

Repentance in Texas

by Andrew Strom

Andrew Strom's sermon calls for a deep repentance and revival in America, urging believers to awaken from complacency and embrace the full truth of God's word.

Duration: 58:45

Scripture: Matthew 6:33, Matthew 7:21-23

Topics: "Repentance"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher starts off by addressing the audience as serpents and vipers, questioning how they can escape the damnation of hell. He emphasizes the importance of holiness and how without it, no one can see the Lord. The preacher expresses concern about the lack of truth and the famine of hearing the word of God in America. He shares a powerful experience of people falling to their knees and crying for mercy during a sermon by Charles Finney. The sermon concludes with a warning about the consequences of not having one's name written in the book of life, leading to being cast into the lake of fire.

Transcript

Praise God, let's pray, shall we? Father, we just pray for your presence, God. Father, we pray that your holiness will come down upon us. God, that your glory would be in this place.

That the sword of the Lord would go forth, Father. I pray, place your word in my mouth, that I would speak utterances of the Holy Ghost, that I would not speak of myself. But God, that your glory would come down, that I would speak your word.

And Father, I pray I would flow in the Holy Spirit, because without you I'm nothing. I do not want just another meeting, and we do not want to just walk in the flesh and speak things that we know, but that are not life to us. Father, let there be life.

Let your glory come down, we want to see your glory, God. We want to glorify you. Thank you, Father, please be with us.

Please come down amongst us, Father. In Jesus' name, Amen. Praise God.

Well, you know what? I came to America, we've been here one year. Came to America because I believe God was speaking to me that now is the hour for America to come into her next awakening. And if she

doesn't, all is lost.

You know, we look at America today and we see massive church attendance, huge church attendance, highest church attendance in the world. They say that it's 40% of Americans regularly or semi-regularly go to church. I bet Texas is a high church-going state.

I'm sure it is. But you know what they've got in many other nations? They have revival. They have the glory of God coming down.

If you were to go visit certain nations, many nations actually, in Africa right now, you could go places and see where the Holy Spirit is moving in power, where it's like the book of Acts. You could go to China right now and you could see the same thing. You could go see the glory of God, miracles and healings, repentance being preached, thousands and thousands coming to the Lord and they're not even allowed open meetings.

You go to South America and then there's nations of South America that are full of the glory of God. God has been moving for years. The only places you can go and not expect to see a great awakening of God in this hour is in the Western countries.

I come from a Western country, man, we're as dead as a doornail. Dead as a doornail. But God's been speaking to me about America, saying she has her awakenings every 50 years roughly.

It's been 50 years since the last one and will she come into this? This is America's hour. See, I have a theory that we've become fat and lazy. That us Westerners, we know about God, we talk about God, but we've become fat and lazy Christians.

And I look back down the corridors of time, I've been studying revivals for 20 years, studying revival history. Well, don't want to fall down there. Studying revival history for 20 years and I just, my heart longs to see those days again.

I look at the, you know, America has had some of the greatest prophets and preachers in the history of the world. Charles Finney, George Whitefield spent much of his time here. Jonathan Edwards.

If you know anything about revival, these names just ring down the corridors of time because they were the most powerful preachers, some of them in history, going back to the apostles. Jonathan Edwards, way back in the first great awakening that America ever had, way back in 1742, I believe it was he preached. He preached a sermon called Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God.

Who's heard of that sermon? Put your hands up. Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God. They said he was the most boring preacher to listen to or to watch.

He just held the Bible or held his notes in his hand and he just spoke. He just stood there like this. But see, he'd been crying out to God all night, God, let eternity be in my eye when I preach tomorrow.

And the people, as he was preaching this message about the judgment of God, were hanging off the pillars and the railings because God was piercing them for their sin. And hell was opening up beneath their feet. And these are church people.

And they're watching themselves almost falling into hell and they're hanging on to the pillars and a great cry arose in the church. It got so loud that he had to ask for silence that he might be heard. Such was the

outcry of people weeping before God.

And he was just one of those preachers. Gilbert Tennant, another one at roundabout the same time, it was said of him that listening to him preach was like having a cannonball discharged through your heart. Charles Finney, all of these great preachers, they weren't treated as great in their time.

They were very controversial. Jonathan Edwards was thrown out of his own church. John Wesley preaching in England was never allowed to set foot in a church and preach.

Here's a man who, this is during the same period of time, there was a great awakening here in America and there was a great awakening in England. John Wesley, this is how popular this guy was with the minister's fraternity. This is how popular he was with all the local ministers.

He was an Anglican guy. He was a trained Anglican. At the time, that's pretty much all there was.

And they hated him so much, they banned him from every pulpit. He went out and preached to the coal miners and 30,000 would gather at a time to hear John Wesley and George Whitefield preach. And sometimes the glory of God was so strong that after he'd finished preaching, 2,000 or 3,000 would be on their faces on the ground at the end of his meeting.

Preaching in the outdoors with no microphones, it was like a pin could drop and you'd hear it. That's how silent everybody was, hanging on every word. Imagine 30,000 people in the open air, totally silent.

And there was a saying that you could see the tracks of the tears down the coal miners' faces. They'd come straight out of the coal mines and here they were listening to the man of God preaching incredible repentance. Repentance, repentance.

So we're at the 50-year mark again. And I've been around America enough to know that there ain't hardly any repentance preachers left in this nation. Hardly any.

And I have to ask the question, who's going to preach the next awakening? Where are the prophets of God? Have you grown too fat and lazy, America, for your next revival? Have we all got our SUVs and our lovely television screens and our DVD systems and we're just too fat and lazy to catch up with the rest of the earth and see God move? Who is going to preach your next revival, America? I believe that these windows typically open for seven years. There was a nation, we know, Wales was once a great land of revivals. In fact, in the 1800s, they had around 15 sweeping moves of God.

They were known as the land of revivals. Do you know Wales has not had a revival for 100 years? The great 1904 revival in Wales was the last they ever had. The 50-year mark came around.

Other nations had revivals. They had none. If you miss your revival, America, what will happen to your land? God is calling at this moment for prayer warriors.

God is calling at this moment for preachers who will stand up and go to 100% of the word of the Lord and will not hold back. And they are in short supply. Because I tell you what you can do in America, people, I can see the pathway myself.

It even opens up for me if I wanted to take it. All I've got to do is go to 90% or 80% of the word of the Lord. And man, I can make a lot of money in this country.

I just go around and get the decent big offerings. I just slowly preach in larger and larger churches. I just go and play the little game that so many are playing, preaching ear-tickling sermons to those that want to hear, which is many, many, many.

Telling Americans what they want to hear. Yes, God doesn't mind you being a fat cat. Yes, God wants you rich.

Yes, it's okay to be fat, lazy, Laodicean Christians. People, are you hearing me? I'm sorry for being so offensive. I'm sorry for being so offensive.

Charles Finney would preach in such a way it would be a miracle if the paint didn't peel off the back of the walls. Man, I'm just being very gentle right now. Are we going to go down the... You know, my country is just as guilty.

We copy America. The whole Western world copies America because we figure America must have it right because they're doing so well. They're so successful.

You know, we watch the ads and the films and the television that comes out of America and we think, man, we've got to be like those guys. Look at the success of those people. Look at that country.

You're the leader of the world in so many ways, not just political, not just military, but culturally and spiritually, people. They are now beaming TBN into Africa. Many of the African pastors in places like Nigeria copy all of the money-raising techniques they see on TBN.

They don't just do it once a year. They do it every week. They are building for themselves great congregations and they are oppressing and abusing those people.

You go to Nigeria, you will find, if you stop at any intersection, you'll find lepers and people with hideous deformities coming up and begging for money. The place is full of shacks. The place is full of poverty-stricken people and a gospel of money is being preached.

Will not God hold you accountable, America, if you do not come into your awakening? If this generation does not find itself revival, I tell you, it will be the first in 250 years that has failed God. America has had regular awakenings, five of them, since 1741. That is why this nation is full of people who go to church.

But is it full of true Christians? That is a wonderful question. Is America full of true Christians? There was once a guy called Savonarola, who was the kind of preacher I'm talking about. Listen to this quote about him.

They said, His preaching caused such terror and alarm, such sobbing and tears, that people passed through the streets without speaking, more dead than alive. Does that sound like revival to you? Listen, people. Our idea of revival is screwed up.

We think revival is some great frothy thing where everybody jumps around and gets happier and happier and the people pile into the churches because there's such joy. There's a great quote about revival and it's so true. I've studied revival for years.

I tell you, this quote is very true. Revival is not the top blowing off, but the bottom falling out. The bottom falling out.

And what was the great cry of the Welsh revival? Bend us, bend us, oh God. We, the church, have sinned and we cannot live this way anymore. A friend of mine published a really great email a few weeks ago, about a month ago.

It's called Apology to the World. And he was apologizing to all the world for being a selfish Christian, living our self-indulgent lives, building our lovely buildings and forgetting the things that Jesus sent us here to do. Can we go for a revolution, people? Is Texas still a revolutionary state? I believe it is.

Because that's what God's requiring. There ain't nothing less than a revolution in Christianity coming because we so desperately need it. That's what reformation is.

When God sends another great reformation, which we desperately need. You know, we have 33,000 denominations. 33,000 divisions.

And the world out there is despising Jesus because of us. Do we live like Him? Do we walk like Him? Today we can live in a Christianity where we just come along on Sundays, where we go down the front to get saved and all we are asked to do is pray a little two-line prayer and write our names on a little card. And the guy has the gall to say to us, You're saved now, brother.

Welcome to the kingdom of God. Finney would be sick. He would physically throw up if he saw that kind of thing.

Seriously. He would go and just about bury himself out of shame and horror that this is what Christianity had fallen to. If you repent today, it's almost an accident.

If you can somehow get into a place before God where you're walking with a clean conscience before God, it's a miracle in our church today. We are taught this low, low, low Christianity, which funnily enough I cannot find in the Bible. Cannot find it anywhere.

Searched high and low for the garbage Christianity that us Westerners love, and I could find it nowhere. I've come to this conclusion that many of us who call ourselves saved simply are not. I include in that Pentecostals and Charismatics because I'm one of those.

I'm a guy that was brought up by parents that were spirit-filled before I was even born. I've been involved in the Charismatic and Pentecostal scene for years and years and years, and we claim to be filled with the glory of God. You know the Holy Spirit is a Holy Spirit, and we claim to be filled with the very presence of God, and look at us, man.

You count miracles. Most of the time, the miracles that we're seeing, you could count them on the fingers of one hand, going back years. We're not seeing the things that they're seeing in Africa.

We are simply too lukewarm. We are simply too lukewarm. What is lukewarmness? What is compromise? It's when things sneak up on you so slowly you don't really realize that it's happened to you, and the Laodicean Church is a church that's immersed in warm water, not hot water, not cold.

It's immersed in this kind of warmth. Everything's warm, you know. Everything's friendly.

Everything's lovely. Our worship is beautiful. Everything we do is so beautiful and lovely, and we've got it all together, and we have our organization down pat, and everything works, and we've got enough money to throw at anything we want to do.

We're living in Laodicea. We're living in a dream world. Jesus is going to visit us and judge us for not doing the simple things he said.

I wasn't even supposed to preach this sermon. I'm supposed to be preaching a different sermon. At 4 a.m. one morning, God woke me up.

That hardly ever happens to me. I'm not one of these guys that, you know, this is happening every night. God woke me up, and just in an instant flash, I saw something I'd never seen studying Finney.

I saw God showed me one of the secrets of his preaching. Let me just give you a quote about Finney before we go down this road. Okay, you've heard about these guys preaching repentance.

They preached a piercing word. They preached sin, righteousness, and judgment. What is the beginning of wisdom, people? Do you know the Bible says it's the fear of the Lord.

The fear of the Lord. Looking at our churches today, you'd think it's the fluffiness of God. The grace, grace, grace.

Oh, have you had enough grace yet? No, let's just pile a bit more on there. Grace, grace, grace of God. No, the beginning of wisdom.

It's the fear of the Lord. We do not fear him. Therefore, we do not know him.

We don't want to hear preachers who preach this stuff because it doesn't get the massive offerings. It ain't about money. It's not about popularity.

It doesn't say the fluffy things that tickle our ears. And so those guys, we shun. The fluffy guys, we stick them on television.

We say, boy, you're good at getting an audience motivated. You're a wonderful, charismatic personality. Let's get you on television, brother, so you can make more money.

I want to tell you people, amongst those kind of preachers, there is a tremendous cynicism about the people giving them money. Behind the scenes, they are mocking them for being so stupid and deluded. When a preacher comes up with a figure out of his head like they sometimes do, oh, I hear the number 392 is the number of the day.

The first people up the front giving \$392 in the offering today will be utterly blessed, and God will return a hundredfold, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. We can all preach that garbage, can't we? America, when will you wake up and stop giving to these people and calling them charlatans like they are? They are ruining the earth, not just America now. They beam satellite TBN into Fiji and Samoa now, as well as New Zealand.

The whole earth is watching as they parade a Christianity of money across the television screens of the world. What will God do? What does God have to do to stop that? Hmm, where was I? Charles Finney, this is the kind of thing he used to, he would open with a line like this. Can you imagine this? The preacher gets up, he says nothing else but this.

This is his opening line. You serpents, you generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell? Or he would preach on a text like, without holiness, no man can see the Lord, and he'd prove to his

entire audience, the whole sermon would be about how they are not holy. So he's proving to them, you are never going to see the Lord, are you, sir? Never in your present state, never will you see the Lord.

You are not holy. You are not holy. Quite often he'd be preaching to church people, very often people that considered themselves Christians, people that had belonged to the church for 20 years.

There were people in some of his meetings, the shock was so great to them because they thought of themselves as Christian leaders for years, some of them were struck dumb for days with horror. We think it's great if someone's struck dumb, one of their preachers goes, and everybody falls down and they get carried out. No, in Charles Finney's meetings, they got carried out, struck dumb with horror.

Falling down under such conviction of sin, they were in agony over their own sins. Such preaching as this, we have not heard in a generation. America, who will preach your next awakening? Where will we find the men daring enough, and the woman for that matter, daring enough to stand up and preach 100% of the word of the Lord in our day, who do not want to get on TBN, who don't want it unless they're going to make it repent? Where will God find these? Because I tell you, having traveled enough over America, I mean I haven't traveled in every part, there is a dearth of the truth of God.

We have a famine of the hearing of the word of the Lord, and we are satisfied with that. Charles Finney wrote this one time, I had not spoken to them in this strain of direct application for more than a quarter of an hour. In other words, he spoke to them really directly, for a quarter of an hour, all at once, an awful solemnity seemed to settle down upon them.

The congregation began to fall from their seats in every direction and cry for mercy. If I had had a sword in each hand, I could not have cut them off their seats as fast as they fell. If I had had a sword in each hand, I could not have cut them off their seats as fast as they fell.

We think it's an anointed meeting when the preacher up the front is saying, oh, the glories come and people start falling over. In Charles Finney's meeting, he says a great solemnity came down upon the audience. In fact, in this meeting, so great was the outcry, literally within seconds.

He said it was like a shock that fell upon them. Everybody in the building fell on their face before God and started crying for mercy to God at the top of their voice. He said, I couldn't preach anymore.

In fact, I raised my voice to a scream just to get the one guy that invited me there to hear me. And I asked him to pray. He said, I screamed at the top of my voice just to get his attention.

That's how loud the crying was. So anyway, God was waking me up at four o'clock in the morning and saying, this is what Charles Finney did. Basically saying to me, this is what I want you to do from now on.

He would go to these places and instead of assuring them that they were okay and that they were saved, he would do the very opposite. He would question their salvation. You might say that's kind of a simple thing to say.

It was like blinders fell off my eyes and I suddenly saw, of course, we're in the day of the Laodicean church. We sit beside people every Sunday in so many meetings and they're raising their hands. They're clapping their hands.

They're doing all the things. They know how to put on that Christian face that says, Oh, God bless you, brother. Oh, God bless you, sister.

The whole fakey little thing that we do. The whole little Western smiley, happy Christian thing that we do. And is that person utterly walking with God or not? We have no idea.

I believe that the vast majority and I include charismatic Pentecostal churches in this, the vast majority of our churches show little sign of being a saved church in the New Testament sense. We show plenty of sign that we've gone up and we've prayed that little prayer. By the way, it's not in the Bible.

I mean, it didn't take me actually that long to do Bible studies and find out that ask Jesus into your heart simply ain't in the Bible. And say this little prayer after me. I used to do that.

I used to belong to the Navigators, which is an organization that memorized Bible verses and preach the gospel to people. I'd go around leading people in a little prayer. That's what we were taught to do.

Get them to ask Jesus into their heart. And then when they do that, you tell them they're safe. They're fine.

They're okay. Praise God, brother. I knew full well doing it on certain occasions.

I would watch the person and I had absolute full confidence nothing has happened in this person. Nothing. Has this person been transformed into a new creation in God? No.

No. Where is the evidence that we're Christians? All that America shows me on so many occasions is this. We're very religious.

We know how to do meetings. We know how to go and sit in lovely buildings and sing beautiful songs. How many of us are demonstrating Jesus in the earth? How many of us are demonstrating Jesus in here? Because it's got to happen there before it comes out.

I believe most of our churches, most of our people, demonstrate no signs of salvation. I'm talking about the Book of Acts type of salvation. I'm talking about New Testament salvation.

The salvation that Jesus invented. Because we invented a different kind. When we did that and why, I have no idea.

Maybe it's when we started having big crusades and out of convenience we made it. They just come forward and do this tiny little simple thing which is not in the Bible and we'll call them Christians. How does that sound? Praise God, what a great idea.

Wow. It really happened pretty slowly. It happened over time.

And it grew less and less biblical as it went. What did they do in the Bible throughout the Book of Acts when they wanted to become a Christian? I'll tell you what they did always. You can check many occasions of this in Scripture.

In fact, read the Book of Acts and find out. They repented. They were baptized in water straight away and they were baptized in the Holy Spirit straight away.

Those three things were always there. Go through the Book of Acts and test me out. Those three things happened on the first day.

What is baptism in water? Is it some little symbol? No. No. Does Scripture ever say it's just a ritual? No.

Is it just symbolic of death? No. Baptism in water is supposed to be death. To God and the devil, I believe they watch it and they go, oh man, we lost another one.

Because when you die, says Romans 6, when you die, you are dead to the law. You are dead to sin. When you rise into a new life, you're supposed to walk in the Spirit.

And that is a Christian. If you have not been baptized in water, have you died the Bible way? I could go into Romans 6 right now, which I'm not going to do, and prove this to you. It talks about those of us who are baptized into Christ have died with Him, buried with Him in baptism.

Very well known Scripture. Buried with Him in baptism. Listen, those of you in here who are struggling with sin areas in your life.

Have you been baptized in water? Have you repented from your sins and been baptized? This was the most basic A, B, C, D thing that would happen in the Bible. It happened on the first day. Then they'd pray for them to get baptized in the Holy Spirit.

When I got baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues for the first time, my life was revolutionized. I was a new creature. I suddenly had the glory of God residing in me and I could walk a Christian life.

Before that, I didn't have it. I know. I was a timid, weak, trying to walk, trying to believe.

That's all I had. We're not even really getting far into this yet, guys, because many of us in this room, I'm assuming, okay, many of us in this room have gone through these stages. Many have been baptized in water.

Many have received the Holy Spirit. I guess the question we've got to come to next is why is it that even the churches that have that do not seem to walk in a true Christianity today? Why? Now, here we get into what a lot of people start calling, oh, you're talking about deeper life in Christ. You're talking about the deep things of God.

You're talking about walking in a kind of way up, sanctified Christianity. And I say, no, I'm sorry, sir. You may think that.

I'm actually just talking about the ordinary, everyday Christianity where everybody walks in the Spirit and if you don't walk in the Spirit, you go to hell. That's the type of Christianity I want to talk about. Turn with me to Matthew 7. This is a scripture that should impact every one of us.

Matthew 7, verse 21. Matthew 7, verse 21. This is a scary scripture.

Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day, meaning judgment day, on that day, many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and cast out demons in your name and do many mighty works in your name? Then will I declare to them, I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.

So here's Jesus on the day of judgment. These people are saying to him, Lord, Lord, surely we're going to make it in. Didn't you, we did miracles in your name.

We cast out demons in your name. Obviously, these are tongues speaking, Pentecostal or charismatic believers here. These are people that have gone the whole nine yards and they think they've got it right with God.

And he's saying to them, I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers. What does the Bible tell us about judgment day? We know that Jesus is going to be extremely angry on that day.

We live in a moment in time where God's grace is very apparent right now because he's saving all his anger for the end. What's it like to face an angry judge? I'll put this before you, just a very basic example. You imagine that you have gone the wrong way on a one-way street and the traffic cops saw you and he's caught you and you've got to go to court.

You've got to have a little court appearance and you're thinking to yourself, this is ridiculous. Everybody knows it's going to be about, it's going to be a \$150 fine. I don't know why I even have to go to court for this.

This is ridiculous. Anyway, you show up at the courtroom and you look at the judge and one look at the judge tells you you're in big, big trouble. Some foolish person that day has got in there and made that judge incredibly mad.

Just before you're going in to see him and be judged by him, incredible anger is in his eyes and you just know you're in terrible trouble and you're thinking to yourself, oh my goodness, I should have brought my lawyer. Oh my goodness, what is the maximum penalty for that thing that I did? Is it \$3,000 fine? Is it a year in prison? You know, all the horror stories are going through your head because you're in front of an angry judge. You're in front of an angry judge.

If we go to Revelation where it talks about the judgment seat of Christ, we see a judge so angry, it says, Revelation 20, that the earth and the heavens have fled away from his face and there is found no place for them. So angry is he and it says if your name is not written in the book of life, you are cast into the lake of fire. It even says in the book of Matthew, I believe it is, that there will be on that day angels hacking people in pieces and throwing them into outer darkness where there is wailing and gnashing of teeth.

I want you to imagine that you're in a line of people waiting to be judged and in front of you, you're seeing some famous preacher and you're thinking to yourself, surely this guy is going to make it in because he's worked miracles and he's cast out demons and he seemed like a good Christian man and I heard him preach and I'm sure he's... and you're seeing angels hacking these people to pieces. Jesus saying to him, you stole from the widows and the orphans. How dare you appear before my throne this day and expect grace and mercy from me.

You dishonored my name and the earth be gone. It will be just like that. You want to read a horrific scenario, go read Matthew 25 where it talks about the sheep and the goats.

The sheep and the goats. And so it says in Revelation 20, it says, if your name is not found written in the book of life, you're cast into the lake of fire. Your name is not found written in the book of life.

You know, we have a... You know, I talk about reading out lists of names. You know, we have a rugby team in New Zealand. They're usually first or second in the world in rugby.

That's our favorite sport. And when the national team gets read out, usually it's live on television and people stop. People take a television to work or something like that.

They'll watch those names being read out. You could even... It would be similar to maybe the dream team, the basketball team from America that goes to the Olympics. It's almost like one of those incredibly top-notch teams and everybody wants to be on it, even being a reserve in that team.

Now, there's a tremendous hush when those names are read out. I want to tell you there's going to be a hush in heaven when the Lamb's book of life is opened and the names are read out. And there's going to be people crying because there's no lawyers.

There's nobody who can get you off. You're either in or you're out. There will be people crying at the top of their voices.

Lord, Lord, didn't you see what we did for you? We asked Jesus into our heart. We went down. We gave our tithes every week.

We went to church and Bible study every week. Jesus will be saying, don't come at me with that. I never knew you.

You loved your television more than you loved me. You loved your car more than you loved me. You never sold anything and gave it to the poor.

So Matthew 7.21 will come true, sadly, for so many Pentecostals, so many of us who think we're spirit-filled. Spirit-filled. We find in that day that our lamp is half full and the gates are shut.

And though we clamor and smash on those gates with all our might, they never will open. What is normal Christianity? Normal Christianity, I want to describe it to you totally biblically. The answer of a good conscience towards God.

What is Jesus restoring when we become a truly saved person and walk in salvation? He is restoring to us the state that Adam was in before the fall. Not in our bodies. We know we have a fallen body.

That won't change before the resurrection day, I believe. What God is restoring is the inner man. He's saying, I once walked with Adam in the cool of the day.

I once knew him. We were like this. And every day I would walk with him.

And he was clean before me. And there was nothing on his conscience dividing him from me. He was pure through and through.

Jesus died to purchase that back. People, do you know what Christianity is? It's that. Adam, where are you? He called out, Adam, where are you? I've lost my friend.

And so, the second Adam comes and restores it all back again or gives us the opportunity to enter and walk in that. And I want to say to you, if your Christianity is not that, you're shortchanging God. You're not in the fullness of what He requires of you.

And your life is in danger. I say it again. Especially two of those things.

You're shortchanging everything that Jesus died to purchase for you. And your life is in danger. What happens, we know in the parable, that there are people who try to climb in by a different road.

There's the wedding supper of the Lamb. And in the parable, Jesus is saying to somebody, Sir, how did you get in here without a robe? Without the white robe. How did you make it in here? He's thrown out.

What about the person with a spotted robe? Once washed with the blood of Jesus, that person once walked totally pure before God, but they no longer do. There are things on their conscience between them and God. Are they going to make it in? I believe absolutely.

I want to say this to you. I believe no, they will not. No, they will not.

If you are someone who 10 years ago had a wonderful encounter with God, where you were saved, baptized, filled with the Holy Spirit, the whole thing, most of us can remember a day in our lives like that. I can. What happens if we don't walk in the Spirit? Are we walking in salvation? This is what I call standard, normal, Romans chapter 8, Christianity.

These are the type of chapters which when a lot of preachers come to them, they kind of skip over them because we don't want to place an expectation on people that they have to walk in that kind of thing. But I'm telling you right now, it is normal Christianity. There's nothing in Romans 6, 7 and 8 that should not be yours.

In fact, all of it must be. Now, what is it saying there? Romans 6 says you've died. Romans 7 says you've died to the law.

Romans 8 says you've risen and are a new creature, a new creation. Now, most of us glibly pass over those words, a new creation. I want to ask you these questions.

You think you're there? You think you're in the kingdom? Is the innermost part of you transformed? Do you walk with Jesus in the relationship I was just talking about that Adam had with God? Do you commune with him? Or is there something on your conscience between you and him today? And if that is the case, if you're allowing that to be there, what makes you think you're saved? Most of the church in America exhibits no sign of having hardly any saved people in them. Because hardly anybody is walking in that. If you're not walking in it, people, what makes you think you're saved? You say, oh, Jesus will be merciful to me.

No, he won't. There will be no one in the universe angrier than Jesus that day. Do not expect to get up there and muck around down here and allow your conscience to get defiled in various small ways and that it'll be okay up there.

All these people who think they're going to go and shake Jesus' hand, he's going to welcome them and pat them on their back, they don't read their Bibles. We know what it's going to be like. Every one of us will be trembling in our boots.

People will be unable to get off their face before God. You know, John, his closest friend in the earth, he wrote the book of Revelation. He said, when I saw Jesus in his glorified state, he said, I fell at his feet as though I was dead.

This was his best friend, but when he saw Jesus in his glorified state, he fell at his feet as though he was dead. What do you think you and me are going to be wanting to do? If there was a crack in the floor, we'll be wanting to crawl into it. Are you found in him? Bible clearly says, test yourselves whether you be in the faith.

It's in 2 Corinthians. Test yourselves, are you in the faith or not? Not this cheap Christianity, which we're used to way down there. We're talking about New Testament Christianity, the Christianity that actually gets you saved.

The garbage Christianity in the Western church, I don't believe does. Are you walking in salvation today, people? There is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk by the spirit and not by the flesh. I'm just quoting to you out of Romans 8. The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. I no longer have to walk in sin. I can walk with a pure conscience before God.

What did Jesus die for? He died for that. Who are Jesus' brothers and sisters in the earth? They are those ones. He purchased back for us the state of Adam before God.

If you are not in communion with God that way, what makes you think you're a Christian? Won't Jesus say to you in that day, I never knew you. I never knew you. Don't you know what it's all about? It's not about the fact that you can work powerful miracles.

I know you did that. It's not about casting out demons. I never knew you.

Jesus died an agonizing death to purchase that back. If you do not have that, you do not possess Christianity. I'm sorry.

It's religion that you have. It's lovely and all. It's pretty cool.

Music's nice and all. I'm sorry, people. What did Jesus die to get for you? Are you walking in that? There are people in this room who have walked in this at various times of their life and have let it slip.

Usually one or two things in your life has done it in. Because in the church today, we don't teach people how to walk in the Spirit. It's one of the things we utterly fail at.

We don't even really understand Romans chapter 8 anymore. I want to say to you, if that's you, of course, you are a hair's breadth away from the kingdom of God. You are supposed to walk in this kingdom, not be in and out of it.

How do you know when you're in the kingdom? Because your spirit is crying out to God, Abba Father. Because you are in communion with Him. You walk before Him in a state of heart purity before God.

I want to say it again. You walk before Him. He sees right through you.

And He sees nothing in you that gets in the way. He sees no spot on that road. How does the old song go? It goes like this.

Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing flow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? If you are not clean today, if you have a robe that is dirty, what makes you think you're going to make it into the kingdom? There is no second tier carnal Christianity. If you're part of that, you will go to hell. There is no evidence that you'll make it into heaven at all.

People, I'm serious. So you have a state of transparency between you and God. You know He looks straight through you.

You're aware of it and you just walk in it. That is walking in the Holy Spirit. That's walking in the white robe that Jesus gave you.

You can't earn it. You can't buy it. You're given a white robe.

Don't mess it up. How do you not mess it up? You walk before God with a clean conscience. Nothing is on your conscience at all.

Is it possible to walk in that state? Yes. That's what Romans 8 is saying. This is normal Christianity.

It's just we don't preach it anymore. It's just we've forgotten what the gospel is. It's just, you know.

In a moment, we're going to have an altar call here. I want to tell you before time, musicians, please don't come up. Because I don't like altar calls with music.

I want it to be between God and you. I ain't going to tug on your heart strings because I want to tell you very plainly that this is Christianity. I can show you many places in the Bible where it's described.

And if that is not you, you must, you must, you must get your heart right with God. I want to say to you, if you haven't been baptized in water, you haven't died the Bible way. You haven't been buried with him in baptism.

What makes you think you're okay? You can just search the Scriptures on these things, people. I haven't got time to do an endless Bible study on baptism today or an endless Bible study on how they got saved in the book of Acts or any of that stuff. Just go and read it, you know.

But what I will say is this. Today is a day of getting your heart right. Are you found in him as your robe white? Is your conscience clean? People, let's pray.

Father God, I pray that you'll be speaking to people right at this moment. People who have known while I'm speaking in this sermon this morning about total heart purity before you and they know there's something there. There's something wrong.

There's an obstruction. There's something that they have clung to or they have put up with or they thought it's okay and will deal with it one day or whatever it is and the relationship that they once had where they walked before you in heart purity. It's been damaged.

There's obstructions. There's darkness that may be small, may be huge. We don't know.

But Father God, we ask that the robes be purified today. We ask that the blood of Jesus would absolutely wash us all clean in a new way. Again today, Father God, for all those who once had a powerful encounter

with you and somehow they let it slip out of their grasp.

God, let us walk in the spirit. Teach us, God, how to keep our conscience clean before you so inwardly in our hearts we walk before you every moment and we know that our heart is clean. We know that the robe is pure and it's washed continuously in the blood of Jesus.

And if any spot comes in, instantly we feel it and we get rid of that thing. We repent of that thing. We know that we walk before you in the state that Adam walked in the call of the garden.

Total communion with you. No division there. No obstruction there.

Let that be our testimony today, Father. I pray, outpour your spirit right now and convict of sin and righteousness and judgment. Let there be nobody in this building untouched, Father.

God, I pray your spirit would minister amongst the people right now. Show them their hearts. Shine a light in.

Show them what that thing is that they must get rid of today. And let us walk in normal Christianity from this day forward. New Testament Christianity.

Nothing less. Nothing less. And what is the next revival? It is the church in America getting saved.

The next revival is the church in America getting saved. Dear God, how have we fallen to this? How have the mighty fallen? Dear God, save this nation. Dear God, save this nation.

Baptize us in your blood. Let us be washed clean again. Let great awakening come.

Dear God, don't let the seven years pass by. Holy God, make your presence felt, please, amongst us this morning. In Jesus' wonderful name.

Amen.

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