

(October 1986) 04 - Why Are the Hurting Not Healed

by Ray Lowe

Ray Lowe's sermon explores the reasons behind unhealed suffering and emphasizes the necessity of faith that comes from God to address spiritual and physical afflictions.

Duration: 1:15:12

Scripture: Genesis 3:8-10, Matthew 6:33, Mark 11:12, Luke 10:25-28, Luke 10:30-37, John 8:32, 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Topics: "Hurting"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of not tampering with the word of God. He mentions a news program called Nightline that showed an eagle in captivity, symbolizing the captivity of the United States. The preacher warns that our days are numbered and urges listeners to believe in God's power and get involved in His work. He also mentions a story from the Gospel of Mark where Jesus curses a fruitless tree, suggesting that if this tree represents Israel, then God will never do anything for them again. The preacher concludes by stating that although the truth may bring challenges, it is the only thing that can set us free.

Transcript

Now, nowhere in God's Word does it promise us that the truth won't black your eye and bloody your nose. But it does promise it'll set you free. It's the only thing that will.

But sometimes it'll skin you up and bruise you up, but it won't leave you there. It'll come back and soothe it and pour in some oil and wine and fix you up and set you on the right road home, praise God. Isn't it wonderful to be a child of God tonight? I want you to turn with me to the Gospel of Mark, and we're going to start reading in chapter 11, and that's probably where we're going to quit, too, in chapter 11, around about verse number 12.

Zero. I say it. I say it.

Period. No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever, and his disciples heard it. Let's go to verse 20.

And in the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. Peter, calling to remembrance, saith unto your master, Behold, the fig tree which thou cursed is withered away. Have you ever wondered why Jesus answered him like he did in verse 22? And Jesus answering saith unto them,

Have faith in God.

Now, how can you put verse 22 in with the cursing of the fig tree? Verse 23, For verily I say unto you that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, be thou cast into the sea, shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he saith. Now, it's going to be tough again tonight. I want you to come back tomorrow night, sure enough I've got some good news.

This is good news tonight, too. Now, when the Lord showed me this, it startled me. I've heard the fig tree, you know, means Israel.

The fig tree means this and the fig tree means that. But the Bible tells us here that when Jesus came to this fig tree, he had to come to the tree when there was no fruit on it, because he never curses that which produces fruit. But the Bible said he said perhaps or maybe, because I don't know if you know this or not about a fig tree, but even out of season, sometimes there'll be a fig hanging on it.

But he had to catch this fig tree when there was no fruit on it because what he was fixing to do and the event that was fixing to take place had to be filled all the symbols that he was meant for it to do. And the cursing of this fig tree, he cursed a system. Now, where do we first find the fig tree mentioned in the Word of God? Anybody know? Way back in the book of Genesis.

Remember, when Adam and Eve sinned and their eyes were opened, they knew they were naked. They became conscious of the fact that they had sinned. Guess what they put on them.

Guess who made them. No, God didn't make those fig leaves. They did.

Now, God made, excuse me, God did make the fig leaves. They sewed them together. You're right and I am too.

But the Bible said they got those fig leaves realizing that they had messed up, realizing that they had disobeyed God, realizing that they had listened to the wrong voice, realizing they had followed something that was not God and become conscious of their nakedness. They grabbed them some fig leaves and sewed those fig leaves together and covered up their nakedness. Is that right? Okay.

The Bible tells us that one day in the cool of the day or the same day, I don't know, but the Lord came, the Bible said, in the cool of the day and said, Adam, where art thou? And the Bible said he was hid from the presence of the Lord. And he said, you know, we're hid because, you know, we don't come to realize something. But making a long story short that I get on with what I'm going to say tonight, the Bible says that God stripped them of their fig leaves that they had made.

Okay. Pulled their fig leaves off and clothed them with coats of skin and covered their nakedness. Here we are back in the, here we are way over here years later.

And after all the things that's come through the land, Jesus walked into a world. He walked into the crossroads of the world. Everything, the crossroads of civilization, the crossroads of politics, the crossroads of socialism, our philosophies, all things crossed in that world that Jesus stepped into.

And when he stepped into that world, he found that his people was in a mess. They were divided in camps, is that right? Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, all kind of junk. They not only, of course, they only

boasted in knowing the law.

They didn't know the law if they knew the law, they didn't know who he was. But they boasted that they knew it. But not only that, they had added to it 620 additions to it.

Amen. He walked into a world and found a system that was totally out of touch with the need of the hour. Amen.

I'll prove to you by the Scriptures that Jesus was moved, motivated, and traveled everywhere he went. Moved by nothing but the pain of hurting people. When he went by the pool of Bethesda, there lay a man, the Bible said, many folk.

Is that true? When he said, I must needs go through Samaria, why did he go? Why did he go? At that well sat a woman that was in sad, sad condition. She had done, tried everything that life could offer her. She was on man number six.

Is that true? And because of that woman's condition, Jesus was moved to take the long way around and lead her to the well of living water. In the tombs, there lived a man. The Bible said that he had 2,000 devils.

Jesus was led one day into the country of the Gadareans. There he found this man. This man is one man in the Bible that you see the picture of him.

He totally, he has lost his identity as a human being. He lives in the graves, in the tombs, among the dead. Wore no clothes.

Everybody had tried to bind him. Everybody had tried to help him. All the civic clubs had done all they could.

And everybody had done all they could do. But the pain of that man led the Savior into the tombs, praise God, and said, Turn him aloof, legion. And said to the man when the devils came out of him, Put him on some clothes.

Put him back in his right mind. And said, Go home to your family. And tell your family what great things the Lord has done for you.

I'll prove to you, if you need to be proved to, that Jesus was moved by hurting people. He found a woman one day bound, built like a sea. Daughter of Abraham, been bound eighteen years.

And on their Sabbath, he straightened her up, and it made them mad. Because he broke their Sabbath. Is that true? So here's the kind of system he stepped into.

A system that was totally out of touch, amen, with the needs of the hour. For the whole purpose of a nation, and a church, and whatever. They didn't have the foggiest idea of what was going on.

So in my passage of Scripture tonight, Jesus one day was going to bring something home. He was going to let them know that it was over with. A new day had dawned.

Praise God, something was happening. Amen. God was on the move again.

I'll warn you once again tonight, you better get in this thing. God's on the move again. You can't stop it.

You may fight it. You may curse it. You may quit supporting it.

But it's on the move again, and God's fixed to do something again in this earth. Praise God. He walked up to this big tree, symbolic of something that had no fruit on it, and said, You're cursed, and there will be no more fruit on you forever.

Somebody said, That's Israel. Okay, if that is Israel, then never again will God ever do anything for Israel. Because He said, Never again.

That's the end of it. You're cursed. Forever.

And then the next day they came down, and sure enough, that thing had dried up from the roots. And Peter, you know, they began to ask him about it. And what's so strange is, is what he answered them with.

Have faith in God. One translation says, Have the faith of God. Another translation says, Have the faith that God gives.

I like that one. You need the faith that God gives. How many of those, we need the faith that God gives tonight? And then pointed to a mountain, and said, You see that mountain? If you can have the faith that God gives, you can say to that mountain, Be thou moved.

And it'll move. Now, I may miss this, but it doesn't really, you know, you'd find it. It's either in the second or the third chapter of the book of Zechariah.

When the prophet Zechariah came to Zerubbabel, to, I don't know really what was going on in the life of Zerubbabel. He might have been discouraged. He might have been burnt out.

I don't know what he was. He probably was burnt out because he was trying to, you know, do what God rebuilds, do some things for the Lord. But anyway, when Zechariah came to him, he said, This is the word of the Lord unto you.

It's not by might. It's not by power. But it's by my Spirit, saith the Lord.

Listen to what he said. In the King James, I don't know if it's in the translation you got. But he said, You see this O, and the word O is in capital.

O mountain, you're going to move. Now that word, O mountain, says O great military power. O great military power, you are going to move.

You're going to become a plane. When it's done by His might, or not by your might, and not by your power, but by my Spirit, O great military power, you're going to move out of the way. Now, Israel, according to John, not according to Daniel, but according to John, 17th chapter of the book of Revelation, Israel, in her lifetime, had six enemies.

Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. Is that right? Six enemies. Six great military powers.

Six enemies that basically are a little different in philosophy, but basically the same thing. Enemies of God's people. You read that in Revelation 18, 17, as John begins to bring this thing forth, he talks about number six, which was in power, which was Rome.

Then he goes, talks about number seven. We won't get into that tonight. Then he talks about number eight.

But the last two has nothing to do with the nation Israel. They're dealing with the church. They're great military powers, or they're great mountains.

But here Jesus said, He literally said, the system will not move the mountains. But if you can have the faith that God gives, the mountains will move at your command. How many believe we need a mouth-moving faith and a mouth-moving God tonight? Because we are facing a great spiritual military power.

We are in a deadly game of war. Now, here's what we've been trying to do for years. We've been trying to make the cursed fig tree produce fruit.

We've done everything you can do to it. We've fertilized it. We've watered it.

We've educated it. We've sent it to school. We've done every God's thing you can do with it, and it still ain't producing no fruit.

You know why? It's cursed. Just keep digging. Do what you want to.

It ain't going to never produce. There's a curse on it. Amen.

It's over with. It's over with way back there. You know, why can't folks, why does history have to repeat itself, even in the church? But it does, doesn't it, brother? Why does history have to repeat itself, and we go and try to make something work that God has done put a curse on? Huh? Well, because that same, you know the devil hadn't changed.

Somebody said the devil's meaner today. Same devil. Sin hadn't changed.

The devil hadn't changed. God hadn't changed. And man hadn't changed.

The only difference today, there's just more things to sin with, but the same devil's there. Somebody said he's got a new trick. Why get a new one when the old ones are working so good? Help me, Jesus.

How many would like to have the faith that God gives? Did you know, never in the history of the church has there been such an army of what we know today as faith preachers? And never has the faith of the church been any lower than today. You know why? Why? Because even most of our faith preachers are trying to make the fig tree that God cursed produce. The faith that you need is not a faith that you muster up.

I'll prove to you by the Word of God that faith that you need is a product of the Spirit. You can't no more have faith than you can have love without God. You can't no more have faith than you can have peace without God.

Is that true? But we have been flooded with an army of faith preachers. Amen to... You know, I was in Selma, Alabama, 1979. I'd been there in 78, 10th Revival.

There was a pastor of a black church a few doors down from Selma University, which is one of the most radical, militant, black colleges in the United States, filled with just radical blacks. This black man came and invited me back, and I went back for five nights. The last five nights of 1978, which put us closing out

New Year's night, excuse me, put me in Selma, New Year's Day.

That morning when I woke up, the Lord said to me, the Lord said to me, there will be an event take place this year or before this year goes out will signal to you the beginning of the end. I said to him, to the Lord, I said, if that be so, we are in the time of the end. What would you have me to preach? What's the message of this hour? What do you want me to go from this day forth? And what do you want me to say? I heard the voice of the Lord say back to me, become a voice of faith to the people.

So, you know, in my carnal mind, I said, well, praise God, that's simple. I went through the Bible, and I got all the sermons on faith. And for the next few months, I went across the country preaching on faith.

All the sermons on faith. But about six months down the road, the Lord said to me, you're off. You don't get faith by preaching faith.

If you preach faith to get faith, you'll start having faith in faith. Did y'all catch that? And then if you can't produce no faith, you ain't got no faith. I said, you're wrong.

Shut her down. That sure did hurt my ego. Because, man, I was taking up some pretty good offerings.

Folks like that message on faith. The only trouble, they're not getting anything. Because they leave those services grunting and groaning and straining and pulling and pleading and clawing and fighting.

Oh, if I just get me some faith, I'm going to make this thing work. But, see, the problem is, any faith that you can conjure up is your faith. Jesus said you don't need your faith.

That was one of the things that was in the fig tree. You don't need your faith. You need the faith that God gives.

You need the faith that comes from God. You need the faith that's a product and a part of the Holy Ghost, hallelujah. And then you can move these mountains.

Then you can deal with great military powers. Then you can establish the kingdom of God. And that's the kind of faith you need.

Now, I was in DeVille, Texas. First Assembly of God Church. November, on the news, came this report.

Fifty hostages has been taken in Iran. How many remembers that? I remember just like that. And then, immediately following that, and I'm not sure that both of these don't have... In fact, I know they do.

Immediately following that, the bear came out of hibernation. And took her first step into the land of Afghanistan. How many remembers that? Russia's invasion of Afghanistan.

How many remembers that? Okay. It came back to me. Something will happen before this year goes out.

That will signal to you, a sign to me, that you have entered into the beginning of the end. Hey, brother and sister, this thing is just about over with. This is why you can't play with it.

Don't touch it. If you don't believe it, leave it alone. Don't fool with it.

It will get you in trouble. Because the party is over. But the thing that began to catch my eye, they came on the news, a program called Nightline.

Still on today. Born out of that hostage taking. I don't know if any of you ever caught this.

But I believe the Lord let it catch my eye. In the corner of the screen on Nightline, they always showed an eagle in captivity. With stars and stripes on it.

That's right. They don't show it now. But as long as those hostages was in captivity, in the corner of the screen, they'd always show an eagle in captivity.

What they were saying were, we don't just have 50 men in captivity. The whole United States has been captured. And whether you want to believe it or not, our days are numbered.

Oh, the American people, you can't make them believe that. Satan sold us a lie that we're God's chosen. God will never judge us.

I'm here to tell you God's sick of our sin. God's sick of our sin. God ain't going to stay up there much longer and let us live like the devil down here, like we're doing.

God's sick of us. And I believe when I saw the Lord begin to show me, amen, when I saw that eagle in captivity, I believe this is what the Lord showed me. Amen.

It's the signal of the end for the United States. It ain't going to be much longer. You go through this land, you become a voice of faith to the people because that's what they're going to have to have.

They're going to have to have real faith. They can't have junk no more. The system won't work no more.

Flesh won't do it no more. They've got to have something real if they're going to stand in the hour that we're facing. Then when He began to turn me around and say, you know, you've done what your carnal mind told you to do.

You did preach faith. But then He began to show me something. Hallelujah.

He began to show me, praise God, that you don't get faith by hearing faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God and the Scripture that God gave to me. Amen.

To stand on and estrange the preacher. I don't know why I quoted this, but in 1 Corinthians 10, God gave me the Scripture and said, this is what you preach to the people. And you know, I thought, well, how in the world can that be the message of faith? How can this be of faith? How can this, you know, if you're a voice of faith, how can you preach 1 Corinthians 10? What does it say, brother Lo? It deals with the nation Israel.

That Old Testament nation. How the Bible said more of a brethren. How their fathers was under the cloud.

They were baptized under Moses in the cloud and in the sea. How many has read that? They drank of that spiritual rock. They ate of that spiritual food.

They drank of that spiritual drink that followed them. And that rock was Christ. The rock was Christ.

The water was Christ. The bread was Christ. Everything was Christ.

Hallelujah. But He said with many of them, God was not well pleased, for they were overthrown in the willness. He said, you tell my New Testament church, I wrote these things for their example.

Tell them not to fall after the same example that the nation Israel fell. If I judge them, I'll judge this New Testament church. Can you say amen? He said all of these things happened to them.

It happened to them, but written for us. Recorded for mine and your benefit. That in 1986, why do we do it? Why does history have to repeat itself? Why do we stumble over the same thing that generations past stumbled over? I don't know, but we do it.

Why has the United States took the same path that Rome took? Hello? Why have we fell into the same trick that the great empires of the past has fell? I don't know, but we have. And if God judged them, and they stand today, amen, in the rungs of what used to be, one day God can stand us in the same rungs, brother and sister, if we fall after that same example. Can you say amen? Buddy, I began to preach then.

I saw then that the thing that will help God's people is not faith preachers preaching on faith. It's the Word of the Lord. Hallelujah! Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word.

When these writers wrote this book, they made a distinction between Scripture and the Word. The Word is alive! Hallelujah! It's been made alive by the Holy Ghost. I saw you couldn't stand by just quoting Scripture.

You don't get faith by quoting Scripture. You get faith by hearing the Word, the living Word, the revealed Word, the Holy Ghost Word! Can you say amen? We don't need just to quote Scriptures. We need a Word we can take to the bank with us.

And we're getting one if we won't harden our hearts, curse the system. Now, I'm going to get tough. I've been leading you on.

I'm putting a socket to you. But it will do you good. I want you to turn with me to Jeremiah.

I love this preacher. I ain't talking about me. I'm talking about Jeremiah.

I'll tell you, y'all really like me. Jeremiah 2 and 13. For my people have committed two evils.

We ain't got but two things to get straightened out in this service tonight. They have forsaken me the fountain of living waters and hewed themselves, hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that won't hold no water. Now, first the Bible said they forsook the fountain of living water.

Okay? That's bad. But what's even worse is when you add sin to sin. Isaiah 30, I believe it is, where they add sin to sin.

It was a bad thing that they forsook the fountain of living waters. But to add sin to sin, the Bible said they hewed themselves out cisterns. Now, you educated folks who study the Bible, I don't know what you've come up with, but I've run that thing down until it reaches a place that those things called cisterns are explanations.

Got you, got you, got you. Goody, goody, goody. They turn from the living Word, from the living fountain, from the fountain of life, and begin to lean on, trust in, look to, and build on their own explanations.

Let's go a little further. Now, before we go a little further, let's talk a little more. What's so bad about that? What's so bad about it? Okay, I'll tell you what, in the next few days all you folks need to read the book of Jeremiah.

I don't know whether you know this or not, but there had never been a book of Daniel had there not been a book of Jeremiah. But I want to call your attention to chapter number 8. And in chapter number 8, it's called, verse 20, The harvest is past, the summer's ended, and we're not saved. It's called the black verse of the Bible.

The harvest is past, the summer's ended, and we're not saved. Now, I want to paint you a picture. I want to leave today, and I want to go back to Jeremiah's time.

Okay? Jeremiah was a prophet that God sent to the nations. And here's where a lot of God's people are so messed up. We have been rocked to sleep with the message of love.

We have gotten almost in perversion with the message of love. God's also a God of wrath. Oh, you don't love.

I'm accused all over, you don't have love, you're too hard. Hey, one day you're going to run up and hug my neck and say, thank God you was hard. But here's Jeremiah.

The people, he lived in a day that there was a church on every block. There was preachers that done got like bananas. They were coming in bunches.

Amen. Amen. Do you see any resemblance of today? But in chapter 8, here was all these churches, here was all these preachers, but there began to be some questions asked.

Is the Lord in Zion? Is there any balm in Gilead? Is there a healing physician there? And the cry back from the preachers in the churches, surely the Lord's with us. What do you mean insulting us? Ask us such a question, you nitwit. What are you doing insulting our great church, asking us if the Lord's in you or not? What are you doing asking us if there's any balm in Gilead? That's an insult to us.

What are you doing asking us if we've got any doctors around? Who do you think you are? But he comes back with a question. If the Lord's in Zion, if there's balm in Gilead, if there's healing physicians there, I want to know why the hurting people aren't being healed. Now you answer that.

Do you all want to answer that for me? If the Lord's here, I mean, if God's so great and doing so many great things and all this stuff we've got going, I want to know why there's teenagers blowing their brains out every ten minutes, brother. I want to know why every other marriage now has ended in divorce, even in the church. I want to know why Pentecostal full gospel kids are coming up homosexuals and lesbians.

Okay? I want to know what's wrong. I mean, if God is in Zion and there is some balm in Gilead and there is some healing physicians, I want to know what's wrong. It's a legitimate question.

It's not a man throwing stones and rocks at the church. It's a legitimate question. Why is a herd of the daughter of my people not healed? Why is America's number one problem now becoming sexual child abuse? Even in our churches.

I had a grandpa in my Seed and Live God church fooling with his granddaughter. I had tongue-talking people fooling with their own children. And I tried to tell him nitwits that something was wrong.

We done messed up. We done left God way back down the road. And they thought I was an idiot.

But I'm not an idiot. I'll ask you again. If God is so great among us, if pity of the listeners up yonder is doing so much, why are we in such a mess? This is why I want you to read Jeremiah.

One translation says, We took their medicines, but they did not heal us. We took their medicines. We used every formula.

We tried every principle. We've been through every church. We done done all the confessing.

We done said it every way you can say it. We got every translation you can buy. We done done it all.

And we still ain't healed. We still ain't got the answer. We still don't know where we at.

Amen. Listen folks. We have arrived at the same place in this good old USA.

You folks don't need no more church of God. You need to get the one you got straight now. I'll tell you all like me now.

Read it. He said we took your medicines. Preachers and churches, we tried what you told us.

Your prophets told us and we done it. Your priests told us and we done it. I met with a group.

I met with a group of charismatic people just a few weeks ago. Called me and said, Will you come to our home? They'd been going to one of the satellite churches. Into that church they pump every God's thing that's in the world into that church.

They've seen it all. They went to the preacher and said, We're tired of prosperity. We're tired of confess it and claim it and hang it and frame it.

We're tired of this flesh in the church. We want you to get away from the screen. Take all that mess down.

Get before God. Sink His face. Get us something from God.

We are hungry for God. And of course he'd blown up like a toad frog or bullfrog. So they just left him high and dry.

What y'all done? What y'all done? If you won't repent, don't leave Him. And that ain't all, brother. In the next three years, you're going to see thousands and thousands and thousands leave.

Brother, there's some folks waking up in this country hollering, Show me the way back to Zion. Show me the way back to Zion. Show me the way back to God.

Show me back to the way, the reality. This mess ain't working. Show me the way back to a God that's real.

So they called me and said, Would you meet with us? I said, Sure. I'll meet. I met with those folks.

All of them's, you know, real high class folks. I sat down in the informal sitting in the den of this home. They looked at me and said, Will you tell us who God really is? We don't know.

We've seen everything. We've seen the gifts work. We've seen prophecy.

We've seen everything. We've done everything. We've tried everything.

We've heard everything. We've confessed every Scripture. We've done in all every formula.

We've tried every principle. We've tried. And we still don't even know who God is.

That's the truth, so help me God if that didn't happen. What's wrong? We've committed two evils. We forsook the fountain of living waters.

Number one. And number two, we've produced all this hogwash. You listen.

There's 365,000 registered churches in the United States. Registered! And I'll go to somebody and register them. So only the Lord knows how many that we've really got.

All right? You've probably got half that many. And what county is this? Gwinnett. Okay? Only the Lord knows how many churches we've got.

The government don't know. For every 260 United States citizens, there is a full-time, paid, Christian worker of some sort. So we've got a church on every block.

We've got a full-time, paid minister of music or education or pulpit or some kind of ministry for every 260 United States citizens. We live in the same condition that Jeremiah lived in. But I ask the question, what's wrong if the Lord is in these churches if there's bomb in our preaching, if the doctors are the right kind of physicians, why is things in the mess they're in? There should not be a lost man in this county or a sick one.

But your county is rotten. Your young folks are just like all the other young folks across this country. They high on drugs and booze and sex.

Something's wrong. Something's bad wrong. What's wrong? We've brought the system back.

We've forsaken the fountain of living waters. I saved in 1963. August 12, 1963, called to preach.

October of 1963. Got the Holy Ghost. 1964, September, 13 months.

Right after I received the baptism of the Holy Ghost, I stood one night. Don't know how I'd done it. Just know I'd done it beside a beautiful river.

Clear as a crystal. And this river began to wind. I began to follow this river.

Just ever turn it made, I made it. I followed this river. Beautiful river.

I followed ever. Like I say, if it went left, I went left. If it went right, I went right.

I looked down in the distance not too far. I saw this river make a big elbow, long, long, wide turn. I was standing back like here.

I said to myself, there's no sense in going around the curve. I'm going to take a shortcut. I mean, I'll pick that thing back up right over the hill there.

So I took a shortcut. I left the river. Okay.

I walked and I walked. And I finally come back up on a river. The only problem was this river was not the crystal river that I left.

It was polluted. And then I began to search again for the river. The river of life.

The fountain of living waters. In 1983, God let that thing come back to me. And once again, I stood beside that river again.

Hallelujah. The same river I saw in 1964. I saw it again in 1983.

Praise God. Same beautiful river. Same one.

And I began to follow that river again. Brother Jim. Oh, I began to search a piece.

Yes, there was. Following up the bank of that river. But listen to me.

Listen real close. I looked off to my left into the wilderness. I saw the church.

I saw her riding in a vehicle. Not walking like I was following the river. Riding in a vehicle.

Somebody had convinced the church that the vehicle that they were riding would take them wherever they wanted to go. I stood on the bank of that river. And I began to motion and holler.

Come on. You got to get back over here. You got to get back over here and follow this river.

This is a river of life. This is a fountain of living water. Come on back.

Let's follow this river together. But somebody had convinced the church that the vehicle they were riding in could do anything or go anywhere. I looked off into the distance.

And I saw the obstacle that was going to stop her. I saw it. I knew it was because I knew she had been told a lie.

You all listening? Here's what I saw. I saw a body of water. And I saw the church like a drowning woman.

She went down once and came back up. She went down twice and came back up. But I saw her go down for the third time.

And that's drowning. But I run and grabbed her by the hand. And I said, I told you the vehicle you were driving was not going to get you there.

It won't make it. Let's go back now and let's follow the river. That's where we are tonight.

The system is not working. We're losing. Now, you listen to me.

Jeremiah heard a cry. And I hear that same cry. See, in 1982, I was in my church praying.

I said, Lord, I want to be prosperous. I want to be, you know, I want to be prosperous. You know, make me a successful preacher.

And what shocked me was he took my mind. And for a moment's time, he let me see Jeremiah in a dungeon. God's going to raise up some Jeremiah's today, folks.

Jeremiah heard the cry of the daughter of God's people. I know this can have a dual meaning, a triple meaning. But a few years ago, the youth of this country began to cry, Who is God? Johnny Cash wrote a

song and said, The lonely voices of youth cries, What is truth? We missed the cry.

We kept going on with our explanations. We kept rolling on with our systems. Clanking down the road.

No wall in it, but just clanking, clanking, clanking. Turning out buildings. Turning out preachers.

Turning out workers. Turning out schools. Turning out all kinds of machinery.

Turning it out. But my friend, our machinery is not working. It is not working.

It is not working. This may insult you, but God help me to preach the truth while I'm here. I hear the cry of our children again.

What is truth? You know who's paying for mine and your building a system that's not working? Our children. You know who's going to pay down the road for mine and your backsliding? Our children. You know who the devil's destroying in our time? Children.

Who's getting aborted? Are you grown folks getting aborted? Who's getting molested? Who's getting molested? These little things. Stand up, little girl. Here they are.

Who's paying for a system that won't work? These little babies are. Okay? How many will agree with me? Who's paying for a church that's clanking, clanking, clanking and ain't meeting the needs of young people? Who's paying? And don't you get me wrong. I'm throwing no mud and stones at you.

I pray for you if you've been through the divorce. I want to ask you something. Who's paying the toll of the divorce of our country? I hear the daughter.

I hear a far cry in the distance saying, If the Lord's so great among you folks, help us. Heal us. Bind the powers of darkness.

Stop the enemy. You say we can't do it. This Bible said, What you bind on earth, I'll bind in heaven.

What you loose on earth, I'll loose in heaven. No, we produced a system that is not working. We're failing.

We're failing. And dear God, they're still clanking out. Let's build more buildings.

Let's build more buildings. Let's put some more together. Let's get some more money.

Let's get some more building programs. I stood in the doctor's office last week. Very intelligent lady.

Good lady. Loves the Lord. She's a Trump Baptist.

You know what she told me? She said, I'll not put another dime in a building. I'll put another dime in a church. As long as they're playing around with the foolishness they've got.

And this is what she said. She said, this generation is going to hell all around us. And we've got churches on every corner.

I said, that's what I'm trying to tell everybody. Everywhere I go, we've built a system that's not working. Now what we're going to have to do is, God's cursed the fig tree.

He's cursed it. Don't try to make it work no more. It ain't going to work no more.

It's overwhelmed. The curse of God is on the system. And it's coming down.

Babylon will crumble. Both politically, economically, and this thing that we built in the church, God's hand is against it now. Coming down.

Don't try to make it work no more. Well, what can we do? Repent of forsaking the fountain of living waters and hewing yourself out, sisters. What I had to do.

You ain't going to get by no lighter than I did. I became a victim of this own system. I traveled 17 years.

I preached in Church of God, Seminaries of God, Oneness, Trinity, Latter Rain, Former Rain, Baptists, Methodists, United Methodists. I've been in all of them. Charismatic.

Them that do, them that don't, them that believe, and them that won't. I've been in all kinds. I've been in the little ones, the big ones, the bad ones, the good ones.

I've seen everything in church but a murder. That's right. I've seen everything in church but a murder.

Just the other day, down in Upson County, they had to bring the sheriff out. Stand between the deacons and the preacher. That's the truth.

I've seen everything, brother. You name it, this old boy's seen it. I was in Asheville, North Carolina.

Preacher called me up there and said, I built a new church, got 75 people come up and help me get it started. I went up there and began to preach, and he said, Hey man, I called you up here to help me get it started. He said, You need to start talking on some money.

And he said, We're standing out one day, and he said, You see right out there, we fixed and built a kitchen out here. He said, I'm going to put my ladies in that kitchen. And he said, They're going to make me 800 bucks a month.

I said, If I was one of those ladies, you wouldn't put me in that kitchen to make you 800 bucks a month. Making slaves out of them. I stayed there six nights.

Six nights. He called me into office. Him and his brother was a high chief, high priest, priest and high priest.

They called me into office, and he pulled out a note and said, You're the reason we're not having revival. Had all these bunch of complaints. And you know me, my finger got me in trouble.

I said, Now brother, I preach God's Word, and I've drawn a crowd. The crowd's here. The church is packed.

You got up every night and told the folks we was having a pretty good revival. Oh, don't point your finger. I pointed my finger in his face.

I said, You've got a lot to learn, boy. Somebody said them blacks don't like for you to call them boys. Preachers don't either.

I left with one of my eyes blacked. But they had me. You know where the Bible says, Study to be quiet? I studied to be quiet.

Because he had me. Right? Somebody said, I'll beat your head off your shoulders right here in this office. You'd be shocked if I told you what organization he'd been with.

God, I've seen it all. That world out there is laughing at us. They're laughing at us.

They're laughing at us. We're meaner down here than they are out there. Where are we at, preacher? Here's where we are.

Here's where we are. We're going to have to come back to the fountain of living waters. When we come back to the fountain of living waters, you say, brother Loader, you think that the church could rise to the occasion and stop some of this foolishness? Hey, brother and sister, if we just stopped the foolishness in the church, we'd be done a great deal.

Is that true? If we could stop the divorce in the church, if we could just save our kids in the church, is that true? If we could just get the kids that belonged to the church, if me and you could get our children saved, look what we'd be done. Amen? I hear the cry of the daughter of our children crying. Do something.

It ain't working. You've got the buildings. You've got everything, but it ain't working.

You can't heal the hurt. Your physicians are physicians of no value. Your medicines are not working.

Oh, we'll just crank up another program. It's going to fail. Crank them up.

Crank them up. It's going to fail. Ain't nothing going to work but going back to that altar, finding that river of living water.

Find that fountain of living water. Begin to drink from it again. And out of our belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Because Ezekiel saw a temple being built, somebody said, that's the millennial, that's a bunch of hogwash. It's not the millennial. I shut myself away.

February of 1968, God spoke to me in the mountains of North Georgia the month of December. Sixty-seven said, shut everything down. Go home.

Go on a Daniel fast. I went twenty-one days in a shutaway in a travel trailer. On the eighteenth day, an angel of God walked in that trailer and said, I'm a messenger sent from God to you.

He said, I bring you a message. I thought when the Lord called me on this fast, this shutaway, I thought He was going to give me how we seek after the gifts of whatever. I thought He was going to empower me to go through the land and be another Oral Roberts.

That's really what I thought. And I was willing to pay the price. But when that angel spoke to me, he said, I'm a messenger sent from God to you.

Here's what he said. I've never had but one, and that's the one. He said these words to me, it will not be as you suppose, but here's what it's going to be.

I will pull into you a message to the body of Christ. You will take that message to the body of Christ. I'll do a work in that body.

And when I get that body built and brought to the place that I would have it to be, I'll fill that body with my glory and the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached around the world. Give the Lord a hand if you believe that tonight. Oh, help us tonight, Lord! Help us tonight, Lord! I'm going to believe that tonight.

And then he took me and he said, I want to show you something. I thought it was in the heavens, but it was really into the mountains. I looked into these high mountains.

And folks, so help me God. So help me God, I wouldn't tell you. I fear the pulpit now.

I'm walking in fear and trembling before God. God's playing no games with preachers anymore. I looked into the mountains and I saw the frame of a building.

And I turned away, and every time I turned and looked back, I'd see more added to the building. And I'd turn away and I'd look back and I'd see more added to the building. And then I began to glimpse.

I began to see then what was happening. God was building a tabernacle. And what was so strange, I didn't know that Ezekiel saw it.

It's exactly right to the T, right to the dot of the I. Ezekiel looked one day and saw the frame of a city. Is that right? We put that in the Millennial. It's not in the Millennial.

But when he saw this temple built, guess what else he saw? Out from under that temple, he saw a river begin to flow. Is that right? A river began to flow. A river began to flow out from under that temple.

And when it began to flow, it flowed down through the valleys and down wherever it went. Oh my God, but what I want you to get tonight, everything it touched began to live. Everywhere that river went and everywhere it flowed, and everybody that touched that river, wherever that river touched, life came into them.

Hallelujah. The only thing that's going to bring life back into the church is God send a message to the body of Christ. Bring the body of Christ back to the altar.

Repent of all this garbage in this system that we've raised up. Stop all this time, Iran. Stop all this flesh.

Repent of your ego. Repent of all this foolishness. Come back to the altar.

Get a hold of the river of life. Hallelujah. And everything you touch will begin to live.

Hallelujah. And he said, I'll build. And I saw from every walks of life, from every denomination, the rich, the poor, the educated, the uneducated, I saw God begin to form a people and form a body.

And I saw the glory. So help me, I saw this. I saw the glory of God come down on it.

And it was just like it was in Moses and in Solomon's temple when the glory began to come. Nobody could stand for the presence of the Lord. I'm here to tell you, God's going to do it one more time.

One more time. For my children and your children. God's going to let them see the glory and the power of a resurrected Christ.

We owe it to you, brothers and sisters. For your children and my children. God's going to move.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. How many wants that river of life to flow out of you? God, help us tonight, Lord.

God, help us tonight, Lord. God, help us tonight, Lord, to repent of the flesh, the works of our own hands. Help us, God, to come back to that river, that fountain.

You are God and we are your people. Who's going to pay if we don't? Mine and your children. Who's going to hell if we don't? Mine and your children.

Anybody here tonight feel like you've forsaken the fountain of living waters? Will anybody agree with me that the system ain't working? Will you agree with me that we built a system that is not touching the hurting people of our time? I want you to come on up here and join the pastor. Brother Mark over here. Just come on up here.

You don't got but two evils to repent of. Lord, just ask the Lord to take you back to the river of living water. Let it flow through you.

Don't try to make the fig tree produce fruit no more. There's a curse on it. God's cursed it.

See, a man was never supposed to rebuild Babylon. Babylon was never supposed to be rebuilt. But we've rebuilt it.

And we've made Babylon try to produce the fruit. But God's judgment's on Babylon both religiously and politically. Church of God people, you folks here tonight, if you're not church of God, come on, let's call on the Lord tonight for your children.

Can you hear the cry of your children? Can you hear little old girls and little old boys out there somewhere tonight being slain, butchered, raped? My God, my God, my God, my God. Can you see thousands upon thousands of our young men, young boys, needles in their arms, strong drugs coursing through their veins, out of their minds, right next door to the gates of hell? Young girls selling their virtues for nothing. My God, weep for your children.

Weep for our children. Weep for our children. Weep for God to send revival.

Hallelujah. Weep for the church, the preachers. My God, to wake up and realize it's not working, we're losing.

Oh, God's not among us. The glory's departed. Hallelujah.

We're playing games. We're playing church. We've built with our own hands what God wanted to build in our hearts.

We've built and we've built and we've built and all along, God wanted to build us. We've built buildings and hadn't built a church yet. The church is people, not brick and mortar.

Babylon's coming down. God's sword is against it. God's done cursed that thing.

It's cursed. God, help us to weep for our children. God, help us to weep for our children.

God, they need to know a real God. God, they don't need a system. They don't need religion.

They need a touch from heaven. God, they don't need nothing else this Babylon system can produce. They need a touch from on high.

Oh, God. Lord, bring that body of people together that you showed me. Oh, God, when the angel appeared to me, Lord, bring that body of people together, Lord.

Sanctified, holy. Build them together, Lord. Put them together, Lord.

Mold them together, Lord. God, we can't unify the body. It's only you can do it.

But put a people together. Fill them with your glory that the river can flow out of that temple down into the lanes and the highways and the hedges. God, into the schools, into the homes, into the churches of our time.

Oh, God, do it again, Lord. Do it again. Do it again.

Do it again, Lord. Do it again. God, help us to weep for our children.

They're the ones paying the price for our foolishness and folly. God, they're the ones suffering the blows of Satan because of our folly and our foolishness. God, while the preachers of this country have got super rich and wealthy, our children have been offered to the gods of mammon.

They sit in their high towers and boast of a God that's moving, but yet we're losing every day. Judge your church, Lord, and get us back on the right track. Oh, God.

Oh, God. Lord, these little kids coming on, if you don't send revival, they ain't got a chance in this world. Oh, God.

Wake up, parents. Wake up, parents, Lord. God, help parents quit living such a selfish life and start weeping for their children.

God, wake up parents in this country, Lord, to weep for their children because I hear the cry of the hurt of the doubt of Your people. I hear the cry of our offspring. God, God, bring Your glory back.

Bring Your glory back, Lord. God, thousands of people are hurting and we can't heal their hurt. The harvest is past.

The summer's ended. We're not saved. God, help us tonight.

We need the faith that God gives, folks. Then we can move these mountains. Then we can stand against these great military powers spiritually that's destroying our land, destroying our homes, destroying our children, destroying everything that's good, but only as we have the faith that God gives.

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