

# The True Gospel

by Andrew Strom

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*The speaker argues that modern Christianity has strayed from the apostolic truths and that a return to the basics of New Testament Christianity, including repentance, baptism, and filling with the Holy Spirit, is necessary.*

**Duration:** 1:39:37

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:33, Acts 2:37, Hebrews 6:1-2

**Topics:** "Gospel"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher begins by describing a vision of judgment day as described in Revelation 20:11. He emphasizes the magnitude and awe-inspiring nature of this event, where the earth and heavens flee from the face of God. The preacher then shifts to discussing the importance of establishing the church on apostolic truths, specifically mentioning Acts 2 and the Day of Pentecost. He highlights the need to build on the foundation of repentance, faith, baptism, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. The sermon concludes with a call to move beyond the foundational teachings and strive for maturity in our faith.

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## Transcript

Well, I've got three really important areas to cover tonight. Usually these things take a sermon each and none of them I could leave out, so I'm not going to speak three times as long as I normally do. I'm just going to trust that God can take us where he needs to take us.

Amen? Amen? First things first, let's just simply turn in Scripture to Acts chapter 2, Day of Pentecost, when the church began, when 3,000 people got converted in one day. Acts chapter 2 verse 37. The first thing I'm looking at tonight is very simple.

It's kind of almost a technical matter. It's a teaching matter, really. It's not fireworks.

It's just something that we have to establish. Who believes the church must be established on apostolic truths? I do. And do you know what? Our gospel today is not established on apostolic truths.

We have made much of it up and the rest of it we borrowed from modern advertising, modern psychology, and all these other kinds of things, everywhere actually except the Bible. And if you look at our message, which basically boils down to very often, you know, God loves you. He has a wonderful plan for your life.

So come forward and say, repeat these little words after me, and you're a Christian. Well, do we find even one person coming close to that in the Bible? No, we don't. We find, in fact, that we've been preaching to people a pile of absolute garbage for the last hundred years.

And when people come to us and say, what do I do to be saved? We tell them the exact opposite of what the apostles told them. Now, I don't know about you, but I'm not expecting the apostles to change their doctrine to accommodate me. So I'm assuming that God wants us to find out what the apostles preached and go preach it.

You know what I'm saying? I ain't going to change the Bible around. I don't expect God wants us to change the Bible around, but for some whacked out reason, the most important question in the world we always answer wrong. Can you believe that? Can anybody get their head around that? Some people are coming to us out of the world, and they're coming into our churches, and they're saying, what do you do in the Bible to become a Christian? What do you do to be saved? Can you tell me what I must do? And we tell them the wrong thing.

See, we can't get our heads around how unbelievable that is, so I'm not even going to try. Let's just read the Bible. Acts chapter 2. This is the first account, the very first account of people becoming Christians in the New Testament.

How do we know that? It's because Jesus just died, just got raised from the dead. The first apostle just preached his first sermon as an apostle of God, and the first people got converted. How did they get converted? What did they do? Acts chapter 2 verse 37.

Now, when they heard this, they heard Peter preaching, they were cut to the heart. In the King James it says, pricked in their heart. Number one, we don't preach in a way to do that anymore.

How many preachers do you know? How many preachers have you heard? I've been in the church for all my life, pretty much, with a break at one point, but been around churches pretty much all my life. I can count on one hand. I can count on a few fingers, guys that I've heard in person, that can preach in a way that cuts people to the heart for their sins.

I've traveled to other countries, I've been raised in various churches, raised in Pentecostal churches, Baptist churches. I can count on one hand, less than one hand the guys that can preach in a way that has any chance of cutting someone to the heart. Because my view is this, the Bible says, that godly sorrow leads to repentance.

If I'm a preacher and I cannot produce godly sorrow, I'm sorry, but I'm ill-equipped for the game. Do you know what I'm saying? If I cannot produce godly sorrow, I'm in the wrong business. Because frankly, conversions that happen with happy smiles on faces, and no tears, and no conviction of sin, and no cutting of the heart, many of those conversions, most of them, statistics tell us in fact, almost all of them fail.

Unless that person comes to a deep repentance later on, almost by accident, those conversions fail. Billy Graham famously has over 90% fall-away rate. Over 90%.

As Ray Comfort so correctly says, that means for every 100 people, they create 90 backsliders. I've got nothing against Billy Graham at all. I think he's a great man of God.

Certainly in his former years, I believe more so than now. I'm not getting at him, I'm just pointing out a fact. Alright, that's not even really what my main point is.

They were cut to the heart, they said to Peter and to the rest of the apostles, men and brothers, what shall we do? There's the question. Then Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Now these guys had just received the Holy Spirit.

The 120 guys, and ladies I'm sure, had just received the Holy Spirit. And what he was saying there is, you repent, you get baptized in water, and you will receive just what we just got. This incredible power of God, the glory of God is going to fall on your life, and you'll be filled with the Holy Spirit.

That's what he's saying there. Now, can anybody find in those words, and we're going to look at a few more throughout Acts, which is Acts is like one episode of another of people getting saved. In fact, in the New Testament, we are not given actually any other record of people being converted, and us kind of watching them as they get converted.

We're not given any in any other book. It's not shown. Acts is showing us what happened.

It's the history. It's the history book. Okay? Here's what happened.

Well, these guys, they repented. Boy, did they repent. They got baptized in water.

They got filled with the Holy Spirit. That's day one Pentecost Christianity. We live in day 100 Disneyland Christianity, and therefore we don't do that.

Acts chapter 2 verse 41. It says here, Then they that gladly received his word were baptized. The same day there were added unto them about 3,000 souls.

Okay. How were they added unto them? We're already seeing the beginnings of a pattern. I don't really want to talk about it too much until we've seen a bit more of it.

What's the very next time that we're seeing a large group of people coming to Jesus in the book of Acts? It's Acts chapter 8. Philip, the evangelist, goes to Samaria, and it says the entire city. It says many demons screamed. Basically, the demons left town as Philip went in.

That's how powerful his anointing was. Glory to God. Okay.

Listen to this. Acts 8 chapter 12. Please bear in mind this is the very next time that we're seeing a bunch of people getting saved.

But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. So it says they believed the gospel. They were baptized, both men and women.

Then Simon, let's talk about Simon the sorcerer. Simon himself believed also, and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Verse 14.

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who, when they were come down, prayed for them that they might receive

the Holy Spirit. For as yet he had not fallen upon any of them, they were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

And it says Simon saw that through the laying on of hands, the apostles' hands, the Holy Spirit was given. Okay. We're just now talking about two huge groups of people that just became Christians.

Do we find any record of Peter the apostle going, right, just say this little prayer after me. Dear Jesus, and Jesus. You know, it doesn't happen.

Why doesn't it happen? It never happens. Why do we do it? Where do we get that from? Who invented the thing? Who came up with that idea? Why do we think that someone becomes a Christian because we tell them to repeat a little prayer, usually it's two lines long, asking Jesus into our heart, giving our heart to the Lord. Who gave us the concept? Where did it come from? Because I tell you, it's only been in the church for a hundred years.

It actually came about through crusade evangelism. They were wanting something quick and convenient so you could go down the front and sign a little card and they could gather the cards in and they'd lead you in the little prayer and then they can say you're a Christian. And they can say, guess what everybody, 10,000 people came down and made decisions for Jesus today.

How many of those people were repenting? Tiny fraction. Those are probably the 5% or 10% that actually stayed. Those are the people repenting, truly repenting, going down weeping, going down crying out to God and saying, Oh God, I'm so sorry for my sins.

Oh God, Oh God, I've been so disobedient to you. Those are the 5% and 10% that stay. The 90% that fall away are praying the little prayer and they ain't becoming anything.

We just made it up. Now, I want to put it to you that if we cannot answer this question correctly, which is quite simply the most important question on the earth, we have got no business calling ourselves the church of God. I want to tell you, we should not be calling ourselves the Christian church today because we don't know the answer to the number one question that we are supposed to help the world to know.

Isn't that true? If we can't answer, what must I do to be saved? What did they do in the Bible? Can you tell me? Can you please tell me, sir, what must I do to be saved? If we get that question wrong, shouldn't God just be literally just getting fire and pouring it down and saying, these guys can't help the world to save themselves. They don't even know the answer to that question. Isn't that a fair enough comment? Don't you think that's fair enough? I think it's fair enough.

I don't think we exist apart from that question. I think when the world asks us that, we had better get it right because getting it wrong is like... Words fail me, so we'll go on to the next one. Acts 10.

The next large group of people, well, people of any size actually, a group of any size, that is becoming a Christian in the New Testament. These are the first Gentiles. First Gentiles becoming Christians.

Okay, Acts 10, verse 44. While Peter... Now again, it's Peter preaching. While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all them which heard the word.

Praise God. The Holy Spirit fell while he's preaching. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy

Spirit.

For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter said, Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized which have received the Holy Spirit as we have? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Are we starting to pick up a pattern here? Yes, we are.

We sure are picking up a pattern. We've seen the three massive conversion experiences at the beginning of Acts. That's what we've just seen.

And they are all the same. Those people, there wasn't one of them that didn't get filled with the Holy Spirit. There wasn't one of them that didn't get baptized immediately.

And there wasn't one of them that didn't repent. Okay? Because unless you repent, you won't get filled with the Holy Spirit. Because the Holy Spirit is holy.

The Holy Spirit is holy and is waiting for you to repent before He fills your life. Now listen, people. We've just seen three.

And on this occasion, they didn't even get a chance to lay hands on them and pray for them to get filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit fell on them as He was preaching. And so He commands them to get baptized straight away.

How long do you think it took them to baptize those people? Did they have a six-week baptismal induction class? No, they did not. That very hour of the day, I can guarantee you, they went and baptized all those people. Now listen to me.

Listen to me. Why do we think that baptism is hardly important at all? I know whole loads of people in the charismatic movement even. They've got filled with the Holy Spirit and they speak in tongues and everything.

They never got baptized. Or some of them, they go, yeah, you know, one of these days I'm going to get round to getting baptized. And they've been like spirit-filled for three years.

One of these days, where did it come from that we think, number one, it's some little symbolic thing that doesn't really matter or, you know, what's going on with us? What about getting filled with the Holy Spirit? You know, I asked Jesus into my heart as a good Baptist boy about a hundred times. No joke. Every night, when I was a teenager, that things were going bad for me, I would go, I'd lie in bed awake at night and I'd go, God, if you're real, Jesus, please come into my heart because I can't take this.

Jesus, I opened the door. You know, I prayed the little prayer because I'd been taught it since I was a kid. I was brought up in the church.

I was taught that little prayer since I was a kid. I prayed it continuously and found absolutely no result. Could I lead any kind of overcoming life? Did I become a transformed person? Was there any sign within me that I became a new creation in God? Was there any transformation? Did I get filled with anything or even receive any ability to walk with God? No, I did not.

Meantime, I was suicidally depressed. I was on the verge of suicide for four years. Dying to kill myself.

Walking home every day from school wanting to die. Wishing that my dad had not told me that if I committed suicide, I'd go to hell so that I could simply do it and end my life. That's my state of mind.

And here's this lie. Here's this lie that almost lost me my life. Because that's what happened.

I was relying on a lie that I was taught in church that couldn't save me because it wasn't true. Couldn't save me because it wasn't true. When I was 17 years old, I finally came to the point of total, total surrender to God.

And in that very same hour, in that same period of my life, within one or two weeks of me completely surrendering to God, I still wasn't filled with the power of God. I could tell. I knew that my friends who'd been telling me about the Holy Spirit, I knew there was something in it.

I went round to this guy's place. I said, I've heard from my friends that you've been praying for people to get filled with the Holy Spirit and I know that changed because I've seen it. Can you please pray for me? That guy laid hands on me.

I was filled with the power and the glory of God. I was utterly transformed in one moment. I went from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light.

I suddenly could walk in the power of God. I got a prophetic anointing, bam, like that, and I started praying and crying out to God for the state of the church. The very next day, I got, the very next day, actually, that guy never encouraged me, bizarrely enough, to speak in tongues at that moment.

I spoke in tongues the following day. I've been praying in tongues ever since. But the important change was that the glory of God just filled my life.

Now, what I just described to you is day one Christianity. I'd already been baptized. I didn't need to get baptized in water at that time.

I already had been. And I believed in God when I got baptized and I tried so hard. My life was hell.

I almost lost my life because of that false doctrine. I came so close to losing my life over it. Let's go to Acts chapter 19.

Paul arrives in Ephesus. There are other ones in between. There's several that I'll comment on.

But this is an instructive one to look at because, again, it's a new people group. Here's Paul arriving in Ephesus. And preaching to these guys.

Acts chapter 19, verse 1. And it came to pass that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul, having passed through the upper coast, came to Ephesus and finding certain disciples, he said to them, have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? Now, Paul's looking at these guys and he's going, these guys don't seem Spirit-filled to me. These guys do not seem to have the power of God in their lives. He's questioning them within themselves.

Why else would he ask that question? He goes, have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? And they said to him, we've not even heard that there's a Holy Spirit. And he said to them, what then, unto what then were you baptized? And they said, into John's baptism. John the Baptist.

So they're disciples of John the Baptist. Because they're not even disciples of Jesus at this point. Then said Paul, John baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that you should believe in him which comes after him.

That's Jesus Christ. When they heard this, did they repeat a little prayer? Did they ask Jesus into their heart? Did they give their heart to the Lord? When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

We've just looked at four of the most major conversion experiences in the whole of the New Testament. I can go on and on with this. We can talk about the jailer who let Paul out of prison, getting baptized with his whole family in the middle of the night.

We can talk about the Ethiopian eunuch who's driving in his chariot with Philip and he goes to Philip. Philip had just been preaching the gospel to him, I don't know, not very long. The Ethiopian eunuch goes, look, there's some water.

What's stopping me getting baptized? Had Philip preached about baptism to him in the gospel he preached? Yes, he had. There's no way the Ethiopian eunuch would think up the question about baptism. That was his response to the gospel.

What's stopping me then getting baptized? And Philip's of course saying, nothing, sir. We're going to baptize you right now. Glory to God.

We go around saying completely unbiblical things like, hey, do you know so and so, they gave their heart to the Lord last Friday night. Do I rejoice very much when I hear that? Not really. I'm thinking to myself, I wonder if that's another one of our 90% fall away rate people.

I wonder if that's another person like me who's been suckered in by something completely unbiblical which simply does not exist in Scripture at all. I wonder if that's someone like me. That's what I think when I hear that.

One of these days, we're going to start speaking biblically and we're not going to be satisfied until we know that someone has repented of their sins, has been baptized in water, has been filled with the Holy Spirit, and they're speaking in tongues and full of the glory of God just like the old Pentecostals used to say all the time. We're going to have to get back to that. Because if we don't get back to that kind of stuff, we do not have, not only do we not have New Testament Christianity, we don't have the very basic beginnings of it.

What I'm describing to you tonight, if you start doing this properly, it doesn't return the church to New Testament Christianity. It just gets us a little, it gets us the most important little gap in the door into it. This is, they would consider this baby stuff.

This is the stuff that you got out of the way on day one. That's what transformed you. You would repent of your sins.

You'd get baptized. Why do you get baptized according to Scripture? Does it ever say that it's merely a symbol? No, it does not. In Romans chapter 6, which is an entire chapter on baptism, which we should go to right now.

Let's go there. We'll leave Acts because I feel like I've probably proven my point and at least enough for us to carry on. Romans chapter 6. Romans chapter 6 is all about baptism and what it does.

Does it call baptism a symbolic or ritualistic act? No, it does not. Verse 2. You listen to the power of this. Paul is talking about something powerful here.

Listen to the power of this in dealing with sin in your life. Listen to this. Okay.

Romans chapter 6. He's been talking about sin. Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Verse 2. God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer in it? Don't you know that as many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him in baptism into death.

That just as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father even so we also should walk in newness of life. What is it saying about baptism? It says it is a burial of our life. It is the death of that old stinking man that I want to get rid of so bad and don't know how to get him dead.

This is the death of him. He is gone. Don't you know says Paul as many of you as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.

We are buried therefore with Him in baptism. Glory to God. We killed the guy.

We got rid of him. The chain off our back is gone. The albatross around my neck is gone.

We killed the guy. Glory to God. If we cannot have a move of God in the next couple of years that actually returns the basics of the basic stuff to the church I don't believe we should call it a revival.

You know Let's call it a retreat. Let's call it a capitulation. Let's just call it a rampant rout of us by the enemy.

Shall we? Because I cannot stand to live in a church in this day that does not preach the truth of God. Please don't send me people that are like me. I don't want to find 17 year olds that haven't been told the truth.

God, please get us filled with the Spirit on day one. We're going to torture people suicidal people longing to die. We're going to torture them with false garbage for year after year after year.

My parents didn't even know any better than to tell me that. They were desperate for me to be a Christian. They were desperate for me to be in love with God.

My dad was praying and praying and praying for me to be a Christian and yet he did not know to share this truth. Andrew, asking Jesus into your heart doesn't do anything. This is what you've got to do.

And the day came that I finally did that. I was transformed just like all these people we just read about. I cannot bear the thought of leaving people in the state I was in.

I cannot bear it. God, don't let us do that to people. Listen, we've got to change our language.

Do you know when you change your language you start changing your behavior? We've got to stop going so and so asked Jesus into their heart on Friday. Isn't that great? Praise the Lord. You know, I'm not going to rejoice at that.

So and so gave their heart to the Lord on Friday night. Well, you know, you can have it if you want it. I don't want it.

I don't want it. I want to hear this. So and so repented and we took them down to the river and baptized them.

Glory to God. And then they got filled with the Holy Spirit and they got delivered of some enormous demon that was in their life. Praise God.

They're transformed. That's New Testament Christianity. That's New Testament Christianity 101.

It's so basic they hardly even refer to it after this because they assume that you know about it. I want to prove that to you. Let's go to Hebrews chapter 6, people.

Hebrews chapter 6, verse 1. Basic of the basic of the basic. Do you know what? We don't even know the basics and we hardly ever preach them. Hebrews chapter 6, verse 1 and 2. And we hardly even know what they are neither preach them.

Can this be the church of God? Can this be Christianity in the 21st century? My heart sinks at the levels to which we have sunk. Listen to this. Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ.

Now some translations say the elementary principles. The foundation. Leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ.

Let us go on unto perfection or maturity. Not laying again the foundation of number one, repentance from dead works. Number two, faith towards God.

Aren't these basic things, people? Number three, the doctrine of baptisms. Number four, laying on of hands. Number five, resurrection of the dead.

Number six, eternal judgment. It says there in verse 3, and this will we do if God permits. In other words, he's saying we will go on from that stuff because that's the milk.

That's the milky stuff. We've got to go on to the meat now. We're going to maturity now.

That was the foundation and surely I don't need to talk much about that. This is what he's saying. He's saying I'm not going to spend the rest of the book of Hebrews talking about that stuff because surely we know that.

Not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, faith towards God, doctrine of baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection from the dead and eternal judgment. Well, do we preach half of those things in the church today? No, we do not. They can go to church for almost ever and not hear about eternal judgment.

You can count very few charismatic churches in this entire nation preach on eternal judgment ever. Never, never, never. They'll tell you how to get success in your life.

They'll tell you how to have a good marriage. They'll tell you how to anything. They'll tell you how to roll around on the ground and freak out and look strange.

They'll tell you everything you want to know about that stuff. No doubt. Do we hear about eternal judgment? No, we don't.

Have we the foundation laid in our lives? No, we do not. Do we hear the doctrine of baptisms? No, we don't know what that is. People don't even get baptized until people don't even care about baptism.

They don't even know what it means. We don't even tell them that it's, you know. We don't even say to them, listen, listen, this is the death of your old life.

What would you give? If you're in jail, you've been put in jail for murder. You've been put in jail for raping and doing the most awful things. What can you give for this one thing? Oh God, we can kill that guy and start again.

We can bury that guy because Jesus died. Buried with Christ in baptism into death. Glory to God.

That we might be raised with Him into new life. Wow. What money could you pay for that? Where God looks down on someone that's getting baptized.

We just see them going under the water and God's looking at them and He's going, oh God, oh pray, oh. Hallelujah. The angels are rejoicing.

Why? Because we killed that guy's past and it's gone. We separated him from his old life of hell. We separated him from his old life of hell.

Glory to God. And then we get him filled with the Holy Spirit so he can walk in power and live a holy life. Why? Because he's filled with the Holy Spirit and without holiness, no man shall see the Lord.

It says in Hebrews, later in Hebrews, no man's going to see the Lord without holiness. How do you get holiness? You get filled with the Holy Spirit and you keep full. If I'm filled and full every day of the Holy Spirit, I pray every day to get filled again.

Did you know that? Whenever I pray to God, whenever I'm crying out to God, I say, God, fill me again. Fill me in you with your Spirit. Why? Because I don't want to be one of those people in the parable, when it comes to the final day, the door's shut in their face because they do not have the oil in their lap to get them into the kingdom of God.

So we're going to be filled and refilled and filled and filled. What does Paul say? I believe it's in Ephesians. Yes, it is.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit, he says. That verb there, to be filled, actually means be being filled. It's a continuous tense.

If you study languages, you know what continuous tense means. It means be being filled. Continuously.

Make sure you're full. Get filled. And again and again.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit. Glory to God. But the first time, in my view, well, certainly, the first time is the transforming one.

My goodness. Next time someone says to you this question, next time someone says to you, Sir, what do I do? What did it say in the Bible that they did to become Christians in the book of Acts, in the New

Testament? What do I do? Don't say, just sit here and repeat this prayer after me. You say, listen, your sins are an offense to God.

And if you don't confess your sins to God, He's going to kill you and send you to hell. And I don't want to see that happen. You must repent.

You pray to God right now and I'm not going to tell you what to pray. You pray to God right now and you tell God what you've done. And you say, God, I'm so sorry.

God, how can I be saved? God, how can I come into your kingdom? That's how you repent, people. And then you take him down to the nearest water and I don't care if it's a bathtub and I don't care if it's a hot tub and I don't care if it's the river in the middle of winter. And you say, we're going to make sure your old life is gone and we're going to get your old life buried today.

Are you ready for that? And they nod their heads because they want it real bad. They want that old man dead. And this is God's way of doing it.

God looks on baptism. I'm convinced of this. It talks about baptism.

Later on, you guys can go search the scriptures on baptism. I've done it many times. Look up everywhere.

Get your concordance out. Look up baptism. Every reference in the whole New Testament you'll find exactly what I'm saying.

Talks about it as being a cutting off, a circumcision of the heart. That's how incredible it is. It talks about Paul getting baptized.

We won't go there. No, actually we will go there. Come and look at this with me.

Come and look at this. This is Paul. In fact, people say, Paul became a Christian when he saw the blinding light.

I tell you, no, the Bible says, no, he did not become a Christian when he saw the blinding light. Acts chapter 22, verse 16. Now, there's another scripture earlier on in Acts which talks about Ananias.

What happened was, Paul was blinded, right? God sends Ananias. It just says a certain disciple named Ananias was sent to Paul. And it says when Ananias came, he talked about getting filled with the Holy Spirit.

I believe that's back in Acts 9. We're not going to go there. And he talked about baptism. And he baptized him.

And he prayed for him to get filled with the Holy Spirit. And I believe that is when Paul became truly a Christian. Not when he saw the blinding light.

I'll prove it to you right now. Acts chapter 22, verse 16. This is Ananias talking to Paul.

Okay, and now why are you waiting, Paul? That's basically what he's saying. And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins calling on the name of the Lord. Now if he hadn't washed his sins away, was he a Christian yet? Was he saved yet? Arise and wash away your sins.

Sorry, arise and be baptized and wash away your sins calling on the name of the Lord. Okay, and the blindness of course left him. He got baptized, got filled with the Holy Spirit.

He'd already repented. Yes, he had done that. What is the picture I'm painting for you? Is it a heresy? Is it some strange teaching? Well, I simply put it like this.

We have our modern Christians which we think is okay. And God has his New Testament Christians which he thinks is okay. And I'm going to go where God is.

You guys, if you want to, can stay where the modern, lukewarm, sicko church is if you wish. I'm going to go where God is in the New Testament. And from now on, I want to get people to become a New Testament Christian on day one.

Amen? Amen? A New Testament Christian on day one. When we get up to the judgment day and there's a whole lot of people coming in front of Jesus saying, but Jesus, you know, I believed in eternal security and the Baptist guy that preached to me said, you know, I used to be a Baptist, so God forgive the Baptists for a second. The Baptist guy that was preaching to me said just pray this little prayer.

The Pentecostal guy that was preaching to me said pray this little prayer and I'm okay. And I didn't know any better, so I went out and sinned the rest of my life. Jesus is not, actually he doesn't get that far, you know.

He doesn't even get the words out. Jesus is not in the business of saving sinners. He's in the business of saving saints.

He turns sinners into saints so they can be saved. If they arrive and they're still in their sins, they can't be in Jesus. There's nowhere in the New Testament that tells me that we can.

So you're trying to tell me that they get up there and they say this awful load of garbage to Jesus to try and convince him that it's okay to pray a little prayer and then keep walking a life of complete lack of victory over sin and get up to heaven and try and tell Jesus, hey, but the preachers all told me that this is all I had to do to get in. And now you're telling me that you're not going to let me in. I don't think it's going to wash.

We've got too many Bibles in the country that we can all read for ourselves and find out that God hates sin and he will not live with it for eternity. And those who are walking and living in sin will die and go to hell. There's so much scripture for that.

I don't even know where to begin. I might begin in a second. Someone encourages me? No, we've got to talk about other things in a second.

But we do need amongst the Christian church, believe it or not, we need eternal judgment preached because we mostly don't ever hear about it. We need repentance preached because we hardly ever hear about that. We need doctrine of baptisms preached because we don't hear it properly, if at all.

We need to get filled with the Holy Spirit and even the Charismatics and Pentecostals admit that less than half of their members in many churches are filled with the Holy Spirit today. So where does that leave us? It leaves us in a shocking, disastrous mess where we don't even have day one Christianity in most of our members. That's where it leaves us.

From now on, when people ask you the question, please do not tell them the lie. People say to me, get this, well, we're all taught this, so I guess it's fair enough. I thought this too.

Revelation 3, verse 20, we trot that out as though it's a verse to non-Christians. It says this, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man opens the door, I will come in and dine with him and he with me.

And we go, see? There's a proof scripture for asking Jesus into your heart. The only problem is that at that moment, Jesus is speaking to the lukewarm church and saying, you guys will not let me in the door and I cannot dine with you. Revelation 3, verse 14 onwards, I believe, is all to the lukewarm church.

It says, to the church of the Laodiceans. It's not to non-Christians at all. Jesus is saying, you guys will not let me in.

Leonard Ravenhill pointed that out. He said, it's not the ask Jesus into your heart thing. Don't try using that as a proof scripture for that.

People say, oh, but I just need to believe. Well, what's your idea of believing? Is it a belief that transforms you and enables you to live walking in Jesus? Or is it this pitiful little thing that I had? Because if you want to convince me that what I had is okay, which I did have a form of belief. I tried and I believed in my head and I thought I believed in here.

That ain't scriptural faith, people. Faith that is in scripture is a gift from God, a gift given by grace, lest any man boast. And it's powerful faith that enables us to walk the Christian walk.

Because even devils believe and tremble. They have a kind of faith too. It ain't enough and it will not save you if you don't have the faith that only God can give.

And I know the very day when I got it, I know the minute I got it, I can still remember. Glory to God. People, the homework from this portion, I'm going to leave this portion alone.

The homework from this portion is this. Please do not go, change your language as well as what you do. Change your language.

Do not walk around saying, praise God, so and so gave their heart to the Lord. Just don't do that just to please me. Just say, that guy from New Zealand said he's going to be really unhappy if people go around saying that.

Why am I unhappy about it? Because it's not in the Bible. You get a concordance out and do a search. I'll prove it to you.

Get your best concordance. The best ones are this thick. They even, you can do a search on the word the.

I don't know why. Look up, ask Jesus into your heart. Give your heart to the Lord.

Look it up. See if those phrases are in there. You'll find they do not exist.

The concept, praying a sinner's prayer. Repeat this prayer after me. Is it anywhere in the New Testament? Anywhere in the Bible? No, it's not.

So just say to yourselves, you know that guy from New Zealand, I'm just going to make him happy today. I'm going to talk about being praising God because so and so repented and got baptized and got filled with

the Holy Spirit. Glory to God.

Can you do that for the homework? Change our language and change what we do. Next time someone wants to become a Christian, lead them into repentance. You're still leading them in a prayer in a way when you're leading them into repentance.

You're saying to them, listen, you've got to pray this. You've got to confess your sins to God. You've got to be aware that God hates sin and He cannot live with you if you maintain the sin in your life.

He cannot live with you. Please repent, but you have to pray to God and confess your sin and say, God, take it away from me. I turn from it in Jesus' name.

Lead them in a prayer like that. They'll thank you for the rest of their lives. Dear God, I wish someone had shown me that.

Even repentance would have helped me, man. Lay hands on them. Get them filled with the Holy Spirit.

Take them down to the water. Baptize them in the water. Baptize in the name of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Why do I say in the name of Jesus Christ? Because in Acts, it says they baptize them in the name of Jesus Christ. At the end of Matthew, it says they baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit. So what do I do? I cover all the bases.

Glory to God. Then you don't get oneness guys coming up to you and say, did you get baptized right? Okay, we're moving on. Once we have obeyed the gospel, once we are this born again person, once we've had the basics in our lives, once we have that foundation, how do we walk in and what is Christianity that we're supposed to walk in according to the New Testament? Now, for my clues on this, I study revivals.

I look back in revival history. I find out what John Wesley is preaching about this because that guy, what Charles Finney is preaching about this because I do not want people thinking that they're Christians and then getting up in front of Jesus and he says, listen man, I laid it out. My apostles laid it out and you're walking in a completely disobedient way and you ignored me most of your life and you get in front of me on judgment day when it's way too late and all mercy is gone and judgment is ruling over mercy in every way.

You get in front of me now when my angels with drawn swords are about to smack you to pieces and apportion you your place with the hypocrites and you're trying to come at me saying it's okay to live in sin. It's okay to have a conscience that's still defiled. And the New Testament paints a picture of only clean people getting saved.

Now, we've moved on from the basics here. We're past that stage. We're assuming now that someone's a Christian.

How do we walk in it? Because I want to put this to you. The whole purpose of becoming a Christian is to be clean in here. What happened to Adam? He fell into sin.

The sin defiled him before God and God could not stand to have that guy in his presence anymore. It says God is holy. Do you know there's only one word in the Bible that I know of that's repeated three times,

particularly amongst the characteristics of God.

God describing Himself. What is that word? That word is holy. Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty.

The whole earth is full of Your glory. Holy. What does that word holy mean? It means set apart.

It means you cannot live with sin. Now God is utterly holy. He is three times holier than anything you can imagine.

He is above. He is set apart. Isaiah talks about seeing the Lord, getting into the glory of the Lord.

He says the angels were crying out with a loud voice all through the day and all through the night. Holy, holy, holy. It says the 24 elders, you know Revelation, it says the 24 elders are taking the crowns off their head day and night, throwing them down on the ground.

You're trying to tell me that we're going to get up there with all that Jesus did to purchase for you cleanness and a white heart and a white robe and you're trying to tell me that it's okay to live with that God when you've allowed spots all over it. And I say to you, no, it is not okay. And when Jesus gave the parable of the guy who climbed up by another door, he said the guy gets chucked into hell.

He gave the parable of the wedding robe. He says only those with the white wedding robes are going to survive in the wedding feast of the Lamb. You get up there and you do not have a white wedding robe, what's going to be done to you? What do you think those angels are there for? Any man whose name is not found written in the book of life, it says, is thrown into the lake of fire.

You say, yeah, but do you really believe that? Well, I do if God's holy, yeah. I do if he can't stand sin. Sure, I believe it.

If he's just some Santa Claus up there who just winks at sin and doesn't care about it. Sure, we can live with them forever, can't we? In Disneyland, in Disneyland Christianity, yeah, we all, wow. God just accepts us as we are in Disneyland Christianity, doesn't he? But in the true Christianity, God is desperate to make us clean.

In true Christianity, it's about that. It ain't about anything else. We say, why did Jesus come to die? He came to die for our sins.

He didn't come to make us happy. He didn't die for any reason about our success and our lifestyle. He literally came because unless he did, we could not be made clean.

We could not be made clean. Now, going on from that, I want to describe to you, this is Charles Finney, okay? One of the revivalists. Those guys preached a revival gospel.

What was the revival gospel about? It was getting clean and staying clean. That's it. Not very hard to understand.

Maybe hard to do for some people, not hard to understand. In fact, God will do it for you. He gives this as a gift.

We have to walk in it. Listen to this. This is Charles Finney talking about his own conversion.

He says, in this state, I was taught justification by faith as a present experience. Who here has heard the words justification by faith in the church? What does that mean? It means you're walking in faith. Therefore, God sees your heart and it's pure.

He looks at you and he goes, I don't see any sin in this guy because Jesus took away their sins and they're walking in heart purity before me. We'll get to that in a minute. Listen to this.

He says, I could not feel a sense of guilt or condemnation by any effort I could make. My sense of guilt was gone. My sins were gone.

I do not think I felt any more sense of guilt than if I never had sinned. I felt myself justified by faith and so far as I could see, I was in a state in which I did not sin. Whoa.

As far as I could see, I was in a state in which I did not sin. Oh my goodness. Now you have to start realizing something about the gospel that has been preached in revivals.

Not only is it higher than anything we've ever heard, they considered it basic. If you were to hear what the Moravians came to John Wesley and preached to him, the hair would stand up on the back of your neck because you would go, that can't surely be Christianity because who walks in that? You can't be serious saying that, sir, because surely nobody can walk in that. What you're saying is impossible.

This has sparked the first great awakening. This is how important this is. What were those Moravians preaching to John Wesley? He became the most important preacher basically of the first great awakening.

What were they saying to him? What shocked him so much? They were saying to him, listen, Jesus didn't just die for your sins to forgive them. He died to take them away so you could walk in a place before God of total heart purity before him, a clean conscience that keeps clean and keeps clean and you walk in it by faith. And Wesley, he says, he basically was shocked to the core by what those guys told him.

He said, if this is true, I'm going to have to go back to my Bible and read it again. Like, you can't be serious about that. You mean to tell me that I don't just get forgiven, but I actually get to walk before God with a clean conscience and it's continuously clean.

What's justification by faith? We don't even know. We don't even preach it like any great revivalist ever preached it. We don't have a clue.

We're biblically illiterate. We're spiritually bankrupt. They knew more about the basics of the gospel 150 years ago than we know now.

By a long, long way. All the guys that became involved in the Pentecostal movement had been involved, most of them, almost all of them, in the holiness movement that came out of John Wesley's teachings. We haven't got the faintest idea the kind of things those guys talked about every day are completely lost.

We don't know what we're doing. We don't know how to get people saved. We don't know how to keep them saved.

We don't know how to tell them to keep their conscience clean before God. What kind of Christianity is this? Please turn with me to 1 John chapter 3. This state that Charles Finney is talking about, can it possibly be a normal state? The state that John Wesley is talking about when he's preaching most of his sermons. I remember when I was a young Christian taking John Wesley's sermons with me on a

hitchhiking trip.

There it was. It was a sermon called Marks of the New Birth. He was quoting 1 John chapter 3. Honestly, if I hadn't just become a Christian recently and actually started to see the truths of it, honestly, I would have just about died.

I would have just read the first two paragraphs and just fallen over dead. That's what I felt like doing. John Wesley used to preach.

Now listen to this carefully. John Wesley would preach to 10,000 coal miners in the open air. And maybe 1 or 2,000 of them were left at the end of a sermon on their faces crying to God if they had any consciousness left.

Charles Finney would be preaching in churches where the deacons or the elders, it says some of them were struck dumb with horror and could not speak for days like they could not speak. Not by any weird Toronto stuff. No, we're not talking that.

We're saying they were struck dumb with the horror of their state before God because they suddenly realized I've been living a false Christianity all this time. John Wesley, I believe it was, or was it Whitfield? I can't remember who the guy was that preached the sermon on the almost Christian. I believe it was John Wesley.

Famous, famous sermon. The almost Christian. The one who does everything right.

They go to church. In our day, they'd probably pay their tithes. They'd even had the basics of the foundation in our day.

These are people that speak in tongues. They go to church. They clap their hands.

They raise their hands in the sky and praise Jesus and all that kind of stuff. And at the right moments in every church service they always smile and they say, God bless you, brother. They know how to do it all, man.

These guys are really good. This is the almost Christian. Why is he an almost Christian? Because inside of his heart, if he was to even take a look at it, which he usually will not do, inside of his heart is sin and he knows it.

It's on his conscience and he knows it. God every so often twinges his conscience and says, Listen, you're not walking in what you once were given. I gave you a clean robe and you have let it get soiled.

You did not forgive that person. You live in a state where you accept lust as being okay. I say lust.

Jesus says lust is so serious. Pluck out your right eye and throw it away. That's how serious lust is to Jesus.

But oh no, we can live in that, can't we? In Disneyland, we can live in that, can't we? We can get before God on Judgment Day and say, You know, I always knew you were a forgiving God. What does it say about Jesus on Judgment Day? It says even the look on his face is such that the earth and the heavens have fled away from his face. And we're supposed to get up there and tell him that.

Beloved, now we are the sons of God. And it does not yet appear what we shall be. But we know that when he shall appear, talking about Jesus, when he shall appear, we shall be like him.

For we shall see him as he is. Every man that has this hope in him purifies himself even as he is pure. Now that says every man that has this hope in him purifies themselves.

Are you a Christian if you allow sin to remain in your heart and you don't deal with it? I say no, you are not walking in this state. And I don't believe God is going to have you in his holy habitation for the rest of eternity. No, I do not.

I can find nowhere in Scripture where you are safe. Nowhere. Don't try telling God that when you get up there on Judgment Day.

And he's separating the sheep from the goats. He's saying, Goats, you're going to hell. And I don't care how many times you say, Lord, Lord.

Don't hand me that. Verse 4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresses also the law. For sin is the transgression of the law.

And you know that he was manifested, my version says, to take away our sins. And in him is no sin. Whosoever abides in him sinneth not.

Whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you. He that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

He that committeth sin is of the devil. For the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin. For God's seed remains in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God. And he cannot sin because he is born of God.

Whosoever abideth in him. Now on the day that you truly become a Christian, free of charge, this is what Jesus paid the expensive price for, free of charge, you are given that white robe. The wedding feast robe is given to you for nothing.

In fact, it cost God everything. This is how God felt about it. You remember the story of Abraham having to go and sacrifice his son Isaac.

If you remember how Abraham must have felt having to do that way back in the Old Testament, that's how God felt about that. He hated having to do that. He hated having to watch any part of that.

Jesus suffered the most torturous death. Why? To gain you a white robe. You and me.

Now, is it possible to keep that white robe clean? Just keep it clean. Just walk in it. Just walk in a state where our conscience is pure before God.

Just walk in a state where our conscience does not show anything that's a spot. Is that possible? Of course it is. That's what the New Testament's about.

It's about getting rid of sin, walking free of sin, and living in it. Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Being justified by faith.

Romans 8 There is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. Has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Is it possible to walk before God with the white robe staying clean? What happens if we do something... Now, see, this requires hatred of sin, people. When you hate sin, you can walk in this. If you don't hate sin, there's no way you're going to walk in it.

You're going to try and enjoy what you can get away with. You're going to get spots all over it. This is for people who actually hate sin.

Those are the only people that God can bring into His kingdom. Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord. It's simple.

1 John 3 If you abide in Him, He who abides in Him does not commit sin, does not continue to sin, does not dwell in sin, does not allow the black spot to stay there. What happens if you do sin? If you're a Christian, a true born again Christian, and you accidentally do something or say something or whatever, and you go, that was sin. I can feel it.

My communion with God. See, this is what I noticed when I became a truly born again Christian. My communion with God, that peace of God that passes all understanding, would go... if I allowed that to stay there.

But if I felt it immediately, it would always affect my communion with God. It would affect my prayer life. I could no longer commune with God like this.

I could no longer commune with Him in that way. It was like, hey, I just said that thing. Or I've kept a grudge in my heart since so and so spoke that to me.

And I need to repent. And so how do we keep it clean? When the little spots come on, if we hate sin, we go, Oh God, oh God, I'm sorry. Do I need to go and apologize to so and so? You let me know because I'll do it.

We keep the white robe clean. And if a little spot appears, we go, straight away we're dealing with it. Now this, that I'm describing to you, is just Romans 6, 7, 8. Actually Romans 5, 6, 7, 8. It's 1 John 3. It's normal Christianity.

It's the life of a new creation. What's a new creation? It's not the old guy trying to be good, people. Most of our church is the old guy trying to be good.

That's religion. That's the religion of the Pharisees right there. I want to tell you what true Christianity is.

It's getting clean and walking before God clean. Didn't Jesus die to purchase back everything that Adam lost? Isn't that the whole point? God would walk with Adam in the cool of the evening. They were like this.

They were more than friends. They were spiritually communing one with the other. But God loved Adam.

God loved walking with Adam. It was like God had created for himself, not a servant but a friend. And God would walk with him.

You don't walk around with servants. You create servants to serve. A human will create a robot to serve.

No, He created a friend to walk with in the cool of the evening every night. And then with the fall, the communion was broken. And Jesus had to die to purchase all of that back.

Why? So we can walk with God in the cool of the evening with no sin in the way. It was the only thing in the way. What got in the way for Adam? It was his sin.

It wasn't that God suddenly started disliking him. It wasn't that he broke the friendship. No, it's just there's one thing that broke it.

It was sin. Why did Jesus come to die? It was sin. If we can get rid of sin, we've gotten rid of the problem.

We can commune with God. We can walk in communion with God. And when it gets broken, we go, whoa, what did I do? Man, I need to get rid of that.

It says at the start of what we just read out. Listen to this again. Every man that has this hope in him purifies himself even as he is pure.

Every man that has this hope in him. I want to ask you, are you living with sin? Are you satisfied walking in a place at this moment where there is sin on your conscience and you know it? I don't care if you became the hottest Christian 10 years ago. I don't care if you are the biggest preacher on earth.

We know what can happen to those guys now, don't we? I don't care who you are. I say this to you. If you have lost that communion with God, I believe you have sold your salvation down the toilet.

Because everything Jesus did was to gain you that state and you have let it go. We don't know what the gospel is. I'm trying to explain to you the kind of stuff that John Wesley and Charles Finley preached every day and we have no idea.

We don't get people saved. We don't tell people how to stay saved. We don't tell them what the normal state of Christianity is.

Do you know there's a book written about all this? It's called The Normal Christian Life. It's a book by Watchman Nee. You can go buy it very easily.

It's still a very, very popular and famous book. The Normal Christian Life. He's not saying this is the extraordinary Christian life.

He's not saying this is only for holiness Pentecostals. A lot of that's legalism. How short is your dress? That's what you became about in the 1950s.

Holiness Pentecostals. How short is your dress, sister? Can we get a measuring tape out? We know what the righteous length is and we better just check. Outward legalism is not what we're talking about here.

We are talking about the state of your heart before God. Because when you walk with Him, you walk with Him with your heart and your conscience. Not with the outward appearance.

And it ain't how big a smile you put on because most in the churches are almost Christians and many of them don't even want to be that. They're a one hour Christian. A one hour on Sunday Christian.

And we do not convict them of their sins and they do not get saved. But I'm assuming you're here tonight because you want to be a true Christian. Not an almost Christian.

Not a one hour a week Christian. But you want to experience the Kingdom of God as it's meant to be. And I'm just passing on to you what I've studied for years.

And what I read shocked me to the core. And that was the first, I believe, John Wesley sermon I ever read. And I thought, my goodness.

How many of us walk in this? How many of us even know what this is? Our whole generation is lost. They knew more 250 years ago, before modern Pentecost, than we know now. Dear God, what's going to happen to the church on Judgment Day? Dear God, what are we going to say to Jesus when He asks us these questions? What are we going to say? It is possible.

It is normal. It is everyday, true Christianity. And I want to say to you, if you do not possess what I'm talking about tonight, I do not believe you're walking in Biblical salvation.

I just read to you 1 John chapter 3. It's talking about what a true, born again person is like on the inside. If you are not like that, I want to put it to you very strongly, that you ain't walking as a born again Christian. You might have got born again 10 years ago.

If you let this thing slide, and you let the white robe get spotted, the only person to blame is you. Come with me to Revelation chapter 20. I don't think we're going to get to my third point tonight.

But that's fine. We need to do what we're doing now. Revelation chapter 20 verse 11.

This is one of the most detailed descriptions of what Judgment Day is like. One of the most detailed descriptions. Here's that verse I was telling you about.

Revelation 20 verse 11. I saw a great white throne, and him that sat upon it, from whose face the earth and the heavens fled away, and there was found no place for them. Can you imagine what we're going to feel like doing? A lot of people think this.

We're going to go up and shake Jesus' hand and say, Hi, Jesus, it's me. Listen, man. The earth and the heavens just fled away from his face.

What are you going to be doing? I saw a great white throne, and him that sat upon it, from whose face the earth and the heavens fled away, and there was found no place for them. I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God, and the books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged out of those things written in the books according to what they had done.

I say again, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it. Death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them.

And they were judged, every man, according to what they had done. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

And whosoever was not found, written in the book of life, was cast into the lake of fire. Whosoever was not found, written in the book of life. It says elsewhere in scripture, it says, Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, Did we not prophesy in your name? Did we not cast out demons in your name? Did we not do

many mighty works? Jesus will say to them, Depart from me, you that work iniquity.

I never knew you. I never knew you. Don't come into my presence spouting that.

Lord, Lord, the cheapest words for most of today's Christians on the planet. Cheapest words on the planet. Lord, Lord, how he must get tired of hearing it from people that he knows.

We're not his Lord. He doesn't own us. He doesn't rule us.

What kind of joke is that to talk about the church of Jesus Christ? You know what, the church of Jesus Christ that Jesus is returning, it says this, says she will be without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Can we describe the church in that way? Can we describe ourselves in that way, spiritually speaking? Without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

Listen. We only get 70 years if we're lucky. We only get 70 years if we're lucky.

It is appointed unto man once to die and after this the judgment. This is like the brief window that we get to get Jesus to clean us and to walk in and the gospel is as simple as that. And I don't know about you, I've been a Christian 23 years and I preach on judgment day.

I don't like the sound of that day. I'm not looking forward to that day. And I walk in the state that I'm talking about.

It's nothing. It's just normal Christianity. I read the normal Christianity book and I go, oh, I finally understand.

That's what I'm supposed to walk in this. I had experienced it, but I could never put into words what I'd experienced. And I suddenly realized, it's just Romans 6, 7 and 8. It's just what Charles Finney was talking about all that time.

It's just what John Wesley would preach on just about every day in his life. It's just marks of the new birth. It's what Christianity is.

I want to say to you again, are you walking in it? Because I don't believe it's extraordinary. I just believe it's the Bible. I can't find anywhere where it doesn't say that a new creation is supposed to live like a new creation.

It says that we are supposed to live like one, if we are one. A new creation lives like a new creation. We don't live like the old guy.

What does Paul say? Shall we keep on sinning? God forbid. Don't you know that those who are baptized, baptized unto his death, therefore we're buried with him in baptism. We're dead to sin.

How can we live any longer therein? It says. We're dead to sin. How can we live any longer therein? The opposite of what we preach today.

We are dead to sin. How can we walk any longer therein? Pretty easy. Don't you think it's simple? Isn't the gospel simple? God gives it to you and all you've got to do is walk in it? Isn't that grace? Isn't that being justified by faith? What does justified mean? It means being made clean and righteous before God.

Therefore being justified by faith. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. I don't believe in any other definition.

When I'm in doubt, I go back and I go, well what did the revivalists preach? Because they had a revival and we don't. What kind of gospel do they preach every day? I think we should regard it as normal. In a few moments we're going to stand and pray together.

We're going to ask God to search our hearts and consciences. How do you avoid walking in lust? Say you're a male, that's where the problem is. They say that 50% of pastors, I don't know where they get this statistic, but this one statistic should tell us where we're at.

50% of pastors are addicted to internet pornography. How do I keep my conscience clean if I'm a male in the real world? It's simple. You just avert your eyes.

You learn, if you hate sin and you're walking through this present world, you don't indulge these things. You don't pursue these things. If you have a heart that's doing that, you renounce and renounce and renounce it from the depths of your being in Jesus' name until it's gone.

Because if it's in you, you're in terrible trouble. I don't believe those guys are saved. I don't believe they can walk in the kind of normal Christianity we're talking about.

They simply cannot. If your eye offends you, this is how serious it was, if your eye offends you, Jesus says, pluck it out and throw it away. Of course, he's not speaking literally.

He's saying, I cannot stand this. Any man who lusts after a woman has committed adultery with her in his heart, said Jesus. This is just one example.

Unforgiveness is rampant in the church. Gossip. Every kind of sick thing down to every trivial thing that we do not purify our hearts and therefore I can't believe we're saved.

The guys who say they have trivial sin in their lives, they just tell little white lies instead of black lies. I say to you, I don't think you're saved, brother. If you think that's okay because the little spots are still seen by God, it's clear that you don't hate sin.

Because if you did hate sin, you would not indulge those things. Please get clean before it's too late. Walk in the cleanliness.

How do you walk in the cleanliness? You choose not to lie anymore. Pretty simple, don't you think? You choose to speak truth. You walk under an anointing permanently.

What is that anointing? It's an anointing that I believe every Christian has to stay clean from sin. If you have no other anointing in your life, you might not be some preacher, you might not have an anointing for healing or anything like that. But I tell you what, if you're a true Christian, the Bible in Romans 8 clearly says that you have the Holy Spirit in you and you are responsible for walking in the Spirit in such a way that you stay clean.

And I think it's simple. I really do. I think if you're not there, you ain't got it.

And I hate to think that you'll arrive that way on Judgment Day. I cannot stand the thought of modern Christianity getting in front of Jesus on that day with the mood you will be in. Not hearing many amens

tonight, people.

I know you're deep in thought about this. I know some of you are convicted by this. I know some of you are looking at your conscience and saying, my goodness, I just put up with that.

I just live in that state. Well, I bet you don't have communion with God, not the kind of communion talked about as basic in the Bible. I bet you don't walk with Jesus in the cool of the evening.

Sinners ain't going to heaven. Sinners converted into saints are going to heaven. Where is your sainthood? It's not some outward fake thing.

It's in your heart. Are you a saint in your heart now? I don't care what you look like on the outside. Nobody cares.

I do care if your heart and your conscience are not pure at this moment. Because you ain't walking in real Christianity at all. If only we could teach people to walk in this, I believe we would see the kind of revival they saw when they started to preach it 300 years ago.

First Great Awakening. Finney preached it just after the Second Great Awakening. Many of these guys, they preached it.

Basic stuff. They all had different terms for this and that, but this is what they're preaching people. We want a revival, we better get there.

Amen. What we're going to do, we're going to stand and pray together. We're going to pray that we come into New Testament Christianity.

We're going to pray that God will search our heart right now and show us anything that's on our conscience before Him. Now instead of standing, if you want to kneel and cry out to God, you can. But I'm going to ask you, if you are crying to God from the heart right now, that you raise both your hands in the air to God while we're praying because I believe there needs to be a response.

And I believe if you're serious. Now, do not do it if you're not serious. Do not do it if you're not serious.

Because I do believe God actually watches. I think He takes our promises or our words seriously. I think He takes it seriously when we say, God, I want to walk in that.

And so when I'm praying, I do not want you to lightly raise your hands like you do for every other preacher. You raise your hands to God if you're saying, God, clean my conscience, whatever it takes, and God, enable me to walk in that. Please, God.

That's what it means. We understood? Let's pray. Raise your hands if that's what you mean, people.

Father God, I pray for every one of us, Father God. I pray for everyone here that is truly crying out to you now, Father. God, that you'd point to anything in our lives at this moment that is on our conscience, that is darkness, that is keeping us from communion with you, that is not enabling us to walk with you as we're supposed to, that is not the New Testament Christianity.

God, rid us of those things. Speak to us. Shine a searchlight in our hearts now.

God, we give you full permission. We surrender everything to you. Every part of us.

We're not going to hold back the things that we have been holding back. God, by raising our hands to you, this is surrender. And God, we give you every part of our conscience and our hearts.

Father, we give them back to you. Please, clean them and enable us, God, to walk in that clean state and not to continually allow it to get spotted and just walk around like that. God, don't let us arrive on judgment day in this state where we've got spots on our robe and we've got to be expelled from the wedding feast because we're not pure and we cannot live with a holy God for all of eternity because he's holy.

And Jesus wants us wholly paid such a price. God, cleanse us. God, cleanse me.

We all cry to you just by raising our hands. God. God, tonight let us become true Christians and walk in it and never slip back.

And let us walk in a place where Adam walked with God in the call of the evening and the communion was so real and it never goes away. We get into heaven and we live in it permanently in the strongest possible way, but even here we can walk in it. Oh God, what a precious gift.

Point in our hearts to anything we need to confess. Any person we need to phone up and say sorry. Any person we need to go to and give back money.

Any business. Reminder, if there's things on our conscience, God, do not let those things escape notice. God, we give you full permission to go through our lives and make us clean.

And God, let us walk in that state before you. Oh God, God, let us walk in the Christianity of 1 John 3. Let it become normal. Let it become everyday.

Everyday Christianity to us. I pray that for every single person. I pray God an anointing, a special anointing now on every person raising their hands to gain this place and it's a position is what it is in Jesus.

It's a position in Jesus of walking in this place. God, let your anointing rest upon them. The anointing of your Holy Spirit to walk in that place of God.

In Jesus' mighty name. Amen. Amen.

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