

(October 1986) 01 - Spiritual Warfare

by Ray Lowe

Ray Lowe's sermon emphasizes the urgent need for the church to prepare believers for the spiritual battles they face in the modern world.

Duration: 45:20

Scripture: Ezekiel 13:1-2, Ezekiel 13:4-5, Ezekiel 13:10, Matthew 6:33, Ephesians 6:16

Topics: "Spiritual Warfare"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher addresses the battle that Christians face in the world today. He highlights the alarming issues of young people being involved in drugs, alcohol, and promiscuity. The preacher emphasizes the need for a change in the pulpit, with pastors returning to the true voice of God and being led by the Holy Spirit. He also mentions the various wars that society declares, but points out that the real enemy, the devil, is often overlooked. The preacher encourages Christians to understand the tactics of the enemy and declares that it is time to declare war on the devil.

Transcript

I want you to turn with me this morning to Ezekiel chapter 13, we're going to read five verses of Scripture. I appreciate the brother that was here before me, I'm just sorry he fooled with some of the mess, the sermon I was going to preach. And you know, and GW did out in the Sunday school class, so I'm going to just repeat what they've already said.

Okay, let's read from Ezekiel chapter 13, and verse number 1, And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel, that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts. Hear ye the word of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord God, Woe unto the foolish prophets that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing.

I want to call your attention to something before we go any further. I want you to understand here that God is not speaking to false prophets as we categorize false prophets. He's not saying, say to the prophets of Baal.

He's not saying prophesy to the prophets of the groves. He's not saying prophesy to the prophets of Ashtaroth or whatever Old Testament shrine or God that they worship and prophets that proclaim that God. He is saying prophesy to the prophets of Israel.

You notice that? Okay, prophesy to the prophets of Israel. O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the desert. You have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge, for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord.

The greatest indictment and the greatest condemnation of the ministry anywhere in God's whole entire book is found in these five verses of Scripture. Where God is saying to one prophet, don't worry about the congregation in this particular passage. I want you to deal with the prophets of Israel.

And here's the problem. Here's the problem. They have not gone up into the gaps.

They have not done their duty. And that is, they have not prepared a people to stand in the battle. Notice that word.

They have not prepared the people to stand in the battle when? In the day of the Lord. Now, I don't know whether you know this or not, but this entire Bible is a book that deals with warfare and battle. Over 500 times that word war or battle is used in some form or some way or another.

So, when you read the Bible, you're dealing with a book that deals with the subject of warfare. Ever since Satan's sin exalted himself above the throne of God, crawled into that serpent, that serpent, however high he got into where Adam and Eve was, mankind has been in a battle. Amen? He's been at war with something.

Is that true? He's been at war with the powers of darkness. Now, here was a call of the prophets as far as Israel was concerned. They were to build a wall.

See, here's the story. They were to build a hedge. And that word hedge is the same thing as the word wall.

And it's the same thing that's used in the sixth chapter of Ephesians with the word shield. Shield, wall, and hedge are synonymous terms. They mean the same thing.

He simply said, You have not prepared the people to have the shield that they can stand against their enemy in the day of the Lord. Now, I don't know how long I'm going to be here. I don't know what all is going to happen.

I don't know how much money I'm going to get. I didn't ask the preacher. And to be honest with you, I really don't care.

Because the Lord meets the need. Amen? But I want to tell you something, folks. All that I could do for you while I'm here, young folks, you're certainly included.

In fact, you're at the top of the list. I don't know what God's going to do from now until Wednesday night. And you don't either.

But all that I could do for you, if I could put one of these blessing plans on you, that you'd never have any more financial problems. Anything that I could do with you, let's just lob it all right there. If I don't prepare you, if my preaching and my ministry does not prepare you for the battle, I have wasted your time.

I have wasted my time. I've wasted this pastor's time. And any money you give me, I don't deserve it.

If I do not prepare you in my ministry and through my ministry for the battle that you're not going to be in, you're already in. There's not a person here today, young and old alike, that you're not in some kind of battle or some kind of struggle. And you may have it camouflaged and hid from the past and from everybody else.

But you're in a battle today because we have entered the prophetic time called the day of the Lord. And I don't care who you read behind, whether it's old or new, every one of them, when they explain the character of the end time, they explain it as a time of war. Is that right? You read Matthew 24, and the first thing Jesus said when He, in question concerning the end time and the second come the Lord and the destruction of Jerusalem, the first thing He said, He said, don't let no man deceive you.

The second thing He said, He said, many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ. The third thing He said was, it's going to be a time of war. It's going to be a time of war and rumors of wars.

And if you just keep reading Matthew 24, then He just puts in line those wars. Wars and rumors of wars. There's going to be war with the pestilence.

There's going to be war between the nations. There's going to be war. There's going to be war in the household.

There's going to be war in the families. Is that true? There's going to be hatred of one another. Folks are going to betray one another.

All kinds of wars are going to be taking place. The character of the end, whether you read Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, Zephaniah, Amos, Joel, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, anywhere you read concerning the last days, you can boil it down to one thing. It's a time of battle, and it's a time of war.

There's going to be war in these end times. How many is in a battle today in some sort of another? Now, if you'll notice, if you'll notice, and you've got to give the government credit, we're all the time declaring war on something. Is that right? The latest war we've declared, the president at the top of the list just gave a national speech.

We're fixing to declare war on drugs. Is that right? Six or seven years ago, we declared a war on crime, and you just trace it on back. We've declared a war on poverty.

We've declared a war on all the social zeal, and we've declared a war on this, and we've declared war on that. We're all the time declaring war. Is that true? Everybody but the church.

And see, the problem is, all these times that the government's declaring war, they're only dealing with the symptoms of the war. They're dealing with the symptoms. They're not dealing with the problem.

And see, the problem is, is we can't fight the war. The number one rule of fighting the warfare, you've got to know who your enemy is. I went in the Army in 1957.

I was 17 years old. I weighed 110 pounds. If I'd have weighed another ounce, they wouldn't have let me in.

In 10 weeks, the government put 44 pounds on me, and then they sent me to school. And while in school, we studied more about the enemy than we did about the weapons we had. They drilled us.

You've got to know your enemy. You've got to know how he is. I left school.

They sent me to South Korea, and I was one day driving a Jeep for a lieutenant. We went up on a high mountain in South Korea to look into North Korea in the 1st Cavalry Division. He was a part of what they called back then the Intelligence Corps.

And we looked over the DMZ. We were there to guard the DMZ. But on this particular day, we went on top of this mountain with this squad of men and the lieutenant, and we spent all day long just looking at the enemy.

We just, you know, looked at him. You couldn't see much. You could see a movement here and a movement there.

But I learned that day, I learned that day that wars and battles are won and lost according to knowing what the enemy is up to. Is that true? How many of you believe you know what the enemy is up to? How many remembers the Prophet Elijah as he lay in his bedchamber and knew every move the enemy was fixed to make? And because he knew it, he was able to give right down to the cross of the teeth and the dot of the eye every move the enemy was going to make. And because of this, he was able to cause God's people to win the battle.

Is that true? So our problem today is we're all the time declaring war, but we've never been able to declare war on the devil because we don't know where he's at. Four years ago, God spoke to me. I was pastor of a church in Mississippi.

And, brother, we was on the roll. I mean, we were moving. We were knocking out walls.

Man, you're talking about on the roll. We was on the move. We were bowling, skating.

We were rolling and building. And I could get up on Sunday morning and, man, I could raise X amount of dollars. I need X amount.

We fixed to do this. And it was no problem. I had folks there that was willing to finance the plan.

And, boy, we was rolling and we was moving. And right in the middle of that, God spoke to me and said, You're doing this. I hadn't got nothing to do with it.

And, man, it knocked me down. And I didn't know what to do. And it took me a few days to get my mind back together.

And the Lord spoke to me and He said, I'm going to show you where the devil's at. I'm going to show you Satan's seat. And I never heard nobody preach on Satan's seat.

I never heard nobody even mention the term. But to one of the churches, the Lord said, I know where Satan's seat is. I know his base of operation.

I know where his throne is. I know where he works from. I know all about him.

And, brethren, sisters, if there's anything that we need to know today, we need to have a good educational program on pulling the devil out to us where we can declare war on the powers of darkness. Now, we are going to lose a war on crime. I mean, on drugs.

We are going to lose that war. Unless the church, the sanctified, the Holy Ghost-filled, unless the pulpit gets involved, and except the Spirit-filled people get involved, we're going to lose every war that the government launches. It is because they're dealing with the symptoms, and you can't stop it until you deal with where the problem's at.

The cause of it, amen? How many of you believe there's a cause of drug abuse today? So the indictment against the ministry was, is you have not prepared the people for the battle in the day of the Lord. Now, this is heavy, but I've got to tell you this. I believe I, as a preacher, any preacher here, any minister, and wherever you minister, I don't care who you are or what you are, amen, if you're a parent here, I'm going to put the blame on you too.

I do not believe we have prepared young folks for the battle. They cannot cope with it. I've got a sister sitting here this morning that just a few weeks ago, her step-22-year-old boy put a bullet in him to commit suicide.

Every ten minutes in the United States now, there's a young person either overdosing, suicide, or they're shooting themselves. Every ten minutes in the United States, there's a young person taking their life. Y'all listening? Okay.

The doctor, as he dealt with her stepson, of course, he made it. He's alive. But here's what the doctor said.

He said, these kids, he said, we're digging bullets out of kids every day now. This is a hospital in Rockdale County, not too far from here. He said, every day we're digging bullets out of children, out of kids, young people.

He said, here's the problem. He said, they cannot cope with the pressures. You look up the word in Matthew 24, that word, tribulation, there's coming tribulation.

Look and see what it means. It means a great pressure. A time of great pressure.

We've not prepared young people for the battle at their ends. Is that true? Back when I was a boy, the only thing we got into was smoking rabbit tobacco behind the barn. Is that right? Got a menu whipping for smoking rabbit tobacco rolled up in a brown paper bag.

Okay? Or we'd jump out of a, where we didn't have the car, jump out of a wagon and steal somebody's watermelons. Okay, that's all we got into. You know, stuff like that.

I did buy me a plug of tobacco one time and got a whipping for that. But I want you to know it's a different story now. It's a whole altogether different ball game.

This is why God's going to have to restructure the church. We're shooting at soldiers that don't even exist anymore. And there's a new crop of enemy soldiers out there that we're going to have to wake up to, learn how to battle with them, learn how to go to war with them, learn how to lock horns with them, or we're going to lose the battle in this last hour.

Because kids out there today are not battling smoking rabbit tobacco. They're not out there battling stealing somebody's watermelons. They're out there in these schools.

They're out there in the public. They're out there in their gathering places. They're facing uncleanness.

They're facing perverted spirits. Y'all listening to me? All over this country, Pentecostal preachers are crying, my girl's perverted, my girl's a lesbian, my boy's a homosexual, my boy's on drugs. Out of Pentecostal homes, full gospel homes everywhere, kids are falling to the piles of darkness, kids are falling to promiscuous sex.

And I just passed the Assembly of God church. I'd have about 250 if I was there this morning. I had three cases of sexual child abuse.

I had three young girls pregnant without a legal daddy. My God, I had divorce in just about every other home. You've never seen so many battles.

You've never seen so many problems. Are y'all listening to me? You know why? Because we are fighting a war with the powers of darkness. And we've not prepared the people for this hour.

Now, the biggest mistake we made years ago, we started telling them they wasn't going to be here. But we're still here. I was in a chiropractic office this week.

I'd done too much hard work driving that tractor and trailer. My back got out of whack, and I'd go to a bone cracker. And I knew this particular chiropractor, she's a lady, and boy, she can break you too, I'm telling you.

But as I lay there after she'd done broke me up good, I said to her, where do you go to church? She said, I'm a trunk Baptist. I said, I've heard of all kinds, but never that kind. She said, I've got my lead in my trunk.

I said, why are you a trunk Baptist? She said, I'll tell you why. She said, Ray, she said the world around us is dying and going to hell. And I'm tired of a social program.

I'm tired of all this mess the church is doing. And we're losing every day. How can you believe we're not losing whenever every ten minutes there's a young person blowing their brains out? How can you believe we're winning when 80% of our young people are either on drugs or alcohol? Come go with me to the Mississippi Gulf Coast in the month of May and June when all the schools turn out, and I want you to see thousands of young people in a drunken stupor.

I want you to see trucks as they back up and haul off. I'm talking about dump loads of beer and all the rubbish that young people leave. I want you to walk through the parking lots of Howard Johnson's and holiday in and watch young people having open sex.

And you're talking about we're winning the battle. We're losing every day. I want you to know God's fixed to do something about the battle we're in.

I said God's fixed to do something about the battle, and the first thing He's doing, He's doing something in the pulpit. He's getting the prophets of Israel when they'll quit following their foolish ideas and their misleading thoughts and get back to where we can hear the voice of God. Can you say amen and once again be led by the Holy Ghost and bring a word to that pulpit fresh from that glory world that you can stand on in these hours? I've traveled for 17 years full time as an evangelist, and you know as an evangelist you can operate on seven sermons if the Lord don't lead you to go eight nights.

And if He does, you can shout them one night because folks are shouting out anything. But I had more than seven because I had run 32 night meetings. Seventeen years as an evangelist, God stopped me in

1980, put me to pass in the church, and I preached a year and a half, and I done said everything I knew from Genesis to Revelations.

I was out of something to say. And I would get a preacher in trouble. When you've got to go a day in and a week in and a week out, three sermons a week, and they want something different every service.

A year and a half I said, Dear God, I'm in trouble. What am I going to do? I'm going to do what I want all the other preachers doing. I'm going down to the bookstore and I'm going to buy that John R. Rice book.

It's got a thousand sermon topics in it. That'll last me at least three years. I said, true, so help me God.

I'd run out of something to say, and of course, I done got that church on the road with that bunch of foolishness. I said, I'm going down to buy me a sermon topic book, John R. Rice and some of these other folks, and I know John R. Rice is Baptist, but he's got some good thoughts, and I'd build something around those thoughts. I'd keep this bunch happy anyhow and keep my salary rolling.

I started getting in my car to go to the Christian bookstore. God said to me, the only thing that will help my people is a word from heaven. That stuff won't help them.

Don't you go. You come back to that altar. You spend some time in prayer.

I'll give you a message straight from the throne room. You take it to my people, and on that word they can stand and fight the powers of darkness. I began to get up every morning early, as I do every morning now.

I go to the Lord in prayer. I spend quality time with Him every morning, and as I begin to do it, God began to pour a message in me. The problem was, it was out of step with what I'd been doing.

It was out of time with what the church was doing. It was contrary to what most preachers were doing. It was a new move.

It was a new word. It was a fresh word, but it was a word that would give the people something that they could stand against the powers of darkness with. It was a word that you could take to the bank with you.

The first thing God's doing, He's getting that pulpit straight. I believe we have failed this generation. I believe the pulpit has failed this generation.

And I say that you better not say that you'll get in trouble talking about us preachers. But I can say it, because I'm a part of it. I said I'm a part of it.

I believe that we have failed because we have not prepared the people to do battle in the day of the Lord. For the first few years that I sat under a preacher, he prepared me to go out and hunt a booger man. He'd get up every Sunday morning and say, boy, there's a booger man out there.

I went out looking for a booger man. I never could find a booger man, but I run headlong into a devil. Hadn't found a booger man yet, but I fought a cowpen full of devil's men.

Is that true? They didn't prepare me for the battle. I had to do it myself. I had to get along with God in fasting and prayer to realize there's a devil out there.

I want to share something with you. Brother, this is going to back up what you said. 1969, we was in Albany, Georgia.

We had just closed a 14-night revival. And you know, usually when you close revival, it's been what we measure good. And what we measure good is how many is there, how many noses and nickels is there.

You know, that's how we measure it. And it was good, I think. Looking back on it now, I don't know how good it was, but then it was good.

Okay? Usually a man doesn't preach 14 nights and done all we've done back in 1969. Boy, you were exhausted, and you could just go home and relax. And you know, that would be the end of it until the next meeting.

But in this particular meeting, I went home that night laid down, but I couldn't go to sleep. The sleep would not come. And I said, Lord, there's something wrong.

I felt a load on my chest, and I said, Lord, what's wrong? This is very unusual that I can't sleep after such a strenuous revival. What's wrong? I wrestled that thing to 3 o'clock in the morning. I couldn't get to sleep to come, so I got up, got dressed, got in my van, started riding.

I rode down the four lane almost to the Florida line. Got back about 5, 30, 6 o'clock that morning, tired. I'm talking about tired physically, but still.

I couldn't sleep, but I laid down anyway. And as I laid down, I went into, and how many believe that the Holy Ghost can still give you dreams and visions? I had this vision. I saw this field that I would say was at least 100 acres.

And in this field, the grass was about 18 inches to 24 inches high. And I had one foot in that field, fixed to walk into that field. As I started to go, I heard a voice off behind me say, don't go.

I thought, this is strange. You know, God would be telling you to go. But then I, you know, I turned back to watch that voice.

And as I turned, I felt a power grab a hold of me and turn me back around to face that field. And then when I faced the field, my eyes was opened. And in that tall grass, about every 15 yards, lay the most deadly looking serpent that my eyes had ever seen.

I couldn't see them with the natural eye. The first time I looked, I could not see them. It was only as this power turned me and said for me to look could I see the serpents.

And every 15 yards, they were hidden in the grass. You couldn't see them. But they were rusted.

They were deadly. I knew they were deadly. And I thought, dear God.

And that thing that had me took my eyes across the whole field, just slowly. And all what I saw, about every 15 to 20 yards hidden in the grass of that field, lay the most, oh God, the most evil looking serpent that you ever, you can't imagine what I was seeing. So it startled me.

I turned back to watch the voice. I said to that voice that was said to me, don't you go. I said, what am I seeing? I heard that same voice say these words to me.

You're seeing Ephesians 6 and 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole arm of God that you might be able to stand in what day?

What day? The day of evil.

Put on the whole arm of God that you might be able to stand in the day of evil. The Lord said to me, don't you walk in that field until you're equipped with the whole armor. I fasted for the next 14 days, Sister Ruth, saying, Lord, how do you put on the whole armor? What is the whole armor? How do you suit up? How do you get suited up? How do you do war with this principality? How do you do war with the powers of darkness? How do you do it? Show me how.

Put the armor on me. You know, I want to get suited up. I want to go.

The 14th day, I heard the Lord Jesus say these words to me. I believe this is in Romans 14. He said, put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Make no provision for the flesh to fulfill it in the lust thereof. He said, sell out to me. Give yourself to me.

I'll suit you up. I'll fix you up. I'll give you what you need.

And you can walk through this world and do war with the powers of darkness. I'm telling you, I really like this. Then I set out to put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

I set out to change my nature. I set out to change my anger. You know, I'm high-strung and high-tempered and, you know, still get up on the wrong side of the bed, as we say it.

But I bite my tongue and hit myself in the nose and do everything I can do, trying to control my temper and get everything right. But I learned it don't come that way. It has to be a work of God in your life.

I said it has to be a work of God in your life. You slurp over this old love we've got going today, it's not real. The first principle of love, you've got to hate sin.

And the second principle of love, you correct those that's wrong. We've used this thing called love, and we've produced today preachers as perverts. We've got everything in our churches today except what ought to be in there.

Because the devil's used the same scheme on us. He used those saps. And you won't let me in on the inside because you don't love us.

Brother, love is not a bunch of baloney. It's not a fleshly thing. It's a thing that comes from God.

And it's the only thing you can combat the Spirit and the powers. We offered gifts in 1986. There's a war going on, folks.

This preacher right here is not calling Stone Mountain to win no popularity contest. But if you obey God, you ain't going to be Reverend Hite in this county. You're going to be a man that has been known to preach God's Word.

You ain't going to be loved by everybody. You ain't going to have your name on the marquee of all the civic clubs. You're going to be known as a man, hallelujah, with a word from heaven, hallelujah.

You're not called to do that. Mine in here is calling. And I don't care if you're a Sunday school teacher.

I don't care if you're a school teacher. I don't care if you're a parent. I don't care what you are.

If you're in a role of leadership, your calling is twofold. Number one, you're to prepare the people for the battle in the day of the Lord. But going back to this bonecracker, I said, you know, I was just picking a brain a little bit.

I said, you know David Wilkerson? Oh, yeah, I read all his books. I said, have you read Set the Trumpet to Your Mouth? No, that one's next in line. She said, you know, I've been thinking about something, Brother Lowe.

All right. She said, the Bible is a book to Christians. I read to a lost man.

There ain't but one word in that to a lost man, and that's repent. The rest of it's to me and you. That book belongs to us.

God wants me and you to read that book. A man on the street, if he read it, he couldn't understand it. It's a church book.

She said, you know what's strange? She said, all my life I've been taught that, you know, we wasn't going to see all this mess we're seeing. Instead, if that's to not us, I don't see why God didn't just leave it out. Why tell us the whole thing is going to happen to them lost folks? When I first got saved, I'd go in the woods and stay three days with the Bible.

I'd come back with the revelation, take it to the preacher. I said, praise God, look what I found. He said, that's on the Jews.

I said, I'll be back. I'm going to find something else. I'd go back and stay a few more days, come out with something.

Ray, I'm sorry, but that's in the millennial. I come back, Sister Ruth, about the third time with a revelation from God. I said, hey, man, look what I found.

Oh, but I'm sorry, that don't mean you. I looked at that man. I said, please, sir, tell me if there's anything in this book for me.

Amen. Hey, the whole book is for you. It's to tell you how to do war with your enemy.

You in war. Oh, I'm not. Yes, you are.

If you're a human being today, you're at war with the powers of darkness. Is that true? You're at war. Young people's at war.

Parents are at war. Marriages are at war. Churches are at war.

Ministers are at war. Everybody's at war. The government's at war.

We are in an all-out battle with the powers of darkness. And except we get suited up and fixed up, we're going to lose a war with the powers of darkness. Jim Hite's called to do two things.

Number one, to prepare you people to do battle with the powers of darkness. Number two, he's called to equip the saints for the work of the ministry. How many believe the saints ought to be equipped to do the work of the ministry? Equipping the saints.

Getting the saints ready. Amen. Getting the saints involved.

Getting the saints put on the whole armor. Where they can minister. We're killing preachers with the system we got.

He does all the praying. He does all the visiting. He does all the fasting.

He does it all. They told me in the name of God, we hired you to do it. Come down that time, he said, boy, I know a family you really need to visit.

I said, why don't you visit them, you sorry outfit? No wonder we can't fast and pray. Y'all got us running everywhere. Old deeks want deeks.

They do everything but deeks now. They really want to preach. They just ain't capable.

Because God didn't call them there. We got so many things out of. See, everything's wrong.

Everything ain't right. God's going to restructure this thing. Because we're at war with the powers of darkness.

How many believe we're at war tonight, this morning with the powers of darkness? We're playing no games. Hey, we are playing no games. Mental health people in the state of Mississippi told me a few weeks ago, a few months ago, they said we used to have one case of sexual child molestation per week.

Now we're having 10 to 20. We ain't at war. Where have y'all been? We're at war, man.

And the government's not the answer. This political machine that's raised in this country is not the answer. Did you know the church, the born-again people, has elected the last three presidents? We put Jimmy in the White House.

We put Reagan in the White House twice. And my man's Reagan, I'll tell you right off, right up front. I like the man.

But they don't have the answer. You know who's got the answer? Here at Sex, right here. We got it.

We got it. But what we got to do, we got to get suited up to do war with it. Amen? How many believe we got to do war with the powers of darkness? We're not playing games, brother and sister.

This is not a ball field up here this morning. This is a battleground. We at war.

We at war. We at all-out war. The devil's pulled out all stops.

The character of the end time is a time of battle. Young people, if you go to heaven, you're going to battle hell till the day you leave here. You're going to battle drugs.

You're going to battle unclean sex. You're going to battle perversion. You're going to battle everything that hell can vomit out.

Oh, preacher, you're way out of step. No, I'm back in step. I've been out of step.

I'm back in step now. I just had a boy saved in a tent revival. And boy, I like this.

I believe when you get saved, things change. He come back next morning and said, I took all my records, my rock records. I took all my filthy magazines.

Praise God, I took everything. I pulled up the marijuana plants in my mobile home. I put them all in an old abandoned well, and the next thing going is my TV.

He said, I'm saved by God's power. Don't need drugs. Don't need all that old filthy mess.

Don't need all that rock and roll and all that junk. Praise God, I found the answer to my problems. Jesus Christ is the answer.

Hallelujah. And I don't need all this mess. I wish we could have another book burning, another record smashing.

Praise God. And the church wake back up. Quit playing games with the powers of darkness.

Let's get suited up, fixed up, filled up and ready to do war with the powers of darkness. We can do it, brother and sister. God has made provision.

We do not have to go out half-cocked with a pop gun to fight the devil. He's got a cannon. We can have the whole arm of God.

We're at war. Please, I've got to put that on you. We are at war.

Well, I'll tell you what let's do. Let's get us some cards and march against abortion. If you get a legislative bill to stop abortion, you're going to start finding your trash cans full of babies.

Let's do war against the thing that's causing babies to be born. How are you going to do war against that? Fix it where everybody can't do it? No. Get them saved.

Now quit that foolishness. Olan Roberts, years ago, stepped on the islands of Wales totally given to sin. The churches were dead, empty on Sunday nights.

The pubs were full. Everybody was drunk. He walked that island for 11 years screaming, God give me Wales lest I die.

Give me revival lest I die. I want to die if you can't do something for the islands of Wales, the island of Wales. And in 11 years of prayer and fasting and seeking God, revival broke out.

There was no marching to stop the booze. No marching to close the pubs. But when revival broke out, there was nobody left to drink the booze and the pubs had to close.

I believe we have the answer. How many believe we got the answer today? But it's going to take drastic and radical surgery to deal with the problems that we face and get us ready to do battle with the powers of darkness. Hey, you folks that's got children going to school, you folks that's got kids out in the public, you better learn something about demonic, satanic powers.

I had a boy call me from Texas not long ago, and he said, Brother Lowe, unless God intervenes, I got a boy that's going to be a homosexual. I said, man, where'd you get it? You've had him in church all of his life. He said, at school.

How do I deal with it? I said, you better get a hold of God and get a hold of God quick because you're dealing with an unclean spirit. We're at war, Brother, with the powers of darkness. And nobody here is exempt.

I don't care what your name is. I don't care how much, where your money is in the bank at. I don't care what you got.

There's no barriers for the powers of darkness. He's in every home. Is that true? He's in the land.

He's moving everywhere. Nobody's exempt. Everybody's fallen a victim to the powers of darkness.

No family's exempt. You can throw your name at him, throw your checkbook at him. I went in one church, they're throwing the songbooks at the devil.

I said, y'all got it wrong. Start throwing the Bible at him. Says, open the door.

There he goes. Throw a songbook. I said, them hymnals do nothing for him.

Throw the Word of God at him. If you're going to throw something, throw the book at him. I had one lady come to me and said, I wish the devil was a biddy.

I'd pinch his head off. So do I. But he's not a biddy. He's a devil that you can't see.

Boy, if he was a biddy, I'd fix him this morning. He would never bother you young folks no more. But see, God's put something in our hands.

We can do something with it. He said, what you bind on earth, I'll bind it in heaven. What you loose on earth, I'll loose it in heaven.

Where's the binding power of the church? I'll tell you what's happened. We've got everything now but the power of God. I'm 23 years old in God, 46 years old in the flesh.

I saw the church come from a poor, rich church to a rich, poor church. We don't have to say seven gold have I none no more. We can do it.

But it's the other we can't say. But it's the other we've got to have. It's the other we've got to have.

It's the other we've got to have. We're dealing with the powers of darkness. God's going to restructure the church.

Oh, he ain't going to change me. He'll change you or beat you to death one. Take your pick.

God's playing no games. Hey, this thing, this is it. We've entered the prophetic time called the day of the Lord.

Anywhere you read, anywhere you want to read, they all said it in harmony. They wasn't a bunch of confusion like we got going in our country. They all said the same thing.

The day of the Lord is the day of the battle. He didn't say it's a battle for the young. He didn't say it's a battle for the white.

He didn't say it's a battle for the black. He said it's a day of battle. And I guarantee you if I could get everybody here to spill their heart, you'd be shocked what would come out of the hearts of the people in this congregation this morning.

If God would open closed doors and let you look behind. I had folks on Sunday morning talking in tongues molesting their kids. Oh, that's the Holy Ghost.

That ain't no ghost. That's a goat. He didn't get no Holy Ghost.

He got a goat. Oh, I got a prayer language. Hey, the Holy Ghost ain't a prayer language.

It's the lead and the guide and the control and the governor of your heart and your soul and your body. I had young people pray on Sunday night and go out and get babies in the week, during the week. We're at war with darkness.

I'm going to say this and I'm going to close. I don't know what time it is. He told me just preach.

Down in Mississippi, you know, down where I just got through preaching, they'd give me 30 minutes to turn them on. If I didn't, they'd turn me off. I read a book, 1966, written by J. Edgar Hoover.

I got it through the John Birch Society. Now, I'm not a John Bircher, but I got some of their literature in this book. J. Edgar Hoover wrote it.

He said, if every red-blooded American... Hey, this is 20 years ago. He said, if every red-blooded American don't wake up and wake up quick, there is coming a generation of young people that nobody will be able to touch. Have we got them? It's here.

But there's one thing he missed. There is somebody who can do something with them. But it's the prophets that will wake up.

The prophets of Israel. Foolish prophets. And I'm closing, because I hate to be so mean the first morning.

I preached Revival not long ago. And the last night, the preacher come and just slammed the offering down on the table. He said, you've got more if you hadn't been so mean.

So I've learned not to get too mean to start with. You did get me an offering this morning. But now, some of you here are only here this morning to pay the premium on your value shirts.

You don't want to go to hell. But if you want to make it, you'd better get in this thing. What good have you done if you serve God 40 years, and right at the end you lose out? What have you accomplished? Not a God's thing.

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