

Jesus Reigns Supreme - Part 1

by Erlo Stegen

Jesus reigns supreme and will have complete authority and power over the world, and we can trust in his power and provision in our lives.

Duration: 1:17:00

Scripture: Joshua 1:8, Psalm 119:11-130, Matthew 6:33, Revelation 19:15

Topics: "God's Rule"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher shares a story about a young man who went to say goodbye to someone in Pretoria. The young man was able to sing as he went to the hangman's room because he had turned to the Lord, confessed his sin, and found forgiveness. The preacher emphasizes the importance of keeping promises made to the Lord and warns against breaking them. He encourages listeners to read and meditate on the seventh trumpet and the worship of the 24 elders in the book of Revelation. The sermon concludes with a cautionary tale about a boy who went against his heavenly father's wishes and ended up in jail for murder.

Transcript

We're going to read from Revelations 19 from verse 15. Now, out of his mouth goes a sharp sword that with it he should strike the nations. In chapter 11 from verse 15, the seventh angel sounded and there were loud voices in heaven saying, the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ and he shall reign forever and ever.

And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God. Saying, we give you thanks oh Lord God almighty, the one who is and who was and who is to come because you have taken your great power and reigned. And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God.

The nations were angry and your wrath has come and the time of the dead that they should be judged and that you should reward your servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear your name small and great and should destroy those who destroy the earth. And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God. Then the temple of God was opened in heaven and the ark of his covenant was seen in his temple and there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake and great hail.

This text contains so much which I cannot cover but I'm going to just highlight a few points here and there. There is no book as sweet as the word of God. Often I wake up at night or at four in the morning and it becomes my time for reading the Bible.

I wake up at four in the morning and it becomes my time for reading the Bible. I don't make it a rule but when it's quiet, I know all the children are asleep, I take the word of God and it is the nicest time for me to read, to be quiet before him and it is for me, the Bible is sweeter than honey. The people of this world who say they cannot leave the nice attractive things of this world, they are foolish and they don't know what they mean, what they say.

There is nothing as lovely as the word of God, as sweet as the word of God, as I said sweeter than honey. It revives the spirit, the soul, even the body is revived and refreshed. Those who don't know that and don't experience the power of God's word will wake up in hell.

That's why I said that the older generation down there at Makogo who cannot read and who didn't get that opportunity, who are illiterate, we want them to learn so that they can read the Bible. By not being able to read the word of God, they miss out on so much. There is nothing so attractive, nothing so beautiful as the word of God.

If the Lord speaks to you through his word, to Joshua the Lord said, take this word and let it never depart from you day and night so that you would overcome and be victorious in everything. Now here we read about the seventh angel who sounded the trumpet. The other six sounded out the awful things that were going to happen and come upon the people of the serf.

But we who are God's children are not disturbed by that. We are not to be troubled because we know that our salvation draws nigh. As I said, salvation is close.

A person might say, but how can salvation draw close when I'm saved already? Yes, we were saved when we repented, when we came to Jesus and surrendered to him. And then daily we are being saved. We are being rescued and saved from different things and sins and each day it is happening.

We are being saved because we know that our salvation draws nigh. Do you hear, you who are not saved, you who still live a pagan life of going to seers and mediums, people who work with the spirits of the dead, that doesn't help at all. You cannot go to the spirit of a deceased father or expect them to come out of heaven to eat the meat that you provide for them.

That is foolishness and it shows how twisted you are. The whole world is going to still experience great sufferings and terrible things. At the end of the text we read that there will be lightning, not just lightning, but lightnings and voices and noises.

Thunderings and an earthquake and great hail coming down in great size and quantity onto the earth. Woe to the one who meets up with this on his head. It will kill him, destroy his brains, spill his brains.

I once read of a hailstorm that came down, some of it was huge and smaller pieces round about. But we as children of God should not be terrorized by that, for we are safe and we experience the salvation of God. You have heard these days about the earthquake in Haiti and how it destroyed buildings and fell upon people.

Haiti is actually a beautiful land. Europeans went there and planted sugar cane and a lot of crops. They made slaves from people in West Africa and other countries and they used the slaves for the fields.

As you know the Europeans often don't have many children, but these slaves on those islands had many children and they were very productive, fertile. Democracy is a law, not a law, it is a vote. Their liberation came and there was a democracy.

Democracy has ruled there for over 200 years. It is the oldest liberated and now democratic country in the world. However, they are extremely poor.

You can't grasp and understand what poverty they live in. When we were there, we just got off the plane and there were throngs around us offering to carry our suitcases. We thought they were so kind.

They asked us where we were going, which car and we said we were going there. Then when we had gone through the terminal and we said thank you to them for their kindness. Cars going in this direction and that direction and full of people and things all over the roads.

Well, after all, they've got their freedom. Anybody was free to do their thing. Freedom from traffic laws.

They drove just any old car in any direction. We thought we were definitely going to have an accident. Right in front of us, two cars came head to head.

Drivers got out, they had a punch up and then got back into their cars. That's the land of Haiti. Can't describe to you what type of poverty they live in.

You need to go and see for yourself just how it is after 200 years of democracy. You need to go and see for yourself just how it is after 200 years of democracy. We wore ties to go to the service and the people there didn't and as is with modern Christian men, they don't wear ties.

Well, the crowds noticed as we were driving in the car with our driver that we had ties on and they rushed us. They came as a chanting crowd. We tried to reverse and there they were blocking the way.

I said, it was because we had ties on, they knew we were from another country. So I said to the men with us, take off your ties. Now this awful earthquake happened there and they estimate at least 100,000 people have died.

I said to the men with us, take off your ties. Two men, two doctors had once visited here from Haiti. They were very dignified, gracious people.

Those were the ones who invited us to go and preach in Haiti. And we've heard that buildings collapsed on every side but the building of those doctors survived, it stood. Buildings collapsed everywhere but their hospital survived.

God is able to protect his people and if it's in his will, he will not even allow a hair to fall down without him knowing about it. In the Old Testament it speaks about a thousand falling at your left and ten thousand to your right and you will be untouched. He will stand.

God can preserve his people. Think of Shadrach and them. When the furnace was heated up seven times hotter to kill them, they bravely said, well if it's God's will that we should burn then it's his will but if he wants us not to die then he will protect us.

And the men who threw them into the fiery furnace were themselves burnt and killed. And the king exclaimed loudly that we had put three people, three men into the furnace, now I see a fourth one, he seems like the son of God. Jesus is with his people in their sufferings.

And they walked around freely in the furnace and then when they were called to come out, they didn't even have the smell of smoke on them. You won't die unless it's God's will. Yes, Paul, Peter, and John.

Peter, they were executed, the Lord allowed that to happen but with John it wasn't yet his time when he was put into a boiling pot but he was not killed. God won't allow his children to die unless it's his timing. So don't be fearful or terrorized, you can be completely at ease.

We were once visited by a person from Germany, a preacher. He said to us, O my children, you have been put into a boiling pot, you have been put into a fiery furnace, now I see a fourth one, he seems like the son of God. And he prophesied that the communists were going to take over Germany.

And the Germans were very fearful in hearing that and when I heard it I thought, well he makes this very bold statement, prophecy. And the Germans were afraid. You get Christians who are afraid and cowardly.

Instead of the communists taking over and getting to that point of the river Rhine, it was West Germany who went into East Germany, then there was that unification. I don't know whether that preacher was alive when that happened, but he's passed away now. The seventh angel sounded and there were loud voices in heaven.

P-H-O-N-E In Greek it says ponon for voices. What does it mean? P-H-O-N-E P-H-O-N-E That's where we get telephone from. P-H-O-N-E Yes, but you don't see the person on the other side and that word is used to describe that.

And with the telephone you don't see the person on the other side but you can hear his words. P-H-O-N-E It also means the expressed thoughts of a person, expressed in words. You can't hear what a person is thinking, but when they are spoken out that is that word, when they are expressed and sounded.

P-H-O-N-E There were loud voices in heaven, spoken by God. God does speak through various means, through lightnings, noises, earthquakes, etc., but we need to understand and not misinterpret what he says.

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