

Romans 11

Sunday 7/13/2014

I will take about four or five minutes here and just kind of be blown away in front of you for a little bit about this week. Never have I been more thankful of a PA system than I am today because, man, I will tell you what, it is something about preaching outdoors, no PA system, and just having to raise your voice. But that does come with a price, and that price is not having a voice.

This morning, one of the songs we sang, "He Hided My Soul." I was singing that all morning, and then I was singing it in the Jeep, and my wife said, "I have been singing that all morning too." And then we sang it, and then I forgot it. I am hitting it, "He hided," you know, take it down an octave, "He hided my soul." And then it hits the low part, and you cannot do it. You have to raise it up. So you flip the high parts and the low parts.

I do not even know what to say. I will tell you what, if there is a kid that got more out of that camp than I did, I will give him a million dollars because it did not happen, man. I got so much more out of that. Just to give you a couple things that happened there.

Before I do anything, how many of you here, part of this church, that did not go and prayed for it? Let me see your hands. So you did not go, but you prayed for it. You all are part of it. All the things that happen, the blessings, the rewards, all that stuff, you are in on it because you stayed by the stuff and lifted it up. So just to let you know, your prayers were answered and then some. These are my buddies over here, man. This is my crew now.

Some things happened this week, man. I just saw kids change, man. I really did. I saw grownups change. There are a couple things, you kids got these? Any of you kids have these? You keep them, you know where they are. Got it taken care of? Do not forget.

➤ The Bible Illustration from Camp

This was something, there was one night I was talking about the Bible and gave an illustration about a Ugandan pastor who had the only Bible in the church. He took his Bible and cut it up, and each member got one page so they could read their own Bible, so they could have it. I talked about how when I was writing that down, I looked around my office at home and I found fourteen Bibles. You all could probably look around your house and find maybe three, four. So you are pretty spoiled rotten. And here this guy is, he cut his out.

I have never in my life done this, but I took a knife out and cut a Bible in half and took these pages out and gave them to each of the kids just like this Ugandan pastor did and said, "And what the pastor did is every time they would meet, they would change pages so they could read the Bible." That was how they had to read the Bible. One of the biggest blessings for me, and I told them, "Keep that page and write down on that. Do not forget the price that was paid for you to have this." I hope they keep it, but I am going to keep mine.

One of the neat things I saw later on, I go up there and I see a guy and he is writing on his, and he is outlining his. I saw another girl, and she had hers out and was just doing something with that page. It was really special.

➤ The Difficulty of Crying

Another thing, this is just a testimony to our shame. By Tuesday, I got burdened about something, got crying about it. Then Zach is up leading music and just got torn apart singing a song. By Thursday, I am seeing all these kids in tears. I am seeing Joe after one of the services just weeping his eyes, weeping his heart out. One of the things that got me is it is sad how hard it is to cry. It is like you get away from the television, you get away from the computer, the Internet, the just traffic, and that will do it. You get away with God, and you try and focus on Him, and you can start crying again for who? For people.

These kids that are hurting, some of these kids, these kids going up and giving testimonies coming from broken homes, coming from troubles, coming from here. This fellow is dying. So it is a shame that when I hear a story like that at any time, I cannot just drop to my knees and cry for him and say, "Lord, help, take care of him." It took four days. It took two days to cry. It is pathetic. Now another week goes by, man, I will be hard as a rock. Why? Pensacola traffic. People not knowing how to merge and use a blinker. This is just enough. But that is how it is. It is sad. It is sad.

I am looking for the day when I do not have to worry about that anymore. You guys pray for me today. I want your prayers, you kids, you guys, because I will tell you, I do not know what to say. What can I do? How can I thank you enough for letting me do what you let me do? The thing is, I preached all week. I preached my heart out. This morning, I am teaching. I was like, "Come on." I told Pastor Bob after that, it is like, "Dispensations and docketts, I do not even care about it right now, man. I could not care less. I got to go back and teach. I do not want to teach anything, man." That is how it was.

Once you start getting close to God, and when you get a time where you can just really spend time in prayer, you are like, "Boy, all this head knowledge, brainy stuff just really falls by the wayside," and you realize that is it. "I just care about You, Lord." I understand now, I am not telling you all to throw all your books out and stuff. You could have put it in proper perspective. But a lot of times, you will use the books and your head knowledge as a false front to where you can fool people. "I am right with God. I can name the seven dispensations and how many warts are on the Antichrist's nose and all that stuff." And what you are doing, you are just fooling people. But yet you cannot cry for a guy that is dying that needs Jesus. That is it, man. I have not started yet.

➤ The Pensacola Restart Ministry

Last week, I am telling you this, people here, I am seeing what I have seen here from this church. Last week we go to Restart, and I am sitting there, and I saw everything. Well, I did not see everything, but I saw a good perimeter, a good kind of what it is like. I go there, and I am with Pastor Bob in his truck, and we are here, and I see girls, and they are setting up a table, and they

are setting up laundry soap, and they got stuff like that. They are telling me, "Watch all these people get in line for that laundry soap. This laundry soap is like gold." And I am like, "Wow, really? You just giving it to them?" "Yeah." And they are just up there, "Can I have some?" And it is like they are giving them laundry soap and shampoo and soap. All these people that are just down and out, man. And they are really thankful for it.

Then I go downstairs, and there is Ms. Barb, and she is cooking away, and some of the other girls are helping her, and they are serving people, some of the most vile people you have ever seen, and they are serving them. Just think how hard it was for Jesus Christ to take off, put that thing up, and get down and wash our feet. Boy, you wash your feet as somebody lower than you. I will tell you, I will do something for you. I will give you a heart, a decent heart to care and to serve people. Preacher a while.

Then I go with him, and I go down, and these fellows have a grill out there, and they are cooking hot dogs. They are cooking hot dogs. I look, and there is an assembly line, and there are some ladies and some guys, and man, they could wrap a hot dog so fast. It is like, "Wrap it up, throw a mustard and ketchup in it. Whoop, whoop, whoop." So throw it in a bag, throw in a water in it. I saw that, and they are putting them in these big coolers and stuff.

Then upstairs of this big building, there are people, and they are going through clothes, finding decent clothes. I mean, probably going through getting nasty from good and whatnot. They are putting this in, and I am seeing this go out, and we go here, and then I am seeing, "Okay, here are these guys over here at this table," a couple of blocks away, "and a bunch of homeless guys just lined up sitting on a building." That is probably their hangout spot. These guys are sitting there, and the guy is sitting there, and they got a table set up, and they are going, "Anybody hungry? Anybody hungry?" "Yeah, yeah, I am hungry." They are coming up, giving a hot dog, saying, "You have a bottle of water with it," giving them a gospel tract. So you got to get scriptures in there too. Otherwise, you are a humanitarian. You are not just a humanitarian. You are there for Jesus Christ, and you want to be known. "I am doing this. I care about you, but I am doing it because of Jesus Christ." So here, you are trying to help them out.

Then they got a pile of clothes. "You got some clothes? You need some fresh underwear?" I mean, stuff like that that you take for granted, that I take for granted. These guys are coming and going through clothes, and I see people walk away with new clothes. I see them walk away fed. I see them walk away with something to drink that is clean. And I see them walk away with a gospel tract. That was really good. I saw that in one day, and you guys, and somebody is probably here going, "I have always been meaning to go down and check that out. I have always been meaning to." Well, go down and check it out. Go down there and be a part of that.

Then I look, at one point, I am looking here, and I am seeing two guys beside me here at the bottom in front of the library, and they are talking to a guy about Jesus Christ. Then I looked down the street, and I am seeing Will down there, and he is talking to a guy, and then another guy is talking to a guy, and I drove down, and another guy is talking to a guy. It is like, "Yeah, yeah, that was good." They almost kind of went through, they almost earned the right to talk to those guys by trying to help them out. Doing well, you know, "I will get you down there and get

you one, two, three, repeat after me," and come back to my nice house and go, "Well, I had one." You left him down on the street, and you did not. Anyways, really good stuff, really good stuff.

I. The Beginning of the End

All right. I am going to take the rest of the morning, and I am going to talk. Now you are going through a lot of Bible today. Some of it, I will say turn there, most of it, I will give you the verse and give you about five seconds. If you can get there to read along, great. If not, tough, write it down. We are going on because we got, I went through and counted about forty verses of scripture, which is probably more than a lot of you have gotten in a long time. So you need to write it down. This is material here. This is stuff. What we are going to talk about is "The Beginning of the End." That is going to be the title, "The Beginning of the End."

Two weeks ago from yesterday, you had a historical milestone. I do not know if you know that or not. What I want you to do right now is think about where we are right now as a people and a hundred years ago, a hundred years ago, 1914. You are in a different time. You are in a totally different time. The gasoline engine is coming around. They are able to actually use a motor. I remember talking to my grandmother, and she was probably going to a grade school at that time out in Western Kansas. She told me the stories about going to school, and she went on horseback to school, on horseback. This is a hundred years ago. It is not that far. You have met people that are a hundred years old. Ten, twenty years ago, you met people who lived through this time, 1914. My grandma rode on a horseback. I talked to her. It is something, look how the world has changed in the last hundred years.

Prior to that, for the last nineteen hundred years, everything kind of went along as it had been. You had to have one strong nation rise up and conquer others. But the Gentile nations had just been kind of killing each other and doing this thing. Things had been kind of going on the same since the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. You would get a little advances in technology. You would get little advances in transportation and communication. You got some great things happen like the printing press and whatnot. But things kind of were just going on.

In 1914, it all changed. It all changed. This date, two weeks ago from Saturday, set a series of events in motion that would set the stage for every major event in the next hundred years. Every major world event that has happened that you turn on the news is a result of this event that happened a hundred years ago. For all intents and purposes, June 28, 1914, started the beginning of the end.

➤ The World in 1914

Let me tell you what is going on there. Let me tell you what your world is like right now. You have countries. Yes, 1914, you had America. America was a strong country. It was a big country. It had a lot of natural resources, but we were neutral. That was our kind of thing. We prided ourselves in neutrality. "You and Europe can do your thing. You can kill each other. We are staying out of it. Asia, Middle East, we are staying out of it. We, we, we got an ocean between you and us, and it is good. It is their fences make good neighbors." That is the attitude.

But then when you look at the rest of the world, you look at Europe, and I remember memorizing the map of Europe when I was in the seventh grade. Now I look at it, and it is like there are twice as many countries as when I was in the seventh grade. All these countries, well, it was not so much countries in 1914. It was empires. You had the British Empire, and the famous saying was, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." They had an empire that reached around the globe. You had a German Prussian Empire, and Kaiser Wilhelm was in charge of that. You had the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Habsburg Empire. You had the Russian Empire with the Czars. Then you had the Ottoman Empire, the Turkish, kind of had the whole Middle Eastern area. It was empires. It was not nations. It was kings. It was royalty. You would see these great, and you can see the video footage of it still, of royalty with kings. We do not understand kings in America. We have never had kings. We came here to get away from kings, man, because we saw that system, and we wanted away from it. But this event changed all of that.

➤ The Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

What is the event I am talking about? I am going to lay out the scene. I am going to lay out the story. You have the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the Habsburgs are in charge, and the king that was old, in his nineties, been reigning forever, I did not even write his name down. He had a mustache that went like that. Anyway, he is the king of it. The heir to the throne is a guy named Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Franz Ferdinand was going down to Serbia, and he is going to go review some troops and whatnot. Looking at the guy, he seemed like a pretty decent guy, and he goes down there.

Well, you got the Serbs, they got a bunch of nationalistic, they are sick of being under the Austrian rule, and you got kind of a rebellion going here, and they are called the Black Hand. One of them, a young eighteen-year-old, and this is a guy I am calling the most influential man of the twentieth century. His name was Gavrilo Princip. The thing is, they are saying, "You know what, we are going to take a group of people over there, and we are going to kill the heir to the throne." So they go over there.

Let me tell you, this is something I know you guys have been through a lot of history in here, through church history and a lot of other stuff. Let me tell you why history is important with the Bible. Because the God of the Bible is the God of history. If you get ground through a Bible and you look at history through the glasses of a Bible, you will see that God moves. God sets up nations. He tears them down. When you can get kind of to the lowest common denominator, which is, you can only really get through a Bible, you can see the Lord work. What it does is it makes the Bible come alive, and you can see how these things work, and that is what I am trying to look through right now.

Anyways, back to the story. Ferdinand is down there, and they try to kill him, and somebody throws a bomb at him, and it hits the car, bounces off, explodes. He says, "I came here with a peaceful mission, and you try to kill me." So Ferdinand did not go down the route he was supposed to go. All that had all the assassins lined up. He went to the hospital instead to see the guy who was, some bystanders who got hurt or whatnot.

Let me tell you the great string of coincidences that led up to this. They get in the car coming from the hospital. Well, the Black Hand had already said, "It is too late to kill the prince. We missed our chance. Let us go home." So everybody just scattered. Well, Gavrilo Princip, the eighteen-year-old young man, he is heading home, and he pretty much stops to buy a hot dog at some, stops to get a bite to eat before he leaves. In the meantime, the Archduke in his open convertible, the driver takes a wrong turn. He is driving down the street, then realizes he has taken a wrong turn, stops the car in the middle of the street, and proceeds to do a turn. Where does he stop? He stops right in front of where Princip was buying a hot dog, and Princip goes, "There he is!" Two shots, and the Archduke is dead.

That set a series of events in motion where Austria said, "You killed our, you killed the heir to the throne," and a lot of political stuff going on too. Then they said to Serbia, "Here are our demands for what you did." And they threw a crazy set of demands on him that they could not answer to. Serbia goes, "You know what, Russia, you got our back?" Russia said, "Yeah, I got your back." "France, you got our back?" "Yeah, we got your back." So they say, "Well, these guys got our back." So Austria looks up to Germany and goes, "Germany, you got our back?" And Kaiser Wilhelm, he is out on his yacht. He does not care about anything that is going on. He, the misconstrued thing, "Oh, he is out for world domination." No, he is just out having a good time. "Sure, I got your back. Nothing is going to happen anyway." It was like tight. This drum was tightened, man. All the things were pulled. The thing about Germany, everybody lined up and squared off. Germany threw the first punch. That is kind of how they are going to be because they got people on each side of them. So they always got to throw the first punch. Otherwise, they are surrounded. So they take off and try and get into France and whatnot. So you had the start of what was became known as the Great War. Thirty years later, it got a digit put on it and became World War I because World War II happened.

➤ Consequences of World War I

This is the introduction to the changing of the world that you live in today. As a result of this war, like I said, everything changed for the next hundred years. What are some things that can be traced directly to that war? Communism came as a result of that. The overthrow of the Czar happened in 1917. Germany stuck Lenin on a train and trained him through the country and dropped him off up in Finland. He got the things. See, they wanted to get Russia out of the war. That came as a result. Then look what happened through the next eighty years with the red menace that was loose.

What else happened? America ceased to be a neutral country. We have been involved in everything since then. So we lost our neutrality. The remapping of Europe, where there was no longer empires. Instead, there were countries. Not just the remapping of Europe, the remapping of the whole Middle East. A week or two ago, I am looking at the news, and what am I reading about Iraq? What is going on in Iraq? Well, they are fighting. Why are they fighting? Well, because you got Kurds up here, and they do not like the Sunnis and Shiites. The Shiites do not like the Sunnis and Kurds. What happened back before? Well, that was an empire before under the iron fist of an empire. Then at the end of that war, we said, "You three groups that do not get

along, we are going to create a country, and you are all going to live in it," instead of splitting the thing up where each, you see, it is all traced back to that thing.

It led to Germany losing the war, which led to their bankruptcy and which led to the blame of the war and reparations, which led to absolute poverty and depression in Europe, which allowed for a radical named Adolf Hitler to stand up and go, "We have been wronged. The rest of the world is taking advantage of us." And everything he said was right. See, that is how you can get deceived by somebody telling the truth. He gets up and goes, "Man, they are against us." They are telling you, they are like, "Right on, Adolf, right on, Adolf." And they did not look what he was doing. What he was bringing with him was the wickedness and the wicked Nazi movement and the Third Reich and all that stuff. So that came as a result of that.

A lot of other stuff happened, but the most important things, two events happened as a result of that war. That was the formation of the League of Nations and the start of the formation of the nation of Israel. After that war, a fellow gives a declaration called the Balfour Declaration and says, "I am going to give Israel permission to go back." You look at the original Balfour Declaration, that land grant goes practically all the way out to the Euphrates, man. I mean, it is all of Jordan. It is all of Israel. It is down into Sinai. I mean, it is huge. Then France had something called the Sykes-Picot Agreement, which gave nothing to the Jew. Then they had things called white papers, which carved that land up and brought, anyways, that you did not get the homeland. So those are the two events. And we are going to trace these two events now for four thousand years. We are going to go back in time, and we are going to trace these events. The intent to set up a Jewish homeland did not happen. But the cogs were turning to set it up.

II. God's Plan for Nations

Isaiah 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

God's plan for the universe was to inhabit it with what? A people with His name. Satan had a counter plan. That counter plan is Genesis chapter 11.

➤ The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11:1-9 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel;

because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

There is your first League of Nations, your first United Nations, the world getting together and saying, "We are going to get together, and nobody can stop us." And God said, "I am stopping you." And He scattered it. This thought, this idea goes against anything you have been taught. "Well, we all need to get together, peace, peace."

Deuteronomy 32:8 When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

God said, "You are not getting together. I am separating you nations." He divided it. He cut the thing up, put oceans up, and said, "This is for a reason." Now this has nothing to do with "I hate these people. I hate." I do not. It has nothing to do with that. It has to do with everybody getting together under the same flag. Why? Because what comes with that is wickedness. It always does. God will work.

You realize there are so many different cultures and things going on in the world that you could go into another country, and if you do not know what you are doing, you could make a mess. Reading about some of this stuff on missions movements and whatnot. Do you know in some countries if I say, "Where is the bathroom?" "It is over there." I have insulted you because I pointed with my finger. You know how you have to point with your bottom lip. That is just how it is. You do not know what you are doing. You are going to make a mess of things. You know, some countries, if you shake hands with somebody, you shake hands like that. You have insulted them because one hand is, that is how you feed a dog. You have got to shake with two. See? Everybody has got different things, and God separated the nations, and everybody has got their own unique cultures.

Now, America, we are kind of, we kind of got everybody. We are the melting pot. And you see how that is going, and the problems that we have. Just look around you, man. God divided the nations. You look in the book of Acts, and it says, and it even gets a little more into it and says, "So they could seek the Lord." See?

➤ God Calls Out One Nation: Israel

One nation was called out of this. Genesis chapter 12. Here are the nations. God divided the nations. And then He called out one nation. And it is not America.

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Now God wants to bless all the nations, but He set up a structure. And to put it nicely, if you want to be blessed as a nation, know your role. Know your role. He set up one nation on top.

"What about me? I am just as good as that." No, you are not. God set that nation up on top, and He said, "Abram, you come out. I am going to make a nation of you, and in you, Abraham, shall all the world be blessed." I will tell you what, if a nation wants to be blessed, they will bless you. If a nation wants to be cursed, they will curse you. So why do I say America is a blessed nation? Because at one time, we blessed that nation, and God blessed us. And then we started kind of middle-of-the-roading them, and we are heading in the opposite direction right now. And with that go God's blessings, and with that come God's cursings, which you will be seeing soon.

➤ Israel's Desire to Be Like Other Nations

Israel is called out, and their history, they go down into Egypt, which we spent the camp talking about. The biggest problem they had as a people, though, is this: they desired to be like all the other nations. They did not want to be a called out and separated people. See, you read through that Old Testament, and you go, "Well, this is boring. All these laws and rules and why is that?" Well, that is a constitution, but not for you. That is a constitution for God's nation and how to live. That is why you get, if you go, "Well, they are killing and they are fighting and they are battling," that is because it is a country, it is a nation. I cannot set up my country and go to the Old Testament and go, "Well, I need to kill everybody this and do it." No, that is not for you. That is for the nation of Israel, but they wanted to be like all the other nations.

1 Samuel 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

Up to that point, God was in charge. "We do not want to depend on God, we want an army. We want a king, we want a structure like all the other nations." How did that work out? Well, not too well until God put His king in David. But as years go on, Israel gets farther and farther from God and from what God wants to do. Eventually, after disobeying all the things He had set up under the law, God sent them away into captivity, into Babylon. This happened in 606 BC. And Israel, as an independent nation, ceased to exist. As an independent nation with Israel ruling over Israel, ceased to exist in 606 BC. And it would stay that way for quite a while. They went to Babylon, stayed there for seventy years. They came back under the Greeks, under the Persians, under the Romans. And that is what happened. And there they were as a captive people. They were in their own land, but they were controlled by someone else.

➤ Israel Rejects the Messiah

Then somebody showed up. That somebody was this promised Messiah that they had been told about all through their scriptures. Some of their things that they were told about was, "When this guy comes, boy, you are going to become the head of the nations. He will stomp down your enemies. He will put you on top, all that." And that is all there. That is all in the Old Testament. What you have got is an Old Testament now. So they, "Where is our Messiah?" "Well, He is the guy that is on a white horse. He is the guy that is going to kill all the Romans and put us back on top." But they missed. Those verses are there. But they missed it. Because they missed those verses that said:

Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

They saw the conquering king coming. They missed the lowly servant riding on a donkey. That is what they missed. They missed the baby that was born in a barn. They were looking for a king. What they got was a servant. They looked for a king to bow down and rule, and instead they got a man who bowed down before them. That is what happened. All those things about the coming king, well, they are still going to happen, just like all the other ones came about, the servant were going to happen. You look at some of your Old Testament, and this is some of the things, you will see sometimes a verse, and then there is a colon or semicolon. This half of the verse talks about the servant. This talks about the king. Well, you talk about splitting things up. You got to study.

But their Messiah came. What did they say? "Away with him, crucify him." What did Pilate say? "Do I crucify your king?" What did people say? "We have no king but Caesar." "What do I do with him?" "Kill him." Pilate washed his hands and said, "I am innocent of this blood." And the people said, "His blood be on us and on our children." And it came to be, that happened.

That was not the end of their opportunities though. God always gives you a second chance and a third chance even when you do not deserve it many times. In the book of Acts, they are given four main opportunities to accept their Messiah. Peter gets up and preaches on the day of Pentecost and says, "Look what happened. This man you have crucified and slain, He is back. He came up from the dead. You need, this is your Messiah." And they said, "What do we do? Because we killed him." "Get down here and hop in the pool. Repent and be baptized." Repent and what? Repent of the sin of killing your king.

Then as it goes on, you had something happen that had never happened. And you can find these four main rejections where the people get stirred up. Stephen is preaching, and he says, shows all the things that they did wrong through their history and goes, "He will go to the Gentiles." And they went, "Aah!" Killed him. You look at another time, he is preaching. Everybody is taking the preaching just fine. You look at Paul when he is preaching in Jerusalem. He is preaching fine when he is talking about Israel, Israel, Israel. And he goes, "God will go to the Gentiles," and they flip out, try to kill Paul.

Finally, the final rejection is in the last chapter of the book of Acts.

Acts 28:26-28 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

Who are the Gentiles? Every nation that is not a Jew. Every person that is sitting in this room, unless you are a full-blooded Israelite, unless you are a full-blooded Jew, you are a Gentile.

Jesus made a prophecy back in Matthew chapter 24 and said:

Matthew 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

After that rejection, in 70 AD, Titus came in and crucified 3,600 Jews in the perimeter of that city and slaughtered them. And burnt down their temple, and one stone was not left upon another. Every stone was taken down. And the Jews were dispersed among the world. They were kicked out of their homeland, and that is where they would stay.

➤ God Turns to the Gentiles

And praise God, God turned His attention to the Gentiles. Because who got in? Me. Where were we? Well, some of you are down in Africa beating on a drum. My crew, they are up there in bear skins, killing each other, thinking they are going to Valhalla. I mean, you go up into Europe, and you got a bunch of savages. I mean, just savage animals. You go over into Asia, and there, no telling, they got their dynasties going, and they are killing everybody here. You got, I mean, basically Gentiles are just killing everybody. You go to Europe, they are just killing everybody. You go to Asia, empires, they are killing it. Go down to Africa, they are killing it. See, that is what the Gentiles are doing. The civilized country is Israel. Israel is a civilized country.

This is just a side note, but you go over to some of those countries now, they do not have enough sense to bury their own dung. That is in the book of Exodus. "Take that outside the city. You do not want to pollute your water supply." Disease runs rampant. Why? They do not even have the basic things from the book of Exodus. That was four thousand years ago. Gentile dogs, that is what they are called. Jesus Christ at one time said, "You know, you want Me to cast this to the dogs?" The woman said, "True, Lord." She knew her place. I know my place. But because God's people rejected, I got in. You got in. I am thankful for that. I am not glad they did, but I am thankful that they did, that a dog like me can get in. And a dog like you. You are not even better than me. You are in the same boat.

God turned His attention to the Gentiles. For the last two thousand years, God has been dealing with who? The nations. Who is that? Those were those people that He scattered. And He called out one special nation, and He said, that special nation rejected. "I am putting them on a shelf. I am not replacing them. I am putting them on a shelf for now. And I am giving the nations a chance." And that is what has been going on. And it went out from Jerusalem to Antioch to Europe to Asia to Africa. And the Gospels went around the world.

But there is a limit to God's dealing with the Gentiles.

Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

God said, "I am going to deal with the nations until I get My fill." And that is it. So do not get wise in your own conceit. Do not look at that Jew like Adolph did and go, "They are subhuman. Let us kill them." Do not look at them like that. God is dealing with you for a time. And then back to them. Most churches, most branches of Christianity, most branches that even will deal with an Old Testament like Islam, they believe they have taken the place of Israel. Most churches teach they have taken the place of Israel. God set up a nation for an, "I am that nation." God is not finished. God is not finished.

➤ Israel's Return and Persecution

Back to our story. End of World War I came. It gave way to World War II. The Jew, a lot of them tried to go back. This Balfour Declaration said you can go back to your homeland, down there in Palestine. A lot of them tried. And you know what happened? The English that was running that, put them in concentration camps. The English with their gunships sunk some boats of Jews that were trying to get back to the land. Hitler is in Europe, and he is raising up the whole continent against the Jew. And the Jews trying to flee, and they are trying to get back to the land that God said to go. And England is not letting them. England is forcing them back to Europe with machine guns. So we did not all Germany. Yet Germany did their share, but so did every other country. Some tried to make it. Put into camps by the English. Others were forced back to Europe where Hitler, a devil, waited for him.

You realize some of the first things. I do not know, you got the book over there, *Israel: A Deadly Piece of Dirt*, but you can look at a lot of this stuff. At one time, Hitler wanted, was trying to get the Jews out by exporting them. And no country would take them. You have some countries that will say, "I will take in this many, but only laborers." You will have some others that will take in, "I will take in if they have this skill or this," they will take them in.

Deuteronomy 28:68 And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.

Came to pass. And they are stuck there. And they had a final solution waiting for him, and that final solution was, "Go to the ovens. Exterminate them." That was not the first time that had been tried. When Israel was kicked out of their land in 70 AD and dispersed all over Europe. Everywhere they went, they succeeded. Why? Because God put something in that people to succeed wherever they go. That is why you look at your IQ tests, who is at the top? It is always the same group, man. It is a Jew. "That is racist." Yeah, that is right. God set it up. He put them on top and everybody else below. So take that. So we are all in the same boat, man. Amen.

God allowed them to succeed, but every time they get succeeding, anti-Semitism, whatever it is, would take up, and they would get persecuted. Then they would flee over here. Then they would get persecuted, and then they would flee over here. And then they would flee up into Russia. What happens up there? Well, some Jews were behind communism, so kill all the Jews. They go over into France. The Dreyfus affair. Kill all the Jews. See? They get persecuted everywhere they go. Thankfully, as of now, they have not been persecuted in America other than by slandering and stereotypes. All that stuff. That has been going on. They do not have a homeland.

Finally, at the end of World War II, as a result of the sympathy for what they went through, they were allowed to go back to their land. I had a statistic here. Hitler destroyed two-thirds of the Jews in Europe and half of the Jews worldwide. But God kept His promise in Malachi chapter 3 verse 6.

Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

So their national symbol should not be that star. Their national symbol should be a burning bush. Because though it burns, it is not consumed. Because God said, "I called them out. And I am going to get them through."

➤ The United Nations and Israel

As a result of World War II ending, our two groups continued. The League of Nations gave way to the United Nations. The League of Nations, I think, only had like fifty-two countries. The United Nations is every country in the world. And the nation of Israel was formed in 1948. Upon their declaration of independence, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and Syria attacked them the next day. And miraculously, they survived. You want to read an account of that. I think there is a book called *Oh Jerusalem*, and you read that thing, and it is just ridiculous. How these people survived. Tanks are coming in from Egypt, and some farm boy runs on it with a Molotov cocktail, and boom. Blows the things off, and a whole division or a whole group of tanks stop and do not go any farther. Because of a farm boy. See, you had things happen that were just miraculous. But God wanted to set that nation up again.

For the first time in two thousand six hundred and fifty-four years, this nation has risen from the dead. You find me another nation, you go look back three thousand years, "We will hear these people are with this language." Where are they now? Absorbed into history. Here is this nation, what language are they speaking? Hebrew. They are speaking their mother tongue still. You look back at English in 900 A.D. You cannot even read it. You look at English in 1400, you cannot. This language was kept pure by God. These people were kept pure by God. They turn their backs on Him, but He kept out. He looked out for them. So as a result in World War II, we got the same two groups. The nations, this time they are united. And Israel, and this time they are officially a nation.

But what has happened since then? Well, Israel has tried to fit in. How is that working out?

Numbers 23:9 For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations.

This is a prophecy four thousand years ago that says they will not be reckoned among the nations. Well, they joined the United Nations, and what has happened? Before 1990, the United Nations Security Council passed 175 resolutions. Ninety-seven of them were against Israel. That is as of 1990, fifty-five percent of all its resolutions have been against Israel. Before 1990, the United Nations General Assembly voted on 690 resolutions. 429 were directed against Israel. As of 1990, sixty-two percent of all its resolutions were against Israel. Why? Because God said they will not be reckoned among the nations.

Israel is the only member of the United Nations that is not permitted membership on the Security Council. Why? Because God said you will not be reckoned among the nations. "Why, I do not believe the Bible." Okay, do not believe it. But it is telling you your future. It is telling you your present, and it is telling you your past. Israel is the only country excluded from the United Nations regional group system. Since they do not belong to any group, it is the only country of 190, at least when I am reading this, I do not know how many there are now, that is not eligible to serve on the numerous United Nations commissions.

Got something recent. 2013, United Nations, twenty-one resolutions against Israel, four against the rest of the world. You see, it is getting worse. Things are not getting better, they are getting worse, at least for that country. I turned on, I looked up something or other, I guess they are about to. I am seeing the whole world is mad at him again. Thankfully, a Canadian ambassador said some decent things here a few days ago. You realize in 2012, they had 2,257 rockets launched against them from a country they are supposed to, or a country, whatever, a section of that is supposed to be at peace with. What if we had 2,257? "Well, most of them did not hit anything." Well, they got a good defense system, but still, if some guy swung at me ten times, I do not care if I missed or not, I am punching you. "I ducked and hit my head on the table." You are swinging at me, man. "Do not retaliate, do not retaliate."

1967, they get attacked by countries surrounding them, just all the countries attacked them. The Yom Kippur War on their holy day, well, 67 they actually did a pre-emptive strike, but on Yom Kippur, their holiest day of the year, the Day of Atonement, every nation surrounding them. They attacked them. And then what happens? Nobody says a thing until Israel starts whipping them, and then, "Stop, peace, peace, peace." Yeah, the world is against that Jew because God is for him. That is it. That is just a little bit of history for you. That is a little present for you.

III. The Future: God's Promises and Judgment

Now I am going to give you a little future. Romans chapter 11. This is your warning, Gentile. It is written by Paul, your apostle, the apostle of the Gentiles.

Romans 11:25-29 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

God is not going to repent that He called out that nation. Do not get wise in your own conceit. He even said it right there. "They are beloved." What are they doing right now? They are against the gospel. But they are still beloved, and you keep your fingers off of them. They are God's people. Let Him judge them. Let Him deal with them. You do not touch them, or God will focus on you. That is it.

➤ The Timing of the End

Now the timing of this, well, that is where it gets a little shady. What is the timing of God turning His focus from the Gentiles back to His people? I do not know. I get a little pictures of it. I get Matthew chapter 24 where God is talking about, He is talking about basically the second coming and nations rising against nations and all these things happen. And they said, "Well, when is this going to happen, Jesus?" And Jesus says, "Well, learn a parable of the fig tree."

Matthew 24:32-35 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

That is what Jesus Christ said, the same Jesus Christ that said, "For God so loved," see, same one said that. Well, when did that fig tree start putting forth leaves? This is, do this on your own time, that fig tree is Israel. They started putting forth leaves, they were not showing fruit, they are just showing life. They are not bearing any fruit. Well, when did that happen? 1948. 1967, one of those two dates, I do not know which one, I am just throwing some things out to you. The fig tree, what is a generation? Oh, good night. Thirty-three years, forty years, forty-eight years, seventy years, one hundred years. I can find an example in scripture for each of those numbers. Which is it? Beats me. I do not know.

"Well, Christians have always been saying that Jesus is coming back." Always, come on. They cannot even make a valid argument until 1948. Why? Because the place of Israel. I got books back there, you got a book back there, Clarence Larkin, *Dispensational Truth*, written in early 1900s. He said, "Israel is going to be a nation before Jesus comes back." Who? This nation that had not been a nation for 2,500 years. You read Scofield, all these guys, they said they are going to become a nation again. We saw that. 1948, 1967, they got Jerusalem, which dates the Lord going by, no idea. Which generation numbers He is going by, no idea. But I know it is close. If we go the 1967 and 100, that goes 2000, I do not know.

But there is an event that happens before that. And that is where God is going to call the church out. And why? Because He wants to deal with His people. He does not want the church getting in the way. He does not want the Gentiles getting in the way. He is going to focus on the apple of His eye once again.

Zechariah 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

When I was a kid, we used to go on vacation out to Colorado, and we live, and when we would come back from Colorado, we are going home, we are going home to Ellis, Kansas. Fifteen miles from Ellis is Hayes, Kansas. As we are driving home, it says, "Hayes 50 miles. Hayes 40 miles." When I saw the sign that told me how far away Hayes was, I knew that home was getting close. Because fifteen miles before home, we are getting off, or fifteen miles before Hayes, we are getting off. So when is Jesus coming back? I do not know, but I know before that, I am getting off. So I cannot set a date for you, but I can see what Jesus Christ said, that if I am seeing these things, this thing which is in the future from this thing is getting close, well, that means that thing here with the church getting called out is getting closer.

➤ God's Promises to Israel and Judgment on Nations

And then what has happened? You are left with two groups: the nations and a nation. And God has already made His promises about those.

Jeremiah 30:11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

That is a promise from God Almighty. "Though I make a full end of all nations, I am not going to make an end of you."

Isaiah 40:15, 17 Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

God bless some vanity. You are nothing. You are a drop in the bucket. "I am going to make a full end of you." Why? Because you are coming against My people. Right now, God is gathering together the nations for the end. Who is behind the United Nations? God. He is gathering the nations.

Zephaniah 3:8 Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

There is a verse in Zechariah that says, "He that toucheth him toucheth the apple of my eye," talking about Israel.

Zechariah 14:2-3 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

Joel 3:9-10 Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.

You know, across the street from the United Nations in New York, they have Isaiah's version of that where Isaiah says:

Isaiah 2:4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Peace, peace, peace. They stole the verse that God Almighty put on Himself and put to them, "We are bringing in peace." This is the nation God has for them, the opposite.

Joel 3:11 Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

1914 was the beginning of the end of the times of the Gentiles. So where are we now? Well, I got some pictures here. You have to look these up on your own. I will leave them back there. You can look at them just to show you. I mean, if I am making this up, I am doing a good job. This is a famous painting of the Tower of Babel. This is a famous painting. You can look it up, just type in "Tower of Babel" on Google, and this painting will come up. Right beside is the European Parliament building, which was modeled on that painting. It looks like it is half, and it looks like it is half built. Look that up, trying to make their building look like the Tower of Babel.

Now look at this. This was a poster. This poster is fifteen years old. It says, "Europe: Many Tongues, One Voice." And what is that a picture of behind it? It is that tower, the Tower of Babel. What is going on? Who is doing construction here? Anybody in the front? What is this thing? It is a crane. What does that mean? They are building up construction. You got people that are walking down to the tower, and they have hammers in their hand. If I am making it up, I am doing a good job. Fifteen years ago, Europe said, "We are building a tower. Everybody is getting together," and it is in God's face going, "We are going to finish this tower, and there is not a thing You can do about it."

"Thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD." Your time is short. Ten years, twenty years, I do not know, but it is shorter than it was yesterday. If you have not dealt with Jesus Christ about your sin problem, today is the day to do it. Quit fooling around. This poor fellow here is dying of cancer and hurting. They are going up, "You pray for him." Okay, Pastor Bob is going to come up here and take over and give you an opportunity to receive Jesus Christ. And you think about that. That is history. The God of the Bible is the God of history.

IV. Closing Remarks and Altar Call (Pastor Bob)

You know, Dean said to me as he set up in camp that when you get up at camp, and as he said, you get everything out of your life, and you are just focused on the Word of God, it is, you want to keep that relationship, and it is a lot like you do not want to come back into the world, and I totally understand that. But that is a great feeling to have. But our commission is to take what God gave us last week and take it to others. That is why a message like today is such a good balance to what you heard last week, because last week all of you got your hearts where they needed to be. You know, the battle starts once you leave because I watched everything, and I was excited for everybody, but I have been in this business for a long time, and I have done a lot of camps, and I know it is exciting. I felt sorry for all of you, I really did, because I know something that you did not know, and that is waiting right outside that camp gate as you drove out was the devil to undo everything that God did that week.

I appreciate all the zeal and the fire and the joy, and we got the greatest people in the world. I thank Joe and his wife and Zach and his wife who headed up the whole thing, and for all of the counselors, and for Dean, you got a job next year. You want to come back and preach to camp again? We will just get the date and let you know when it is. Everything was just fine. But the

bottom line is this: all that happened last week to get you ready for the urgency of the hour that he preached about this morning. The Lord is coming back, there is no question about it. And it is the thing where you take what you got up there, you take what God put in your heart, and you let it solidify you to go back and do what God wants you to do.

A lot of the folks that got saved last week were saved because young men and young ladies in this camp, long before we got there, started the process. Kyle is probably going to get saved today. We are praying that way. It will not be because they go up and talk to him today. It will be because Ryan for the last year and a half was witness to him and did the groundwork because Ryan understood there was an urgency. You learn today that there is an urgency.

I would like just very quickly, every head bowed and every eye closed, and we will be through here this morning very, very quickly. But if you are here this morning and you heard what was said, and you know now that the Lord is coming back, there is no question about that. Everything was put in perspective for you. 1914, you have heard me talk about it on Thursday night Bible study. It was the, it was the pinnacle point. Everything changed from that point on to bring us where we are at today. In my mind, I believe that the times of the Gentiles were over in God's mind at that point, even though Gentiles are still going through the process. I believe with all of my heart, in God's mind, He was finished with it in 1914, maybe even 1889 with the Zionist movement. He is moving now toward putting everything in order, and all you got to do is watch Fox News, CNN, or turn on any radio program or pick up any newspaper, and you see everything that he said this morning is true.

Now that being said, very quickly, you are here this morning, and you do not know for sure if you died today that you would go to heaven to spend an eternity with the Lord Jesus Christ. You need to embrace the urgency of the hour, and he did not preach that to scare you today, but I might add, as old Bob Jones Senior used to say, "You were better off to be hell scared than to hell scorched."

With every head bowed and no one looking around, and we will just take a moment. If you are here today and you do not know for sure if you die today that you would go to be with the Lord Jesus Christ, would you allow me to pray for you? With every head bowed and every eye closed, and no one looking around, if you are not sure, Mom or Dad, young man, young lady, Grandma, Grandpa, it does not matter. If just by putting your hand up, and no one is looking around, and you say, "Bob, pray for me. I am not sure if I die right now that I go to heaven." Here is my hand. Anybody, just hold it up till I see it. Anybody at all, anybody at all during the urgency of the hour. Maybe everybody is saved here this morning, that would be wonderful, but you have to look inside your own heart, and you have to look inside and know what God is dealing with you. God bless you, sir. God bless you. Anybody else? Anybody else? One brave man raised his hand. Anybody else? I am not sure. Today is the day to be sure. Today is the day because of the urgency of the hour. What you heard this morning is so true, and it has been laid out in an elegant fashion that anybody could understand what has been said this morning, that you need to know of the urgency of Christ coming back. The nations are lined up, the world is lined up, Israel is lined up. The only one that is not lined up is the church, and that is because we have got ourselves focused on every other thing in the world except the urgency of the hour.

One more time, across from my right, across the my right, across anybody in my right flank here, over here in the right side, anybody over here in the middle of the left, anybody over here on the left side other than Ryan who raised his hand. Okay, let us pray.

Father, we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus, and I ask You today to deal in the heart of this dear man who raised his hand, and for others maybe who did not have the courage. Lord, we have heard today the urgency of the hour, what needs to be done, and we pray now, Father, today that You will do the work of Your office, Holy Spirit of God, as only You can do, and we will turn this time now, Lord, dedicated to You because we have done everything we can do. It is up to the Holy Spirit of God, and I know the Holy Spirit of God has been all through this, but it has been men preaching Your Word and me speaking about Your Word. Now it comes down to Your spirit in our hearts, and Lord, we will thank You and praise You.

Every head bowed, every eye closed. Hey, if you raised your hand here, sir, and you are not sure you are saved, I have somebody in the back here that will take a Bible and show you how to be saved. Our heads are bowed and eyes closed. If you will just stand up where you are at, I will have him come to you and take you in the back, and you can settle this thing today. Will you do it while we are waiting for and praying for you? If you are not sure, will you stand up right now and let the Lord put the Word of God into your heart? Let us take an open Bible and show you how you can know for sure you have been saved. Anybody right now as we speak? We are only going to wait a moment. You raised your hand or you did not raise your hand, and you are not sure. Now is the time to make sure. Anybody at all?

Father, we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus. Thank You for the message today. Thank You for the great week of camp and for the men and the women that have labored so diligently up at camp, and yet, Lord, it has been a total effort of our church, of the men and women who have, who have sacrificed and stayed by the stuff down here. We love You, Lord. We thank You for our church and what You have given us here, and for the men and women, and for the love of the Word of God, and for the love for our children, and Lord, to nurture them up and bring them up in the Lord. And we will thank You now today as we look forward to all the service of opportunity this week, and to reflect back, Lord, let these kids and these counselors keep in their hearts what they found up there at camp last week. Let them be the javelin point, the catalyst, Father, of this church to drive it forth to reach others for Christ, and we will thank You and praise You in Jesus' name, for His sake, we ask it. Amen.