

(Where Is the Church Going) 8. Hear the Sound of the Trumpet

by Miki Hardy

Miki Hardy's sermon emphasizes the urgent need for the church to heed God's warnings and return to sound doctrine amidst spiritual complacency and false teachings.

Duration: 1:13:26

Scripture: Jeremiah 6:16

Topics: "Warning"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes that the Christian life should not be dependent on material possessions. The focus should be on becoming like Christ, serving and loving others. The preacher warns against the prevalence of a shallow and emotional gospel, urging the church to return to the true teachings of God. He highlights the need for a fear of God and a rebuke of the church's pursuit of money and worldly practices. The sermon draws parallels to the warnings given by prophets in the Old Testament and encourages repentance and a return to the pure doctrine of Jesus Christ.

Transcript

Today I will, I will share with you, because I believe that it's a time for the trumpet to sound clearly, so that the people of God and even leaders of churches and pastors may hear sounds of warning from God himself to his people. When you look at the Old Covenant, the Old Testament, there were always the prophets of God. And God put sentinels to talk and warn about the dangers that are coming.

And I would like to share with you from the book of Jeremiah, chapter 6. Jeremiah, chapter 6. And I want to relate this story to the time that we are living. It concerns the church, the church of Jesus Christ. In the book of Jeremiah, chapter 6, we see that God, through the prophet, is warning the people of God.

It's like giving them a last chance. Time is running short for the armies of the enemy to come and destroy and invade Jerusalem. And God, in his grace and mercy, always warns those he loves, even if they are far from God.

God will always try to bring them back to order, to bring them back to his ways. That's why I would like to relate this story to what the church is living today. I believe that God wants to give the church a sound of warning, of rebuke.

We are going to read a few verses from the chapter 6, but the two verses that I want to really put some emphasis is verse 16 and 17. From the book of Jeremiah, chapter 6, the Bible reads like this, stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths where the good way is, and walk in it. Then you will find rest for your souls, but they said we will not walk in it.

Also, I set watchmen over you saying, listen to the sound of the trumpet, but they said we will not listen. It's amazing how we see how the heart of the people of Israel became hard. They had hardened their heart to the point that when the prophets came and showed them the way back to God, they said we will not.

They didn't want to submit their lives to God. And this story is about 600 years before Christ, where God talked to the people of Israel and told them about the plan that the enemy, the army of Babylon, would come and destroy the land. And in verse 1, he talks to the children of Benjamin.

In fact, Jerusalem was in the place where it was a tribe of Benjamin that was given that land. That's why God here addresses himself to the tribe of Benjamin. That's where the city of Jerusalem was.

But in fact, God was addressing himself to the old Israel, his people. They had backslidden. They had turned their back to God.

They were doing all sorts of abominations, what God describes as spiritual adultery. And we read from verse 1, O you children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee from the midst of Jerusalem. Blow the trumpet in Tekoa and set up a signal fire in Beth-Azoram for disaster appears out of the north and great destruction.

It's amazing how when we look at the church today, there is like a feeling from the church in general that everything is looking good, that everything is fine. And yet God wants to sound the trumpet, to blow the trumpet, and tell the people of God and those who are leading the churches that it is time to ask God what are the old ways, how the church started, what are the sound doctrine. God is asking the church to go back to the beginning.

Seek for the ways. Seek for, he says in here, where the good way is. Ask for the old path.

It's as if they have forgotten. They had left the real way of serving God and they were far doing their own thing. And I believe that the church today looks like what the people of Israel were doing.

In fact, when you look in verse 15, 16, 17, 18, you will understand that the people of Israel were committing spiritual adultery, committing all sorts of abominations, and wanted God to be with them. In other words, when you look at the church today and what is being said and preached to the people of God, they are like these men, these preachers, they believe that God is with them in whatever they say. Some of them say things that you won't even believe it's right.

You won't even believe it's being said behind the pulpit. They have lost the way. They have lost sound doctrine.

They're talking about so many things and I believe that this has opened the way to even humanism in the church. Because when you run away from sound doctrine, you open the doors for everything else. Everything else comes in, even the doctrine of prosperity.

Why has it come to the church and why people and preachers are reaching out to Christians and promising them all sorts of things in the natural? Why is it that the church is responding to it? Because we have left, the church have left the original doctrine, the original gospel, the apostolic gospel, the gospel that came from the heart of the Lord himself. That's why I believe it's time to sound the trumpet, to blow the trumpet and warn the people of God and warn preachers that it's time to go back to the beginning. That's what God was saying here.

Stand in the ways and see. Seek me. Seek for the ways of God.

Ask for the old path where the good way is and walk in it. Then you shall find rest for your souls. It's amazing what's happening in the church today.

And in verse four and five, the army of Babylon, it's amazing. It's as if we hear what they want to do. The enemy is at the door.

The enemy is waiting for every single door to open to enter in. And look what they said in verse four and five. Prepare war against us.

Arise and let us go up at noon. War to us for the day goes away, for the shadows of the evening are lengthening. Arise and let us go by night and let us destroy their palaces.

This is the voice of the enemy, ready to attack, ready to destroy, ready to swallow. And unfortunately, thousands of Christians are being swallowed up by false doctrine, by false teachers, by false prophets. And the enemy is right there and destroying the people of God.

They think they are well. They think they are doing fine. They even believe that they are in the midst of revival.

And yet, deep down in their soul, deep down in their hearts, they are suffering. Deep down in their hearts, they are broken. Christian marriages are being broken.

Christians are backsliding. And yet, people are just saying we are in the midst of revival. Things are fine.

When you look at Christians, they are jumping up and down as if everything was okay. They are being touched in their emotions. They are being excited what is being said because it enjoys the flesh.

And yet, the enemy is at the door, laughing about what is being preached behind the pulpit. Laughing because he knows that this is a way for destruction for thousands of Christians. He knows that their lives are not being built up.

He knows. And he's laughing and yet, in the midst of all that, leaders of churches are proclaiming that it's a time and the year of restoration. It's a year for prosperity.

It's a year of all sorts of promises. I believe that God, like we see and hear and read in this chapter, is warning, is giving a sound of warning, mainly to preachers about what they are preaching. And to Christians, not to swallow everything, not to be excited in the flesh, not to be emotionally caught up with words that fill their flesh, but to be assured in their hearts that they are growing in God, that they are having victories in their lives, that they were walking holy before the Lord, that they are having victories of a sin.

It's time to sound the trumpet and to give a warning. We cannot continue to hear what we are hearing. It's time to go back to the beginning.

Go back to the gospel that was preached in the beginning. Go back to the apostolic gospel, so that the church may rise up and be well and victorious and being able to face every opposition and persecution. The time is short.

The days of repentance are slipping away. God was warning the people of Israel that the enemy was at the door. But they refused.

They refused to hear what God was saying by the prophets. And God is saying, blow the trumpet. And even that, it's as if their ears were uncircumcised and they couldn't hear what God was saying.

They ignored the warning of the Lord. And we know what happened to the people of Israel. We know what happened to Jerusalem.

We know the invasion of the enemy. We know it was destroyed. Why? Because the people of God had hardened their hearts.

Let's go and read a little bit more. Verse 8 says, Be instructed, O Jerusalem, lest my soul depart from you. God wants to bring the anointing in the midst of the church.

And yet there are many situations today that God cannot do anything else but remove his anointing. He can't do anything else. Even you can proclaim the word of God, and yet the anointing of the Lord is not there.

The power of the Spirit of God, the life of Christ, has departed. And the church is being excited because it's in the flesh. It's in the emotions.

Lest my soul depart from you, lest I make you desolate and land none inhabited. Thus says the Lord of hosts, they shall thoroughly glean and define the remnant of Israel as a grape gatherer. Put your hand back into the branches.

To whom shall I speak and give warning that they may hear? Indeed, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the Lord is a reproach to them. They have no delight in it.

They have left the commandments of God. They were committing abomination before the Lord. They were worshiping other gods.

They have left the word of the Lord. And I believe somehow that the church has left the true gospel. They have left the true gospel.

They have left aside, put aside the gospel of the cross of Jesus Christ, which is the only power to change a man or a woman, even as a Christian. Only power to change him and bring him to become like Christ. We have left, the church has left the word of God.

And that is the warning that God is giving to the people of Israel. They have left the word of God, and they were in misery. They were ready to be swallowed up by the enemy, defeated.

The plan of God is not for the church to be defeated. The plan of God is for the church to be victorious. The plan of God is for his anointing to dwell among his people.

And I believe in many many cases the anointing of God has left. Sermons are becoming more and more dry, void of the life of Christ, void of power, void of the demonstration of the spirit. I believe God wants us to blow the trumpet and give a warning to the church.

We cannot continue that way. Somewhere down in the hearts of the preachers, it must stop. A fear of God must grasp the hearts of the people, so that we know what we are preaching.

It's bringing chaos to the church. People are seeking after money. Praise and worship is becoming like the world.

We can go on and on and mention about the things that are not according to God's plan, and according to the word of God, and according to sound doctrine. It's becoming more and more serious, my friends. It's not the time just to rejoice about what's happening in the church.

When you hear what you are hearing, I believe God wants to rebuke us, rebuke the church. Stop what you're doing. In verse 8, God is saying, God is warning.

He says, accept the warning. Let yourself be corrected. In verse 8, he says that.

Be instructed. Accept my correction. Accept my rebuke.

That forsook, forsaken the word of God. In verse 11, the Bible says that Jeremiah could not hold what God wanted him to say anymore. Read verse 11.

Therefore, I am full of the fury of the Lord. I am weary of holding it in. He doesn't want to say that to the people of God, and yet God is impressing upon him.

Speak the word. Speak and declare what I am saying. And Jeremiah could not hold it anymore.

He had to talk. He had to take the trumpet and blow the trumpet. But Jeremiah didn't want to.

In the natural, he didn't want to displease the people of God. He knew that it was a hard word. He knew it was something hard that the people of Israel had to swallow, had to hear.

He knew their behavior. He knew where they were at. He didn't want to offend them.

But the Spirit of the Lord came upon him and he had to say, I am full of the fury of the Lord. I am weary of holding it in. I will pour it out on the children outside and on the assembly of young men together.

For even the husband shall be taken with the wife, the aged with him who is full of days. Jeremiah could not hold what God was asking him to say. I believe it's not the time to rejoice.

It's a time to accept correction. It's a time to accept rebuke. It's a time to accept the warning of God for the church.

But God just go on and on. God is saying in verse 16, ask, ask for the true original gospel. Seek for it.

Seek for it. That's what he's saying. Ask for it.

Go back to the beginning. Go back to the true gospel. Go back to sound doctrine.

Go back to what the apostle preached at the beginning. Go and find out. Go and seek.

Go and ask for the old ways. Go back to what was preached by Paul. Go back to what was preached by Peter.

Go back to the words of Jesus himself. And stop inventing things. And stop saying whatever you want.

It's amazing today when you see all sorts of ministries never being sent by anyone saying what they want. Speaking about their own hearts. Speaking about their own desire.

Let me remind you that Jesus never said one word except his father told him. He was sent by the father. And today there are many so-called so-and-so ministries that come and say what they want.

What they feel. What they dreamt. What they had as a vision.

The Lord said. The Lord spoke to me. And they said all sorts of things.

And they have never been sent by anyone. They rise up like mushrooms. And all they want to do, many of them, is to put their hands into your pocket and take your money.

But when you preach sound doctrine, no you don't. You don't put your hand into anyone's pocket. You've got the fear of God.

That's why God is saying go back to the beginning. Go back to what was preached at the start of the church. At the beginning of the church, the apostles and the preachers never asked people money except to bless others.

Because churches were poor. The church of Jerusalem was poor. And when the apostle Paul visited the churches, what happened? He talked about how the people were poor in Jerusalem and in other places.

And the churches came out and they were on accord with their willing heart, by their own desire, and they asked Paul to take part in the offering. And those working with Paul, they were in one accord. And no one on his own ministry.

And it's too common today to hear about so-and-so ministries. They come and talk about their own minds. That's what they talk about.

That's what they preach. Their own minds. No one is called to preach about what he wants.

We need to be sent. We need to have the approval of God. We need to be sent by body.

And when you are even sent by body, you are not called to say what you want. You've got to stay in the limit of what the anointing of God which rests upon your life and what you carry in your heart. That's the limitation of what you need to say.

We need to go back to the spirit that animated, that caught the apostles and the disciples and those who served the church in the early church. God is saying to Israel, hear what I said in the beginning. Hear how I showed you where you must walk, on what path you need to walk, what were my instructions, what were my first instructions.

It's simple. Go back to the book of Acts. Go back to the letters of Paul.

And let's say what they preached. What they taught in these epistles. In verse 13, the Bible says that they were given to covetousness.

Money had become their pursuit instead of God. Verse 13, because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, everyone is given to covetousness. And from the prophet even to the priest.

They are all given to covetousness. That's what the church is after today. Money.

Money. And money. And money again.

It's as if they are taught to covet. They are taught to claim. Yeah.

You claim this one and you claim that one. You are jealous of what the other one has. And because of your jealousy, now you start to claim what he has.

Because you are such a baby in the Lord and you are seeking after the desires of the flesh, you start coveting what your brother has got. And the Bible says here that they're all from the the prophets and the old church. The old people of Israel.

They were seeking after, pursuing after covetousness instead of God. That's what they were doing. And Jeremiah had to stand up and deliver the warning.

That's what he had to do. God calls this spiritual adultery. I want to remind you let's open our Bibles in 1 Timothy chapter 6 verse 3. If anyone teaches otherwise, anyone.

Now he's talking about preachers here. If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to hold some words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the doctrine which accords with godliness is proud. Knowing nothing is obsessed with disputes and arguments of the words.

I mean this is what we see in the body of Christ today. Competition, division, strife, jealousy, hypocrisy. And we've got when something is green, we've got to say it's green and we don't have to fear to talk about it.

There is hypocrisy in the body of Christ. There is strife, there is competition, there is covetousness from which come envy, envy, strife, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such preachers withdraw yourself.

They talk about godliness sometimes, sometimes because they have to. It's in the Bible. So they talk about godliness and at the same time they use it for their own gain.

In other words they use the Word of God for their own profit. They run after money and they teach people to run after money. So you see it's the same spirit and the church now is living in another spirit.

The same spirit that preachers are carrying and the whole church is following and the whole church has been caught up in that spirit. They want to gain something from the church. They want to profit but what did Paul say? Paul says godliness with contentment is great gain.

Godliness with contentment is great gain. In other words you don't come to church to seek for something in the natural. Godliness with contentment is gain but don't use godliness to profit yourself.

Don't use the church to profit yourself and that's what's happening today in the church. They use the Bible and verses of the Bible in another spirit to profit. That was not the same spirit that was in Jesus Christ.

That was not the same spirit that animated the apostle Paul and the apostles of the early church. They were pursuing holiness. They were pursuing to become like Christ.

That was their life. That was their aim. That was their vision.

Even if they had plenty or they didn't have anything, it didn't change the state of their hearts and their vision. Their Christian life did not depend on how much they have or didn't have. In fact they were content with what they had because their vision and their heart was fully directed to one plan.

Becoming like Christ. Serving the people of God and loving them to the point where you want to see them grow. What's the sound of the trumpet today? What's the sound? Turn away from this cheap gospel.

Turn away from this emotional gospel. Go back to the beginning. Find your ways.

Seek for the ways of God. Put your Bibles in the book of Galatians. In fact, let's look at James first.

Let's look at the book of James chapter 4 verse 1. Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war yet you do not have because you do not ask.

You ask and do not receive because you ask amiss that you may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses. Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whether wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Here the Apostle James is talking about adulterers in the body of Christ. Those who do not seek God. Those who do not make Jesus Christ the beginning and the end of their lives.

But they seek after other things and yet Jesus said seek first the kingdom of God and everything else should be added unto you. And you become an adulterer when your heart is divided. And they had become that way because somehow they departed from the gospel.

They have opened the doors for other teachings. And Paul in the book of Galatians he calls them foolish. Oh foolish Galatians he says in chapter 4. Read with me in chapter 3. Oh foolish Galatians who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth? Before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? Verse 3. Are you so foolish having begun in the spirit? Are you now being made perfect by the flesh? Have you suffered so many things in vain if indeed it was in vain? It looks that the Galatians had two lives.

They had one life when they began in the gospel and now they are a second lifestyle. The first one was in the spirit and the second one was in the flesh. Now I know that Paul is talking about freedom here, liberty.

They had gone back to circumcision of the flesh and they wanted to please God by works. But I believe that we can compare it today to the church. He said you have started well.

Where are you now? You have started like in the beginning. But now they departed from the gospel and they were completely in the flesh. They were no more interested to suffer with Christ, to be persecuted for the gospel.

They wanted a very cool life, comfortable lifestyle. And let me tell you the best way to have a comfortable lifestyle is to have plenty of money only you are in the flesh. That's why the apostle Paul warns Timothy about those who want to prosper and at the same time their heart is away from God.

And let me tell you something, it's dangerous to ask people to use their faith for prosperity when you are not sure that they are spiritual. When you are not sure that they will use what God gives them as a blessing for the kingdom of God, it's very dangerous for you to ask them to believe that it's God's will for them to prosper. You must first be sure that they stand on the true foundation of the gospel and that their lives are given.

Otherwise you are not allowed to bring them to the place where they are seeking prosperity because the flesh will tear them down. You must be sure that you are talking to spiritual people who can handle it, who know that their whatever they have will be for the kingdom of God. Do you understand? In other words you must be careful when you talk about such things to Christians because it will destroy them.

Because when you are in the flesh and you've got the money, you know what your flesh wants to do with it. The love of money is the root of all evil. And when you are in the flesh and you are not a spiritual person, that very money will kill you.

That's why when I meet people that are spiritual and know that they are grown up in our midst and we know what they carry as the gospel, we can talk to them and tell them, my brother, you've got the right to have your faith so that God will multiply what you have. I have no problem with that one, but I'm scared to talk about prosperity and money to Christians that are still carnal. You understand? And I'm sick to hear about preachers asking people and telling them that the will of God for them is to be prosperous and of this that and the other.

And they use the gospel. They use the bible. Dangerous stuff.

Dangerous stuff. And Paul said to the Galatians, you have started well. Now you are in the flesh.

You started in the spirit. You were ready to be persecuted for the gospel. You were ready to participate to sufferings of Christ and identify your life with him.

But now, no. You prefer to hide yourself behind religion. And people hide themselves behind works.

And Paul says you are cut off from Christ. You are cut off from Christ. You cannot partake to the grace of God anymore.

Yeah? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? Can money make you perfect? Do you think that emotional dancing can make you perfect? Do you think that in your own strength as a man or a woman in your knowledge can make you perfect? If that was true, the world wouldn't have been in that state today. The only thing that can make you perfect is the cross of Jesus Christ in your life. Is that our God to mold you, break you, form you.

God said Israel, I created. Jacob, I created. Israel, I've formed.

I've formed. We need to let ourselves be corrected. We don't have to hear a rebuke and be threatened.

We can't hear a rebuke and be threatened. You might say, who are you to talk like that? Who are you to say that? That's probably what the people of Israel said when they heard Jeremiah talking. When he blew

the trumpet and he told them about what was going to happen, they didn't even want to hear.

Their ears were uncircumcised, cut off completely. And I know that there are many people who are hearing that have got ears uncircumcised. But I trust that there are those also who've got tender hearts and are ready to hear the sound of rebuke and warning with repentance.

With repentance. Where I brought the church, what I've told them, what I've instructed them, what I'm teaching them now. Is it for the glory of God? Are the people of God growing in the spirit? Are they become more and more mature in the spirit? Are they becoming like Christ? Are they changing? Are the married couples being totally restored? I need to be sure what I'm preaching.

That's why we need to go back to the beginning. Go back to the beginning. You know what Paul said to the Corinthians? You come to the place where I can't even give you meat.

You need the milk. You need to be fed by milk. And I believe that the great majority of the church today needs to be fed by milk from the beginning.

Let's go back to basics. Go back to basics. But the problem is that the church feels and and believes that it knows it all.

Because our heads are full. Our heads are full of the Bible. And Paul says to the Corinthians, I can't even give you meat.

You're gonna choke. I need to feed you with milk like babies. The people of Israel heard the voice of God speaking to them.

They turned their back to God. And what did God say? We need to understand and hear what God is saying. Go and seek and find the old way.

What's the old way? Let me tell you the old way is two thousand years ago. The start of the early church where there were the ministries, apostles and prophets and teachers working together and keeping the church in sound doctrine. They were not emotional.

They were not, you know, happy in their hype and in all the excitement. They didn't have goosebumps every Sunday morning. They didn't play music which didn't glorify God.

We were talking with a few brothers and sisters lately and I was saying, you know, there are hymns and choruses that even today stand up and you can hear them and feel that it glorifies God. But today you hear all sorts of praise and worship and after one year it disappears. It disappears on the market, even in churches.

But there are choruses and songs that were so anointed without the flesh, without excitement, without all the hype, without all the wonderful great music perfection. But you sing it today and you can feel the anointing of God. Yeah, it's as if it can't leave you.

You can't forget it. But today there are thousands of CDs and DVDs now on the Christian market. It comes and goes.

It comes and goes. Yeah, you know why? Time will come when it will stay, when we will go back to the beginning and keep sound doctrine and preach the cross of Jesus Christ and lay out the foundation in

churches and maybe by God's grace we won't hear preachers every Sunday or every day of the week preaching about money. Some of them, you know, when you hear them, you know, it turns your stomach upside down and you don't even believe that this can be true what they are saying.

Where did they get that from? You never know. You don't know where they get it from. The Lord must help us.

I tell you the Lord must really, really, really help us. Galatians chapter 5. Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made you us free and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. We know that what Paul is talking about there is freedom, is a holy life.

And verse 4 says you have become estranged from Christ. You who attempt to be justified by law, you have fallen from grace. You see, the church of Galatians were doing words to be justified by God.

You see, they were using works. But today, the same way you can use so many other things and do so many other things and tell people to do so many other things to please God. Thinking that you are pleasing God.

That's what they were doing. They were asking the law to bring them to a life of the spirit. That's what they were doing, the Galatians.

But in the church today, you can replace law by any other thing to try and make and desire the life of the spirit. Can you understand? You can use any other false doctrine, any other thing. You can use money, you can use finances, you can believe that when you are prosperous and you've got plenty of money, it's the life of the spirit.

You can't seek the life of the spirit by works, by law, by seeking after finances, by seeking after things of the natural. You can't. The only way, only way to seek after the life of the spirit is when you take your life and you walk on that walk, on that road of the cross, and you allow God to deal with you and break you so that you may carry his life.

There is no other gospel. You can't replace it. That's why the apostle Paul talks to them and says, you are foolish.

And the church is being foolish today. We've got to go back to the beginning. What did the apostles preach? What did they preach? What did the prophets proclaim? Yeah, that's the place we need to go back.

I remind you again of the verse of scripture, the last hand that God was giving to the people of Israel. He had spoken to them so many times. He had warned them so many times.

But God knew that the armies, the enemy of Babylon was on its way. He knew they were coming and God gave them the hand of mercy and grace and said, hear me. And what did he say? Stand in the ways and see.

Ask for the old path where the good way is. And walk in it. And then you shall find rest for your souls.

I sense and feel that God is reaching out with mercy and grace to the church again. Stop your ways now. Stop your deceptive preaching.

Stop your emotional teachings. Go back to the start and hear what the apostles and the prophets preached. Come back to the apostolic gospel.

Come back to the preaching of the cross and you will have rest for your souls. And you will rise up and you will defeat sin in your life. And you will walk in victory in your life.

You won't be bound as a slave with your sin anymore. There is rest for the people of God. Rest does not mean emotional hype.

Rest is in the soul. Rest is in the heart, where you know where you are. That's what we call the Sabbath of the new covenant, where you know on which foundation your life lays.

You know that you are unshakable and then you can rest with joy and peace in your heart, knowing that even in your weaknesses, the grace of God will reach out to you and you shall be unshakable. Hype and excitement and the hallelujahs and all the emotional stuff is only for one hour. It's an hour.

That's all. That's all it is. But let me tell you, the preaching of the apostolic gospel, the preaching of the cross establishes you for life.

It establishes you for life. The moment the church has left the gospel of the beginning, the door was open for Christian divorce. Yeah, that's where it started.

With all this funny gospel, yeah, with all this blasphemy gospel, with all the attraction that we got from the charismatic gospel, turned our eyes away from what God wanted to do in our lives and we wanted to serve the Lord with our flesh and our minds and our knowledge. That's why many people, many Christians today, they know it all. They know it all, but they still walk in the flesh.

They still walk in sin and yet you talk about the Bible, they know more than you. They know the Bible more than the apostles in the early days. I tell you, because they didn't have the new testament.

Yeah, yeah, I tell you, they know the Bible more than the apostles of the early days. They know how it works. They know everything and yet that flesh is drawing them to destruction and they still walk in adultery.

They still walk in sin. They still go in places and steal and rob. They still lie.

They still keep doing the things of the flesh. The moment, that's why it is important to hear the sound of rebuke with an open heart and to understand that the Christians of the early days, they were weak. Yes, but they were spiritual people.

They were people of no instruction, the Bible says. No instruction. They didn't know much, but they were spiritual men and women.

Yeah, wherever they went, they shook the world by what they carried in their hearts. I just want to tell you, don't be threatened by this warning or rebuke. It's still time to stop and seek the way.

It's still time to stop and seek for the right gospel. It's still time. I had a choice many years ago.

I had a choice to make either to continue running and close my ears and not listen. I had a choice either to stop and consider what God was saying to me or to close my ears and harden my heart and say, no, I'm

want to run. I'm running.

I'm running. Everything is fine. I mean, everything is good.

Hallelujah. Praise God. Glory to God.

I had a choice in my life and I want to thank the Lord that he helped me. He helped me to stop and consider and he drew me to the book of Acts where I saw and the epistles and I read what they preached and what caliber of men they were and the anointing that was on their lives and the unity among them and the love that they had for one another to the point where they were ready to give their lives one for another and I became jealous and I praise God that my ears by his grace were not closed. I didn't consider that as a punishment from God.

No, I did not consider that as a punishment for my wrongdoings, but I saw the plan of God for the church. I saw that the only way for the church to rise up and be purified and washed and cleansed and restored and healed was from the message that was preached by the early apostles and what the early church heard, the message of the cross. It changed the course of my life.

Changed me. That's why I don't want to threaten you nor judge you or criticize you by any means, but I believe that God is blowing the trumpet and that there is a sound of warning. There is a sound of rebuke.

There is a sound of repentance. That's what I did. I repented.

Yeah, I repented. The gospel I preached was mixed up, you know, all sorts of mixture and compromise, all to suit me. Yeah, all to suit me, my life, all for my advantage.

That was the gospel I preached for many years and that I hear today from many churches, the gospel that would benefit me and then the church. But the gospel of the beginning, in the beginning of the church, there was another gospel. They knew their life were a loss.

They had nothing to gain as a Christian. That's why, do not feel threatened by what I am saying. Do not feel condemned.

Feel the hand of God. Feel the grace and the mercy of God. Feel how God wants to restore.

Feel how he wants to bring the church back to the message of the beginning, at the start of the church. Let us stop trying to find scripture that will suit us. And let me tell you, there are plenty scriptures that seem to suit us when we are not in the spirit of the gospel, when we are not carrying the spirit of Christ, when we seek things for us, seek a blessing.

And Paul ended up to the Galatians in verse 7 of chapter 5, said, you started well. Remember the days, my friends. If you've been a preacher for many, many years, or a Christian for many, many years, you would be honest to accept that the days 15 years ago and now in the church, they are very different.

Very different. There are many things that you accept today which you would not accept 15 years ago as a Christian. Today you accept many things.

You compromise the very Word of God, which 15 years ago you would not do it. You would be scared to do it. You would have had the fear of the Lord.

You would have been adamant and clear in what you preached. That's why I urge the body of Christ, go back to the beginning. Let's go back to the apostolic gospel, to the preaching of the cross of Jesus Christ, and stop all the gimmicks, and all the emotional stuff, and all the bless me gospel, and let us start to give our lives and understand that God is busy restoring the church, and you might become part of that church that God wants to restore.

Yeah, you might be there sitting and listening, and you might be the person that God is speaking to, that is calling you to consider that there is a message that the apostles preached in the beginning. God is calling you to unite yourself and open your heart, to seek him and seek his ways, so that you might not left behind and not take part in that wonderful move of God in the last days, from men and women that would preach and teach and live the pure doctrine of Jesus Christ, the preaching of the cross of Jesus Christ. Let us open our hearts and consider the sound of rebuke, the sound of warning that God is giving to the church today, and open our hearts for repentance.

That's what God was saying to his people, stop, repent, and consider a new way of life. May the Lord bless you, may you be encouraged, and may you seek him with all your hearts, and consider the true gospel that was preached in the beginning of the church. God bless you, and I love you so much.

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