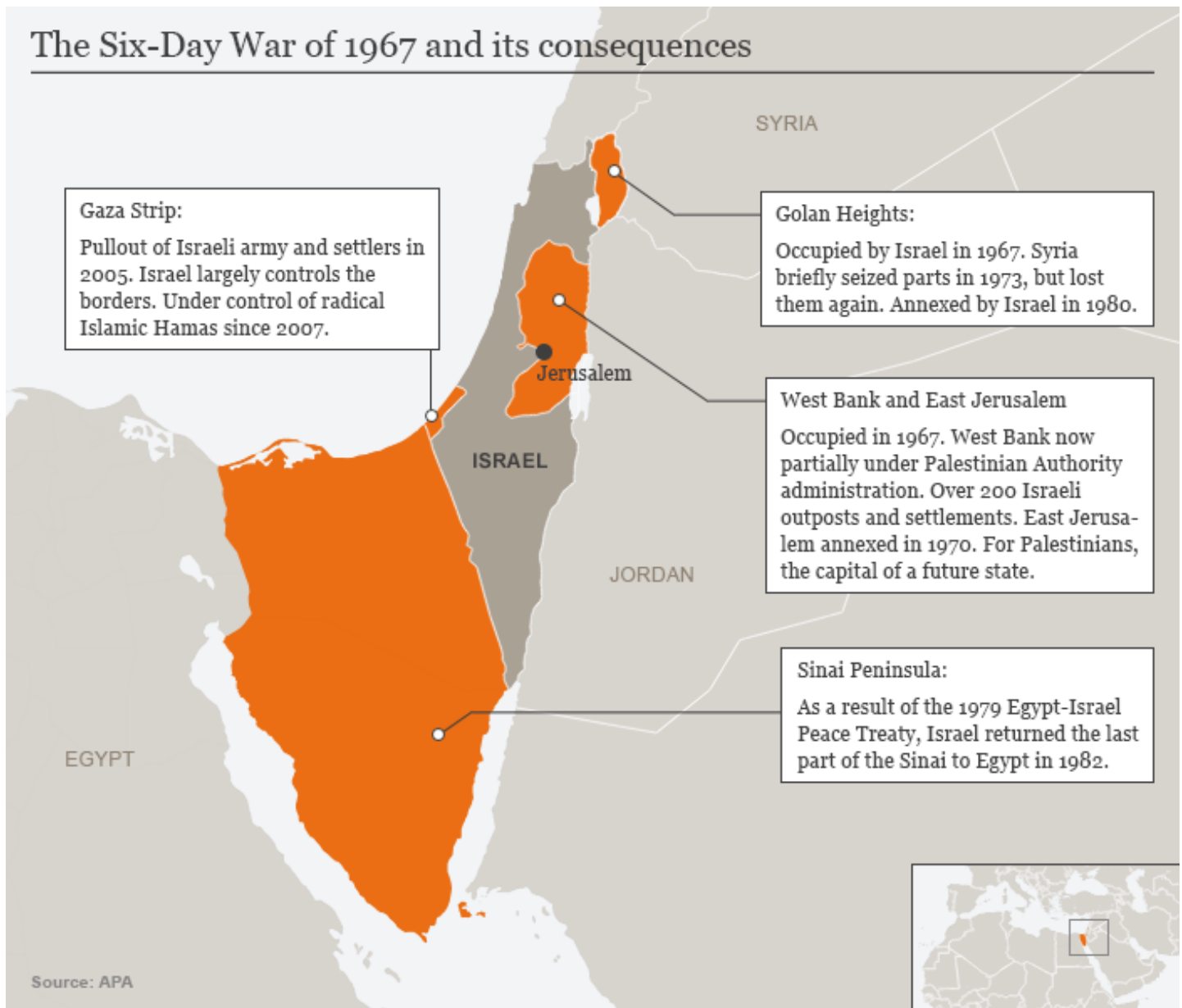
WHY Is THIS So Significant ? . . . BECAUSE 1948 STARTED the TIME CLOCK of THIS “LAST GENERATION,” Which SIGNALS, - The END is NEAR !! “. . . AGAIN, In 1967 . . . ISRAEL Was

Surrounded By THREE ARAB Nations, And THEY FOUGHT, and NOT ONLY WON, What was Called the ” 6-DAY WAR.” . BUT THEY Soundly Defeated EGYPT in 2 Days; They Defeated ASSYRIA in 2 Days; And They Defeated the JORDANIANS in 2 Days ! WOW !

WHAT WAS SO SIGNIFICANT ABOUT THIS 6 – DAY WAR ??

In LUKE 21:24, . . . JESUS, . . . [in Describing the END of Days;] . . . HE says; “. . . And Jerusalem shall be Trodden down [Occupied] by the Gentiles, . . . Until the TIMES of the Gentiles [Heathens] Be Fulfilled.”

WHAT THIS MEANS . . . IS That ISRAEL GOT Their Beloved CITY OF JERUSALEM BACK, . . . During the 6 – DAY WAR ! . . . ANOTHER BIBLE PROPHECY FULFILLED !!



IN THE 24th CHAPTER OF THE BOOK OF MATTHEW, . .

3. JESUS was sitting on the Mount of Olives, and his disciples came to him and asked, "LORD, Tell us when shall all these things be ?

And what shall be the SIGN of your coming, and the END of the WORLD ?" [ALL of the CHURCH, TODAY, is Asking the SAME THING]

4. And JESUS Answered and said unto them, "TAKE HEED THAT NO MAN DECEIVE YOU.

5. FOR MANY SHALL COME IN MY NAME, Saying, I AM THE CHRIST; AND SHALL DECEIVE MANY. . . [THIS is GI-NORMOUS !]. . . NEVER Have WE SEEN Such An EXPLOSION of CULTS, and the OCCULT ! . . COUNTERFEIT SPIRITUALITY is EVERYWHERE !!

FALSE CHRISTS, FALSE PROPHETS, . . PHONEY CHURCHES, . . PSYCHIC Phenomena, . . Spiritism, . . Satan Worship, . . Witchcraft, Paganism, Nature Worship, . . Astrology, Horoscopes, . . NEW AGE MOVEMENTS, . . ETC. . . IT'S EVERYWHERE, Just Like JESUS SAID !

Somebody Asked, "WHAT'S the DIFFERENCE Between "A CULT," . . And "THE O-CCULT ?" "WELL,. . A CULT, . . IS ANY Religious Group, Whose Worship and Devotion, DENIES the POWER and the DEITY of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND IT'S JUST THAT SIMPLE !!

II TIM. 3:5 Describes IT as a RELIGIOUS DECEPTION That Says; "They have a FORM of godliness, But they Deny the POWER of GOD, From Such, TURN AWAY !" AN O-CCULT - Is ANY Mysterious, Secretive, . . Religious Group Of People,

WHO are Actively Participating in the MYSTIC Powers of the Underworld !

Black Magic, Divination, Satan Worship, Palm Reading, Astrology, Crystal Balls, Fortune Telling, Mediums, Summoning the Dead, Psychic Hot Lines, Astral Projection, Ouija Boards, New Age Movement, . . And, Once Again, DENYING the DEITY of JESUS CHRIST !! And the LIST Goes ON and ON !!!

AND Of Course, The LITMUS TEST To BOTH of THESE; IS FOUND In I JOHN 2:22 . . "HE, Who DENIES that JESUS IS the "CHRIST," the MESSIAH, IS a LIAR; Whoever Denies the Father and the Son, is ANTI-CHRIST."

ALSO In I JOHN 4:1-3 "Beloved, Don't Believe Every Spirit, But Test the Spirits to See if They're of GOD ! Because many False Prophets are in The world. And Here's How You'll Know; Every Spirit or person who Confesses that JESUS Christ has come in the Flesh, . . is of GOD; BUT everyone That doesn't Confess that JESUS Christ has Come in the Flesh, IS NOT Of GOD, . . BUT comes from the spirit of Anti-Christ, . . which is already Now, in this world."

THIS IS THE BOTTOM LINE, to TEST . . "WHO IS FOR CHRIST," . . and "WHO IS AGAINST, . . or WHO IS "ANTI- . . CHRIST !!!"

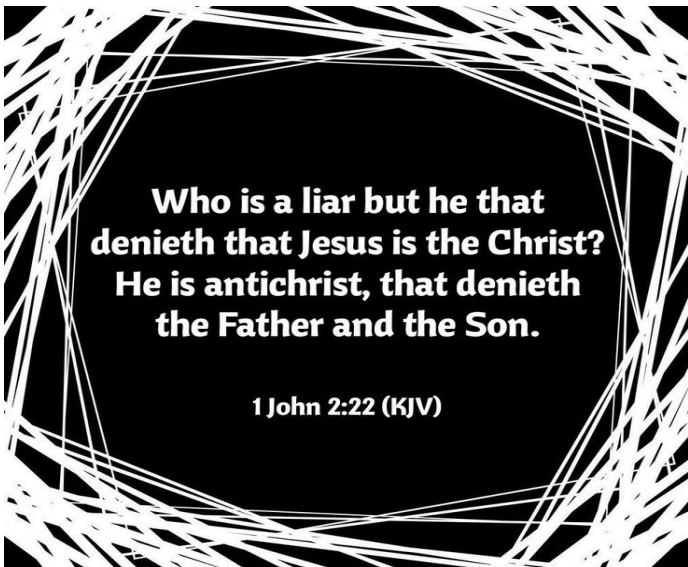
EPH. 5:11 The Apostle PAUL writes; "For YOU were once in darkness; But Now You are Light in the Lord. Live as children of the Light. (for the Fruit of the Light consists of goodness, righteousness, and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. And Have nothing to do with the Unfruitful Works of Darkness, But Rather - EXPOSE them."

> We've Got ALL KINDS of Denominations and Abominations, Today, . . That Are SO FULL of COMPROMISE and PAGANISM, . . . [I'm Speaking Plainly About Catholicism and/or Any Protestant Church, Who Preaches and Teaches Anything Other Than the TRUE WORD of GOD.]

READ REV. 17

In REV. 2:6 and 15 .. GOD Tells the Church at Ephesus and Also at Pergamos, How Much HE HATES the Doctrine of the NICOLAITANES, . Which IS the Doctrine of COMPROMISE, in Which HE Will NOT TOLERATE!

. . . . AND Once Again, . . . II TIM. 3:5 says; "They have a FORM of godliness, But they DENY the POWER of



GOD, . . From such, TURN AWAY !” . . . HE SAYS; “GET AWAY FROM IT !”

6. AND YOU Shall HEAR of WARS and RUMORS of WARS; SEE to it, That You Be NOT Troubled; For ALL Things MUST Come to Pass, BUT the END IS NOT YET.

7. FOR NATION Shall RISE AGAINST NATION, and Kingdom Against Kingdom; And There Shall Be FAMINES, and PESTILIENCES, and EARTHQUAKES in Many Different [Diverse] Places.

JESUS Said That the SIGNS Before HIS COMING, . . Would COME as Intensifying BIRTH PAINS, . . SEEING Increased FAMINES and World Hunger, Violence and WARS, . . Which Paints a Very Clear Picture of Our WORLD TODAY !!

ONE Out of Every SIX People On EARTH Suffers From HUNGER ! VIOLENCE IS, WORLDWIDE . . Just as JESUS SAID IT WOULD BE ! . . KINGDOM Against KINGDOM, . . SETTING the STAGE For WORLDWIDE NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION !

NATION Rising Against Nation ! The Upheaval of People, Rising Up Within Their Own Countries, . . People Fighting Against One Another! People PROTESTING, Their OWN Governments - Civil UNREST;

A Recent STUDY Shows A DRAMATIC Increase in Earthquakes World Wide; . . JUST SINCE the Decade of ISRAEL’S BIRTH, AS A NATION !

IN the 1940’s . . There Were 51 Earthquakes Registering Above 6.1 On the RICHTER SCALE !- IN the 50’s There Were 475 . . In the 80’s, There Were 1,085 And That NUMBER Continues To GROW At An ALARMING RATE Since!

JESUS Says in Vs. 8 . . “ALL these are But the Beginning of Sorrows.”

. . BUT FOR the CHURCH, . . WE ARE NOW LIVING IN the MOST EXCITING TIME in CHURCH HISTORY! WHY? WHATS GONNA HAPPEN ????

IT’S RAPTURE TIME !!! . . AND WE JUST CAN’T IMAGINE HOW IT’S ALL GONNA HAPPEN, . . BUT WE DO KNOW, . . IT’S GONNA HAPPEN . . SOON !!

MATT. 24:44 says; " Therefore be ye also READY, for in such an HOUR as YOU Think NOT, . . the SON of MAN WILL COME. ”

NOW REALLY ? HOW MANY in Here, Woke Up This Morning, (Be Honest) And You Thought That THIS Could Actually Be the DAY WHEN JESUS COMES BACK ? “ I DIDN’T THINK SO !”

MATT. 24:50 says; " The Lord of that servant shall come in a Day when he Looks NOT for him, and in an hour that he is NOT aware of."

As I Said Before, There are People Who Believe That the Rapture is Purely Symbolic, . . That IT Really ISN’T GONNA HAPPEN ! BUT They’re in for a BIG SURPRISE !

ONE of the SIGNS of the END TIMES, That WE Discussed In a Previous Lesson, . . is Found in MATT. 24:37-39 . . Where it Tells US; . . ” But as it was in the days of Noah, . . So shall it also be, in the days of the Coming of the Son of Man. “ “For as it was in the days of the Flood, . . they were eating and they were drinking and they were marrying, and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ARK.”

WHAT’S HE SAYING HERE ? “Everybody Will Be Going About Conducting “BUSINESS AS USUAL !”.“GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY LIVES !”

AND JESUS Goes ON to SAY; “And They Didn’t REALIZE IT, . . . REALIZE WHAT ? They Didn’t REALIZE That the WORD, That GOD Gave NOAH, WAS TRUE ! THEY DIDN’T BELIEVE IT ! . . AND THEIR LIVES PROVED IT !!

“And THEY Didn’t REALIZE IT, until the Floods came and took them all away. (And JESUS Goes On To SAY) And So shall it also be, . . (IN The SAME WAY) . . in the Days of the Coming of the Son of Man.”

THE FACT IS; The FINAL CURTAIN CALL, . . is Just About to HAPPEN, and WE Have to ASK OURSELVES the ALL IMPORTANT QUESTION; “AM I READY ??”

“YES,” WE NEED to PLAN, Like it Might Be Another 50 Years Before the LORD COMES BACK, . .

BUT WE NEED to LIVE . . . LIKE IT COULD BE IN the NEXT FIVE Minutes !!

BUT WHY IS IT, That SO MANY PEOPLE, . . ARE GONNA MISS OUT ON THIS, . . ONE SINGLE, MOST IMPORTANT LIFETIME EVENT, . . Called The "RAPTURE ???"

JESUS Tell US in MATT. 7:13-14 . . "Enter through the Narrow Gate, For Wide Is the Gate and Broad is the Road that Leads to Destruction, and MANY will Enter through This Gate; BUT Small is the Gate, and Narrow is the Road that Leads to Life, . . BUT ONLY a FEW Will FIND IT."

[Compared To the MASSES, . . ONLY a FEW Will REALLY ACCEPT JESUS !]

. . . WHY ??? . . .

1. "WELL, SOME SAY, THEY JUST HAVEN'T GOT TIME !!!!!" Once Again, in the BOOK of MATT. 24:37-39 . . JESUS says; "But as it was, in the days of Noah, So shall it also BE, In the DAY of the Coming of the Son of Man. " For as in the days Before the Flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, [BUSINESS as USUAL] . . Until the Day that Noah entered into the ark," And They knew NOT until the Flood came, and took them all away; So shall also the COMING of the Son of man be."

THIS ISN'T A MAYBE, . . THIS IS BIBLE PROPHECY !!

2. "PEOPLE ARE FULL OF EXCUSES !"

LUKE 14:18-20 says; "And They ALL, with one consent, began to make EXCUSE ! The First said, " I have bought a piece of Land, and I Need to Go See It ! " And another said," I just bought five yoke of Oxen, and I need to Try them Out; SO I cannot Come ! And another said," I just married a wife, So I can't be there !"

ONCE AGAIN; "PEOPLE DO WHAT HEY WANT TO DO !" And PAUL Says That WE ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE !"

3. "PEOPLE ARE CAUGHT UP IN PLEASURE !!!!!"

II TIM. 3:4 . . Perilous Times shall come ! Men will be Lovers of PLEASURES, More than Lovers of GOD !"

LUKE 21:34 " Take Heed to yourselves, Lest at Any Time Your Hearts be Overtaken with Gluttony and Drunkenness, and the Cares of this life, and So THAT DAY COME upon You Unawares.

VERSE 35 says; " For as a SNARE, it shall COME on all of them that dwell on the Face of the Whole Earth."

4. "MANY ARE IN The VALLEY of DECISION !"

. . BUT THEY SAY, "THEY . . HAVE PLENTY OF TIME !!!!!"

MATT. 24:48-51 says; "But IF that Evil Servant shall say in his Heart, "My LORD DELAYS HIS COMING." " AND He shall begin to Bully His fellow servants, and Begin to eat and drink with the drunken;"

"The LORD of that Servant Shall COME In a DAY and Hour, When that Evil Servant has Stopped Looking for Him; And He Shall Be Cut Off, and his Portion shall be Weeping and Wailing, And the gnashing of Teeth, With the Hypocrites !"

*NEXT LESSON, . . We're gonna Talk
NEXT MONTH WE Will Talk About a Political Leader,
WHO is Just About to
Take CENTER STAGE in WORLD POLITICS !!
BIBLICALLY, HE Is KNOWN, . . . AS THE ANTI-
CHRIST !*



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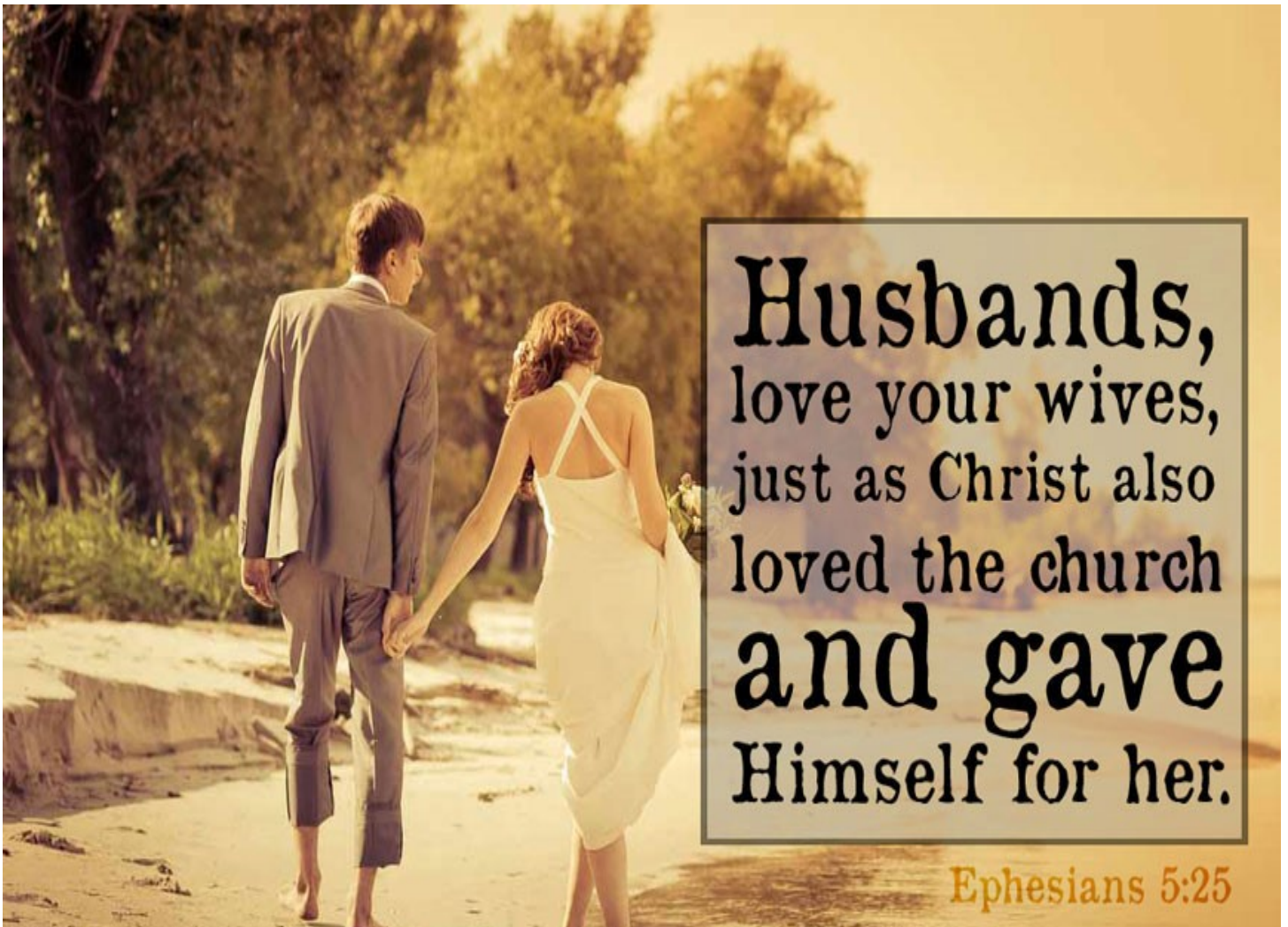




*Love and
Marriage...*

How will I know
when I have
found the
perfect spouse
for me?

Written By: Kasey Parrott



Husbands,
love your wives,
just as Christ also
loved the church
and gave
Himself for her.

Ephesians 5:25

Overseeing the teen youth group is an adventure. They have questions about everything – And I mean everything! Dieting, gossip, lying so not to hurt someone’s feelings, parents who are fighting, video games, dancing, getting good grades, basketball, and of course, relationships.

Dating is a hot topic among the young. (Hey, we have all been there!) I field questions from teens who want to know about love and what God has to say about dating. I also see teens avoiding me about the topic. Some of them don’t want God’s Word interfering with holding hands with the person they just met last week. (Yes, I roll my eyes at them just as dramatically as they do with me!)

I can recall several conversations with various teens over the past few years who are sure they have found their “soul mate” or a “perfect girlfriend/boyfriend”. They aren’t worried about

marriage at this age. They are just happy to relate to another person who understands their feelings and stresses and suddenly it is a God given “perfect mate”.

The truth is this isn’t just a topic for the young. I have several friends in my own age group who are single. As I watch them try to navigate relationships and love I often hear they are waiting for the “perfect spouse”. (Yeah, another eye roll.) Those of us who have been married for a while know there is no such thing as a perfect spouse. Why? Because we are not perfect people.

Let’s do some biblical work.

The Bible does not address how to find the “perfect spouse”. But... it does give other direction that is essential. We begin by asking for wisdom. James 1:5 tells us that God will give wisdom and guidance if you ask for it. So, let’s start there.

Second, we aren't to marry an unbeliever (2 Corinthians 6:14-15). 1 Corinthians 7:39 reminds us that we are free to marry but should only marry those who are acceptable to God – aka Christians. Of course, this opens a larger set of questions. I challenge my teens to ask themselves these questions. If you are single, or know someone who is, this is a good list to begin with.

- Are they devoted to God? How do you know?
- Are you devoted to God?
- Are you equally yoked? There are many different beliefs in Christianity and this needs to be considered. Are your beliefs and doctrines aligned?
- Do you understand what a Christian wife is supposed to be?
 - o Ephesians 5:22-24
 - o Proverbs 31:10-31
 - o 1 Peter 3:1-4
- Do you understand what a Christian husband is supposed to be?
 - o Ephesians 5:25-27

This is where my conversation with the teens begins. Because as we all know, there is no “perfect spouse” and the expectation that there is one can be devastating. So why doesn't God spell out for us what we should look for in a mate? Why do we not have more specifics about such an important issue? The truth is that the Bible is so clear on what a Christian is and how we are to act that specifics are not necessary. Christians are supposed to be likeminded about important issues, and if two Christians are committed to their marriage and to obeying Christ, they already possess the necessary ingredients for success.

However, because our society is inundated with many professing Christians, it would be wise to use discernment before devoting oneself to the lifelong commitment of marriage. Once a prospective mate's priorities are identified—if he or she is truly committed to Christ-likeness—then the specifics are easier to identify and deal with.

First, we should make sure that we are ready to marry. We must have enough maturity to look beyond the here and now and be able to commit ourselves to joining with this one person for the rest of our lives. We must also recognize that marriage requires sacrifice and selflessness. Before marrying, a couple should study the roles and duties of a husband and wife (Ephesians 5:22-31; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Colossians 3:18-19; Titus 2:1-5; 1 Peter 3:1-7).

A couple should make sure they know each other for a sufficient amount of time before discussing marriage. They should watch how the other person reacts to different situations, how he behaves around his family and friends, and what kind of people she spends time with. A person's behavior is greatly influenced by those he keeps company with (1 Corinthians 15:33). They should agree on issues such as morality, finances, values, children, church attendance and involvement, relationships with in-laws, and employment. These are areas of potential conflict in marriage and should be carefully considered beforehand.

Finally, any couple considering marriage should first go to premarital counseling with their pastor or another trained Christian counselor. Here they will learn valuable tools for building their marriage on a foundation of faith in Christ, and they will also learn how to deal with inevitable conflicts. After all these criteria have been met, the couple is ready to prayerfully decide if they desire to be joined together in marriage. If we are earnestly seeking the will of God, He will direct our paths (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Just as a reminder... we have biblical counseling available here at the HOPE!



A GOOD WORD

ἀλήθεια - Truth

I never meant to be a thief, but the evidence was undeniable: two small tomatoes still in my cart. I overlooked them when I rang up my groceries, which led to walking out without paying for them. Right there in the parking lot, I had a crisis. Would I just put them in my trunk and head home? Why not? We're talking about fifty cents here! Or would I walk back in and pay for them? Put more starkly, would I decide to go my own way? Or would I live in accordance with the truth?

Truth, simply put, is “the body of real things, events, and facts.”[1] It represents that which *actually* exists in the world. It does not concern opinion or subjective feeling but rather actuality and objective existence. The Greek word for “truth” in the New Testament is ἀλήθεια (*alētheia*), and it has the same basic definition as the English word: “the quality of being in accord with what is true” and “an actual event or state, reality.”[2] Its importance in the New Testament is clear: Jesus and the gospel message are identified with truth, and believers therefore are to live in accordance with truth.

When the New Testament describes Jesus and the gospel message, ἀλήθεια is front and center. Jesus Himself is full of truth (John 1:14, 17). When Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples in the Upper Room, He identified himself as truth, which meant He was the only way to the Father (John 14:6). The gospel message about Jesus, sourced in God Himself, is identified as “the message of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). You won't get far in the New Testament without learning how everything Jesus was and did—everything He is and does—is truth.

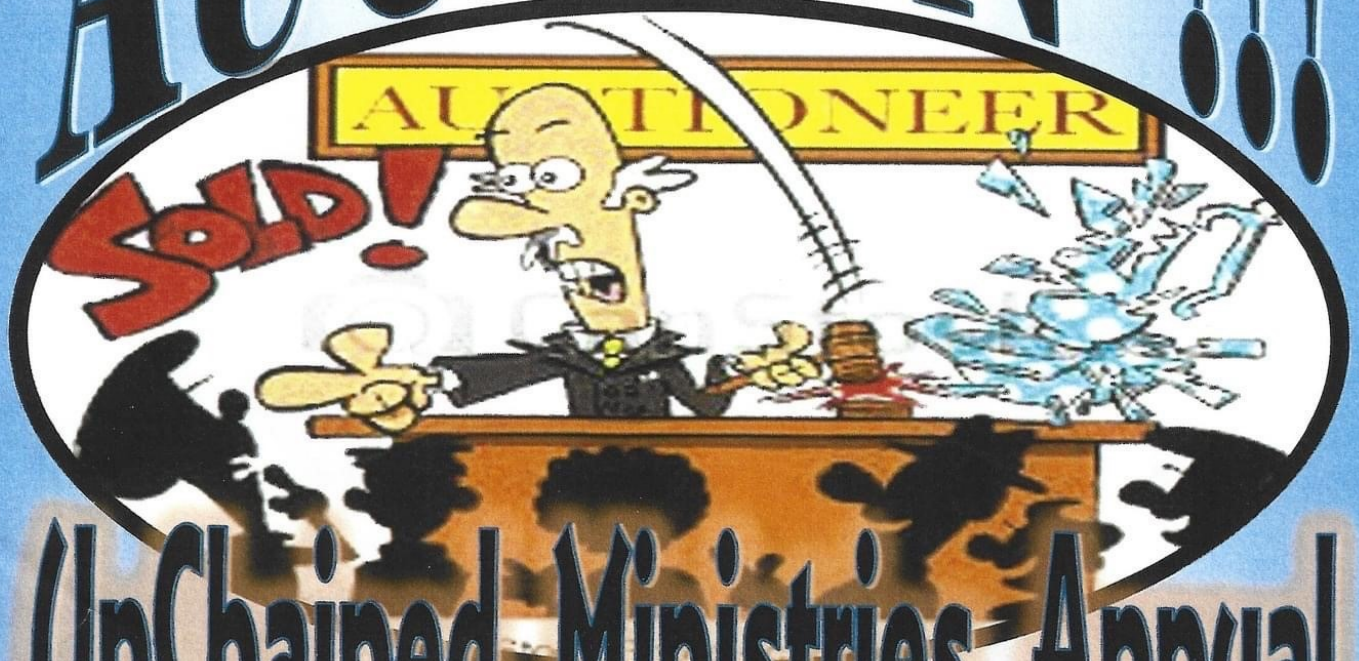
Truth also becomes the standard for those who believe in Jesus Christ: our lives must now embody truth. Because of our connection with each other in the body of Christ, we must speak truth with each other (Ephesians 4:25). In the imagery of the armor of God, truth plays a central role in how we live out our salvation (Ephesians 6:14). We must love in deed and truth (1 John 3:18). Our entire existence is now measured by our Lord; since He is truth, we must live truthfully.

Remember my tomatoes? Since Jesus is truth, the gospel about Jesus is truth, and believers are called to truth, my choice was simple. It took only a few minutes to walk back into the store and pay the \$0.45 for those little red fruits. But to me, that decision affirmed who Jesus is, the impact of the gospel, and how believers are to live. It all boils down to truth.

by Michael Burer, PhD



AUCTION !!!



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