

# Revelation 1:6

Sunday 12/29/2024

O Zion, skies against the foe, Invades below, let all our strength be hurled. Faith is the victory, we know, That overcomes the world. Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory that overcomes the world! His banner over us, His love, Our sword, the Word of God. We tread the road the saints above With shouts of triumph trod. My faith, they like a whirlwind's breath, Swept on o'er every field. The faith by which they conquered death Is still our shining shield. Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory that overcomes the world!

On every hand the foe we find, Drawn up in dread array. Let tents of ease be left behind, And onward to the fray. Salvation's helmet on each head, With truth all gird about, The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread, And echo with our shout. Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory that overcomes the world!

To him that overcomes the foe, White raiment shall be given. Before the angels he shall know His name confessed in heaven. Then onward from the hills of life, Our hearts with love aflame, We'll vanquish all the hosts of night In Jesus' conquering name. Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory that overcomes the world! Amen.

Turn back to hymn number 62. Hymn number 62, "Crown Him With Many Crowns."

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne. Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love, Behold His hands and side, Rich wounds yet visible above, In beauty glorified. No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight, But downward bends His wondering eye At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave, And rose victorious from the strife For those He came to save. His glories now we sing, Who died, and rose on high, Who died eternal life to bring, And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heaven, One with the Father known, One with the Spirit through Him given From yonder glorious throne. To Thee be endless praise, For Thou for us hast died. Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days Adored and magnified. Amen.

Turn back a few pages, hymn number 44. Hymn number 44, "And Can It Be That I Should Gain." Amen.

And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who sought His heartless rod? Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race. Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; I am my Lord's, and He is mine. My living Head, and glorious Head, And glow in righteousness divine. Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amen, guys.

One more time on the chorus without the piano. Here we go. Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amen.

Great singing. Grab a seat. The Old Paths Boys are actually going to come up and do a special here, and then we'll have our announcements.

It was a day in early springtime, By an ocean with sun well. So we took the fair Rebecca, Dressed in jewels so rich and red. Quickly to a waiting drag, Baby, now bless the Holy Spirit, From our Father brought above. Ask Him down to find a worthy bride. Oh, there's going to be a wedding. So we have left the kinfolk gladly, We have made the world goodbye. We've been called to be His pure and spotless bride. We'll soon behold our Jesus, And have the best eternity. What a happy, happy wedding it will be. Oh, get ready, the evening shadows fall. There's going to be a wedding, And I'll go and listen to the end. There's going to be a wedding, And our joy will soon begin. In the evening when the camel's train comes in.

All right, so I'm going to make the first announcement and then turn it over to Bob. My announcement is about the open house that's going to be going on tonight at our house, which is at 5:30. There's no real end time to it. It's a come-and-go open house. We're going to have appetizers. We're anticipating a big crowd, so we just want to let you know. Our basement is going to be open. We're trying to open up the main part of the house as much as we can. We're going to have chairs set up in the garage. The Lord's taking care of us with a little bit warmer weather today, so it's not going to be freezing cold out there. Just plan on being able to come and sort of spread yourself around so we're not just all piled on top of each other. All of our speakers and their families that are in from out of town are going to be there. They're going to be spread around, and it's a great opportunity for you guys just to come and visit with them, get to know them a little bit, love on them, and let them be a blessing to you and you to them. So just plan on that tonight.

One more thing, a handful of you, maybe even several of you, have reached out to Jamie and offered to help bring food over tonight, and we really appreciate that. Normally, we have you do that, but for this particular thing, we just want to give you guys the night off. You guys are all super helpful. We've got it all handled, we've got it covered. We just want you to come and enjoy the fellowship and just be with them. We thank you for offering. The only last thing is, you guys know how we do it on like Fourth of July, if as many people as possible can just park on that side street, Arbor Ridge, that keeps the neighbors from calling the police on us from having a thousand cars parked in front of everybody's house. So help us out with that. We're looking forward to tonight, and we're looking forward to having you all there. I'm going to turn it over to Bob for the rest of our announcements.

I can hardly wait for my camel train comes in. Amen. I have one regret. I can only sing about twice or three times a year when I get a really bad cold, which I have right now, because I can sing bass really good. I would have loved to fill into that "boom boom boom" part, but they didn't ask me. I think when the Lord comes back, it's like into a rain, Isaiah, you know, come down, water the grass. It's a former and latter rain in the Bible. We know that in Psalms that when the Lord comes back, when that latter rain falls, there's even the rocks cry out and sing. Do you know that? I don't know if you figured it out or not, but this is why when you get into the shower and that water comes down on you, you have this thing that you want to sing. I was singing my heart out this morning, bass, hoping that they had asked me because this is my song, but they didn't. But I'm really good at it.

I am going to that city far beyond the sky. I have made my reservations for my home on high. My soul was bought at Calvary by the Father's only Son. Boom boom boom. Now He's got my mansion ready when my work is done. God made a way for me beyond the crystal sea. He's coming back someday. He's going to take me home to stay. I'll live forevermore around that golden shore. Oh, what a wonderful, happy day. God made a way.

See that? You have to get some resolve in getting a cold, and for me, it's the only time I can really sing. I'm going to make some announcements here, and then we'll get on with the time. We've got a lot of things planned for you today. All of our visitors here today, if you haven't already made the pilgrimage, go to the bookstore. Whatever you want in there for yourself, as a gift from me for you being here today, just help yourself. Some of you have already been down there, and we just want to make it known that this church is about giving to you, not necessarily you giving for us. So thank you for being here today, and we just really appreciate you being here.

Anybody have a birthday today? We always recognize our people with birthdays. Anybody have a birthday today? How old? 46? You don't look 46. 66 maybe, but not 46. You can go to the bar. Anybody else? Spiritual birthdays? Anybody have a spiritual birthday? Yes, how many? Five? Praise the Lord. Five back here. How many? 12? Amen. Praise the Lord. You got saved on a New Year's Eve thing, didn't you, honey? Amen. With the old place. Yeah, six. Amen. Praise the Lord. Anybody else? I would tell you that you could go over to the bookstore, but everybody's raided that place over there. There's nothing left. No, you go on over and get something out of there, whatever you want. We're just glad that you're here today.

I've got a couple more big ones here that you want to really special. This is anniversaries and special things. Colby and Jess are going to have a baby. This is not singling them out because almost everybody here is like this, but they came in to see me Thursday night before Bible study and told me that she was going to have, that they're going to have a baby. Then they told me with all the things coming up and the mission trips we're going to be planning, they know that they can't go. So they wanted me to know that they were going to be available to fill in for anybody's ministry that while they're gone, to cover that, that they would get it done. It doesn't get any better than that. It doesn't get any better than that. Lakota and Courtney got engaged on Christmas Eve. My grandkids came to me last night, got online someplace, and this is legit. They know that my heritage is from Scotland. I'm a distant relative of William Wallace, and they went

on someplace, and this is the truth. I got it. I'm going to show it to you. Barb took it home. I was going to show it to you today, but they got me bonafide in Scotland as a certified Lord Bob and Lady Barbara. No, no, no, no, no. This thing has an application that I can actually send in to the Census Bureau and get "Lord" added to Lord Bob's name. So it's, I got a deed over there of some property. It's unbelievable. I'm, you know, all these big-time preachers, they're PhDs, they're doctors, they're B.A., you know, and I'm Lord Bob. Where are you going? Anyway, we're having a great time, having a great time.

We're going to take up our offering here. Are you going to sing another song? Are we done? When are you going to sing it? What am I going to sing? I mean, is the congregation going to sing another song? Okay, when? After the handshake, before the offering. Oh, that's right, we get to do handshakes. I forgot that. Okay. So we're really glad you're here today. We do something here that we've just done since we started, and it's kind of just a minute to shake hands and do everything, and we kind of sing a welcome little song. We all stand up, and I need my little compadre up here to help me. If you don't know the words, just mouth them along because nobody really cares anyhow.

Get the new look from the old book. Get the new look from the Bible. Get the new look from the old book. Get the new look, the outward look, the upward look, From the authorized book. Get the new look from the old book. Get from God's Word.

Shake hands, meet our visitors. I'll be back in a moment. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Stand up with me again if you sat down. Turn to hymn number 208. 208. "Are You Washed in the Blood?" 208. Here we go.

Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Are you washed in the blood? In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb? Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Are you walking daily by the Savior's side? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Do you rest each moment in the crucified? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Are you washed in the blood? In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb? Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

When the Bridegroom cometh, will your robes be white? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Will your soul be ready for the mansions bright, And be washed in the blood of the Lamb? Are you washed in the blood? In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb? Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Lay aside the garments that are stained with sin, And be washed in the blood of the Lamb. There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean, Oh, be washed in the blood of the Lamb. Are you washed in the blood? In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb? Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Amen, guys.

Great singing this morning. Grab a seat. Bob's going to come back up, and we're going to take up our offering. Make sure Miles gets a mic. He's going to do a testimony. Sean's doing a testimony for the seniors. Yeah, yeah. There's something I don't know about, obviously. He traded it up. Oh, I invited a couple guys to sing with me for the special. I guess you did. Sean's already got a mic. Okay. We're going to... All right, guys, hold it down. We're going to take up our offering this morning. The downside is you guys had better put it in the plate before you got up here. That's all I can tell you.

This is our last Sunday. I talked to you. We've taken two months, and we wanted to, sacrificially, over and above our regular offering, make a commitment, sacrificially offering, to our missions conference and take care of everybody and everything. Tomorrow night I'll give you an update. We had a goal of \$45,000 over and above our regular giving, and tomorrow night I'll give you a report on that, but this is your last day to be able to be part of that for this conference. So we pray that you'll really take part of that. I say this every Sunday: if you're visiting here today, we don't expect you to put anything in our offering. We're just really glad that you're here. You're going to find out very quickly, this church is not about money. It's about giving you what you need to get through life with your family, your wife, or yourself, and give you the Word of God. So we're really glad that you're here today, and if we can ever be a help to you in any way, shape, or form, feel free to let us know.

Our prayer list this morning, just so we can keep that before you: we've got Kristin out of Las Vegas, she's on the pin map. We've got the Powers family, pray for them, they're sick. Troy and his family are down sick. Jean Sobaka, my mother in the Lord, my cousin Darlene. Greg out in St. Louis. Rebecca out, and our missionary to England, and Anastasia to Vietnam. By the way, we're giving her a love gift for \$1,000 for their mission over there. So her mom's going to take that and get that to them too, all out of what we're doing here. Pray for all of our missionaries. We've got them on the board back here now where you can see it and keep it before and pray for them. Arcela is slowly getting better. Pray for her and Leon. Honey, I miss you. I wish you back here as quick as you can. You're always a bright spot when I'm preaching. So get well soon, and we're praying for you. So you give it to God as God has blessed you, and these guys are going to sing, and then I'm going to have Sean come up and give a testimony, and then I'll introduce our speaker this morning, and we'll get going.

Guys, this is all new to me. What are you singing? "My Anchor Holds." Oh, that'll work. That'll work. All right. Go ahead, guys. You want somebody to pray for the offering? Oh, okay. Let's pray for the offering. Should I pray for a big offering or just the offering in general?

Father, thank You for today. Thank You for the host of people that have come out. Thank You for the labor of these folks and for Miles coming our way and all of our speakers. Lord, we just love You. You've been so good to us in this church, more than we deserve. Lord, to be here today with all these people, to see the excitement and the opportunities that You're opening up for us, we just thank You for that. We ask You to take this offering now, Lord, as it comes in, and we'll add mission's part to it and pay the bills with the rest. We're just so thankful for all that You have done for us and You've given us. Lord, we just ask You now to bless it and use it for Your honor

and glory. In Jesus' name, for our sake, we ask it. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. That was great. Good job.

Sean, come on up here, buddy. Let me tell you a little bit about how we got connected with Sean. It's probably two or three years ago that they have been following us online. He called me for a Bible question, and we got talking back and forth. I asked him where he's from, and he says he was living in North Canton. I said, "Well, I'm from Canton." We got talking and found out that they only live about 10 minutes from where my sister lives in North Canton. So we got together, and this has been three or four years ago, so every time we take our vacation, we all hook up together, and we just do everything we can do together. I'll tell you, and he brought his family here this morning. I'll tell you what, get to know them. They are great people. I told the boys, the boys wanted everything out of the bookstore they could get their hands on, but their wives wouldn't let them spend any money. You know how women are. Oh, they could go over to Old Navy and buy a lot of stuff. I'm just kidding. So I made them go into the bookstore, and they got just stacks of stuff. Now, let me tell you the philosophy behind that. They're going to take it back, and they're going to give it out to other people. They're going to use it in their own teaching, and this ministry is just going to keep on going in everything that it does.

I met with Miles this morning, and boy, what will I tell you about that meeting a little bit later? You don't want to miss Thursday night Bible study. Remember I told you coming out of this conference God would show us? We got it. Thursday night I'm going to lay the whole thing out for you from what we have talked about. You're not going to believe it. You do not want to miss. But anyway, Miles is coming in, and I was telling him about the boys, and he said sheepishly, "You know, I'd like to get some stuff out of the bookstore." Well, I said, "Okay." I said, "What do you want?" Got real quiet. I said, "What do you want?" He says, "Would one of everything be too much?" So Rose and Carlene are stacking it up over there for you, buddy, and you got all that you need. I am so happy for Sean and his family to be here. I wanted to take a few moments this morning and then, well, we already took the offering. I'll do it again. I'll do it again. I'm a Baptist. Let's do it again. And just tell us how our church has impacted you and your church and your family. Then I'll introduce Miles, and then we'll get into our time this morning. So brother, come up here. I love you to death, man. I appreciate you, man.

Oh, wow. Okay. My name is Sean Johnston, my wife Tammy, and my daughter, my Abby, Jayden, Luke, Priscilla, stand up. You guys weren't in here yesterday because you skipped out. Michaela started coming in when Bob was introducing them, and she saw what he was doing. She went back out the door. So I had to embarrass him. I was told not to try to be funny, so I worried too late. So the difference between my family and Miles is he asked for one of everything, where I got three boys that are asking for one of everything. So that's the problem. I got a text about 10 minutes, I'm not joking, Caleb, my oldest that couldn't be here, said, "Can you send me some books from the bookstore?" No. Anyway.

In all seriousness, Tammy, I met my wife. I was 14 years old. I'm not saying that's always the best age to meet your wife or whatnot, but sometimes it is. There's nothing wrong with that. Obviously, it can be difficult. We met at the Akron Baptist Temple. I don't know if you've ever heard of that, but it's in Akron, Ohio, where it was. We grew up there. We went to a camp called

Ohio Baptist Acres. Some of you have probably been there. I know that I was talking to Jim. I didn't even know there was a connection there. He used to talk about how the people of the Mac and Baptist Temple were whipped on the camp Baptist Temple people. Isn't that what you said? Something like that? I said it the other way. So I was like, I didn't even know that. But anyway, I got saved there. My wife got saved there, kind of. But we met there. I met my future boss there. Well, I don't know. I'd say she rededicated her life there. I think she got saved when she was younger. That's why I'm not by that. I had my future boss there who hired me at my job. I teach. I'm a high school teacher, public school. I've been doing it for my 29th year. I teach US history. You'll probably catch on that. We'll do it on Monday. But the camp meant a lot to us. It changed my life. Camps changed lives. When you guys had your camp, I was praying for your camp. I was praying for Jared and all those people that were young women, the workers. I follow you guys. The 30 baptisms. That was awesome. Watching all that all year long. You guys have your chunky tree, your breakfast with Satan, or whatever you call it. And then you guys bring those people from... Just kidding. If you bring in some people from out of town, then the community, you get a couple families coming, it's worth it. There's nothing wrong with that. So I just had to say that. But I follow all that stuff. Your ministries. You guys, you've got something special here. And it's rare, because you feel like sometimes you're the only church to believe certain things. But in the community, they think you're nuts. I can't help but think of Hosea 8, where when God's Word becomes strange things to other Christians, and that's what we are today. True believers that believe in this book, to other Christians, they look like you believe strange things.

To make a long story short, me and my wife wound up believing, when my boys were little, I said, "There's got to be something better than this out there." The church had been starting, it was going to start in Canton, Ohio, Jackson Township. I'm just familiar with that at all. It was being sent from a church called First Baptist of New Philadelphia. I'll give that a minute. But we, my buddies had been bugging me to come for a long time, tell me how different this church is. So finally, just to appease them, we were redoing a house. I was leaving my mom and dad's house. We were late for other church, because we had little kids then. So I remember those days. It was only five minutes down the road to go the other way. So we turned right instead of left. From the moment the guy started preaching, I kind of had the mentality of, "I know the Bible, this guy's going to be like anything else." I'll tell him, "Man, it's like every other church." It wasn't like that. I never heard the Bible preached with authority like that. I never heard truth like that. And I grew up in church. I was a Christian. I knew Christ as my Lord, 14 years old. But I really hadn't grown. So we started going to church from the first day there. We never looked back. His name was Tom Gang. He started from Acts chapter 1. I told my wife, "Well, we'll just go through the book of Acts." Well, that took a year and a half. Okay, verse by verse study, expository preaching. So we wanted to stay in there. Like many of you, even people from my, people I thought were my best friends, we went to a cult now. A cult. You know, because it was a cult that believed the Bible. That's it. There was nothing else about it. I couldn't believe some of the reaction that people had that I thought would be more exciting. Some of you know exactly what I'm talking about. You get it from your family and your friends. You can't even have discussions with certain family members because they'll just turn into a fight. You're not alone. That happens in Ohio like it does here.

So we started going to this church. Here's the interesting thing about this. The church that was sent from New Philly had recently, within three or four years somewhere now, I don't have all this exact. I texted my, we were sent out. The church I go to now is called Green Town Baptist Church. It's in North Canton, Ohio. We were sent out from First Baptist of Jackson three years ago. There were 70 of us, 70 adults, plus the kids. Now we're about 200. We disciple. We have, correct me if I'm wrong, you might know, around 80-ish people involved, 80 pairs, disciples and discipleship right now. We're growing. We have, you know, it's a different, you guys have a young church. I mean, I've never seen a church of single age kids like you guys have here. It's just crazy how powerful that is here. We have a lot of older people coming right now that either have been burned by other churches or they went to church and they just, they hadn't heard the Bible preached and they're like, "Why have we never heard of any of this stuff before?" And they're joining. I just disciplined a guy who was 71 years old. We just finished up, and he just wants to finish the right way. So it doesn't matter how old you are. It matters how you want to finish your life. You really can't go back. You just kind of go where you are, go forward.

So Tom Gang was the pastor of First Baptist Church. He was my old pastor. He was sent out by a guy named Mark Trotter, Frank Pardue. They were guys from First Baptist in New Philadelphia. What happened was their church was a mess, and some church from Kansas City came in, and they were led by a guy named Bob Alexander to bring discipleship. Tom just texted me this morning, which I didn't even know, and said, "I was the first experiment at New Philly to be disciplined." He became a pastor at First Baptist Church at Jackson. I asked him how many they have right now. Now, this is too big in my opinion, but we'll go to, they have 722 right now. We left three years ago. They replaced us almost immediately. Now, the difference is there were people that replaced us. What he didn't realize to calculate was 40 percent of their child care and stuff were people that were leaving to go to the new church. But what happened was he didn't have people, they weren't quite ready for that change to have other people take over leadership roles. And so, and something I'm going to talk about tomorrow night is that, that leadership role and to get prepared. But that was one need that they still have. But they have 722. We're a church of about 200 sent out from New Philly. All the stars started with, and by the way, he told me, I didn't even know this, Jackson, the first week they were sent out, we went the second week they ever existed. The first week they, when they sent out, they only had 23 adults. Started with 23 people. 722. That was 20 years ago. It was 2001, whatever, that was 2000. And their, man, their disciple, their Bible believe in disciple making church. We are as well. Tom said he was one of the first ones, like I said, disciple there. They went back and changed their whole membership and how you became a member. Why is their membership clean? Started over, started from scratch. Maybe sometimes that's what churches need to do if they're going to survive.

The church I grew up at, Akron Baptist Temple. I don't know what you know about it, but I just showed Bob this the other day. It's at one time it was the biggest Sunday school in the world. On the planet. It's gone. So it's a parking lot. They tore the building down. It was huge. People used to come and say this is like the Starship Enterprise. Some of you, unless you're under 45, don't even know what that is. But they're like, this is like the thing, you know, now there are mega churches everywhere. Well, mega so-called churches everywhere. They're not, they're not really churches, but whatever they are. Okay. But back then, you know, that was a few of them. They

didn't have discipleship. So a lot of people getting saved. But when Dallas Billington, the original founder of that, died off, I've heard Bob talk about this with you guys. That's true. All this stuff he tells you, those are true. Those churches are gone. We came out here two years ago. I wanted to go check out, because I like check, I'm a history guy. I wanted to see this church. And me and my wife talked about going to Kansas City Baptist Church. So we're trying to find it. There is none. And then when I looked at what's left of it, I don't want to offend somebody, but it wasn't good. And then you look at the fruit and things that happened in the past, and you got to follow the fruit. You got to follow the fruit and the fruit that remains. That's the key. Something experienced in life has taught me. And if you don't know that, you just have to look at some history and follow that and trust that, because you know a tree by its fruit. You guys have good fruit. You guys still have good fruit. You're part of a lot of things that are great ministries. They're fantastic ministries.

My son this year right now is him and his wife and my grandkids. You know, they feel a call to serve the Lord. They feel like he's being called to England right now. And he's going to be going on a vision trip there pretty soon. That our church is paying for for him to go. Not do I want him to go? No, I don't. I know my wife doesn't. They can go and eat my grandkids. But I don't want him to go. But if that's where God wants them, that's where they need to be. Matter of fact, that's the safest place they need to be. If someone tells you it's dangerous to go here or dangerous to go there, I'm just telling you that in your life if you're not where God wants you to be, you're in a dangerous place. If God's calling you to be in some dangerous country, he's got your back. That's where you're safest. Didn't work out too well for Jonah. So going somewhere where he thought he would stay, that didn't work out too well. But anyway, so I appreciate you guys. You guys have an impact in this country and really the planet more than you even know. I mean, it's the ties, the, you know, meeting Joe and meeting Jim. You know, we have a pastor named Rufus Tofelt. I know Bob's mentioned him before. He's on the, the, the season side of life. Got where these guys are. And being nice. Hey, how about the old guard? Can I call you the old guard? Is that okay? Hey, we got to learn what we can from this old guard. The old guard ain't going to be here forever. And this time, we're going to go into some perilous times here, man. And, you know, raise your kids to family or, or not to prepare for things that are going to happen, I mean, that would be, that's not, that's not what you want to do. This world's going to get worse, not better. Someone said that the other day. It's going to get a lot worse. And most people don't even have a clue. You know, we're a remnant, but they're still there. There are churches that believe the same things we do. But just, you got to stay the course and press on. I mean, he is coming back. Tomorrow I'll mention a few things. I mean, I know people have been saying that forever. I know you've heard that your whole life, Jim, but man, how far can a generation go from when Israel became a nation? That's my question. We're on, the clock is on. The timer's running out. We just don't know when that's going to be yet. But we know the times and seasons. And if you're not opening your eyes to know that we're at the cusp of the end, you don't have to do what's going on. We got to wake up. You know, one of the things that my wife talked about time is, I don't have time to listen to these manby, pay-and-be radio preachers. I don't even want to hear how much of that garbage. Okay. I want to get the book. I want to use the book. And I want to impact the world I live in. And I'm telling you, it's getting harder to be a high school teacher, but I'm not the only one. Whatever job you're in, it's the same way. You can't even say certain things today

without being a hater or offensive to somebody. It's just the nature of the beast. I mean, it's not going to be popular to be a Christian nowadays. It never was. It's only going to get worse. So you've got to put your big boy pants on and go to work. And I know you guys do. I know you guys do. That's about all I got though. So tomorrow I'll be talking about a few things I mentioned. I'll be preaching tomorrow night with Joe. You don't want to miss that. This is our second meeting together in our Bible conference tomorrow night. We'll close it out. I've asked these two guys to be here all week with us and get the spirit of things and then close us out tomorrow night. It's been a great time. I must tell you that for me, always to see you guys and be with you guys because you're my best friends in the world, but I was really excited to have Miles here. I mean, I don't know how much he, maybe he's figuring it out now. He's a smart guy. But it was of God to have him here with where we're at right now. And, you know, I had met him before and I had a really good perception that he was our kind of guy. You know, after 50 some years in the ministry, you get to be able to read people, you know, pretty carefully. There was a football coach for Alabama. I can't think of his name right now, but he won all kinds of conferences. And somebody asked him what his key was to putting together great football teams. And he says, "Well, when all the new prospects comes in," he says, "I evaluate them. And in my mind, watching them and seeing them, I separate the show horses from the work horses." He's a work horse. He's what we need in our church right now. I cannot tell you about our conversation we had this morning and how excited I am. I'm going to ask all the nursery workers to just do one more Thursday night. Everybody's in here and I want everybody to hear this. When you leave Thursday night, you're going to understand and know what God has brought out of this conference. And, you know, Miles, I told you before, you know, I wanted to make a marriage with his ministry from our church and that's exactly what we're going to do. And I want to be there for him. He is exactly what I need to train you young men and young ladies and older folks that can handle it what New Testament missions is. He's old school. He's down to earth. He's, oh, and you know what else he told me? Hey, he is a lord in Scotland too. Right? Yeah. We're going to see our lamplots and see if we're nobles together or we can run the whole country, you know? But, Miles, I'm so happy to have you here. You've won my heart, pal, and you've won the hearts of my people. I've watched some of you really, really, really, I mean, I've had guys coming to me when he comes to Kansas City saying, "Hey, let us know when you're here." Darren says, "I'll hook your electrical up." Josh is going to cover whatever he needs to Jason back there. Everybody is, believes in this guy. We're going to be part of his ministry. And I'm so happy to have him preach today. And then after he's done, I'll make a few quick announcements and then we'll dedicate these Bibles and we'll get him out there and then we'll get him on his way this afternoon. But, Miles, come and preach to us, buddy. God bless you, man. I love you, buddy. Thanks, sir.

## I. The Ministry of Scripture Distribution

I'm so thrilled to be here. I've met so many people. I've got to visit with so many people, and I just feel at home. I think that's one of the things that is so important in churches is that kindred spirit. There are churches that I've been to that we've got to do what? They've missed the whole vision of the opportunity to handle God's Word. This morning we're going to talk a little bit about

that as far as the responsibility, what authority have we been given, and whose authority do we work under? I hope that will be a blessing to you.

Praise the Lord. We were able to, brother, we were talking, and he said, "I want to do 20,000." So we started at 20,000. That was the number that preacher gave. Then he's like, "I want you to listen to the message last Sunday and kind of get an idea where we're headed." I said, "Okay." So he mentioned in his message last week 35,000. I said, "Okay." So I texted him. He goes, "Hey, brother, we're doing 20,000 or 35,000?" He's like, "35." I said, "Okay." In the process of that, I had about a half a pallet left over, and I said, "I'm just going to take them all." That way I can start first of the year. New Year's resolutions, right? We're going to clean the warehouse out. They haven't been done in a while. There's no scripture there because our goal is to get it put together and send it out. So we have an empty warehouse right now that's fixing to get very full again for a big project for Thailand. So I said, "I'm going to take this. That'll give me an opportunity to clean it out." Through all of that, we ended up with, I think, 47,500 scriptures that you have your fingerprints on that are going to Costa Rica, Peru, other Latin-speaking countries. These are evidence of, forensic evidence of your willingness to be involved in the ministry that God's called you to do. We're going to look at that under the authority of why we do what we do this morning.

A couple of quick things. I didn't talk to preacher much about this. If you have Bibles at home, King James Bibles, if you're like me, you have several, and you get to the place, it's like, "I got these on a shelf. I don't know what to do with them, and I don't want to throw them away. It might be sentimental, but I don't use it." If you would bring those to the church, I will get them to the mission field. We have national pastors in the Philippines, as well as places in Africa, some of the pastors in South America that are working on learning English. We have places for those that we can ship those Bibles and utilize those and put them back into the ministry of the work of God, rather than just sitting there on a shelf collecting dust. So if that's something you have, we would love to get those to the field.

Some of the national pastors, we've presented those with some of these used Bibles, and you might say, "Well, the cover's falling off." This is a Bible that I traded. This came from South America, and this came from Pastor Daniel. It actually looks in really nice shape because down there, they have no air conditioner in their homes, no air conditioner in their cars. They don't even have cars. They don't even know what that is in the jungle. Everything is through a boat. So you've got water there. You've got humidity in the jungle. It's a rainforest, so you can imagine what that humidity is like. No air conditioner in the church. The church has two walls and a roof. So when it rains, a lot of times it just blows through. I'm going to get in trouble here, but you women folk, you know what it's like when it's humid and you go outside, what happens to your hair? That's exactly what happens to a Bible in the jungle. So we did a little experiment. We took some John and Romans and we put them on a shelf. I said, "I'm going to be back in eight months." In eight months' time, between the humidity and the bugs and different things, those scriptures are not any good anymore. So sometimes people have this idea of, "Well, you're sending. How many scriptures have you sent there? How many do they need?" But we're dealing with a problem there that we don't have to deal with here. We're dealing with not only

distributing them, but also making sure that it's in a usable form. That's very important that we keep them in usable forms of scripture.

Everything that we do is a marked edition. It takes you through the plan of salvation through 11 different verses in the book of John and Romans. John shows the love of Christ. Romans shows the need for Christ. Everything Jesus did was in a balanced, absolute, perfect manner. I grew up of the era of the Romans Road, and that's great. However, if you leave the love of God out, you're out of balance. That was me. I said a prayer at seven years old, struggled from there till I was 18 years old with, "Am I saved? Am I not? Lord, if I'm not saved, save me." I'm going to tell you that was the most miserable time in my life. So that's one of the reasons that we use the book of John, John 3:16, for God's love of the world. There's also the other extreme of, "God loves you and He wouldn't send anybody to hell." We've heard that before. That's the other end of the spectrum, and that's not true either. So between the two books, we have the perfect balanced picture through the Word of God of what the gospel looks like.

As we go through that, we deal with salvation, but we also deal with John 1:12, adoption into the family, because when you trust Christ as Savior, you become a child of God. Before you were saved, you're not a child of God. You're His creation, but you're not His child. When you get born again, you get adopted into the family. John 1:12> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

So we deal with that through the scripture. We also take that a little bit further. We go to John 10:27-28. John 10:27-28> My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:> And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

That's amazing. Then it goes on to say, "I and my Father are one." So we have this idea, this picture through these 11 verses, we deal with a lot of meat. So a lot of times when we send these scriptures down there, the pastors will use these in about a two-year span and preach it out of just those two books. So these are so vital, so important. As these go down and these get turned over to missionaries in whatever country it might be, then from there, we're able to work with the missionary. They disciple them. As they're being disciplined, that gives us time to work through getting whole Bibles together and sending those. We can put about 400, depending on the language, John and Romans in each box. Therefore, would you rather have 400 opportunities or 17 whole Bibles in one box? I'm not discounting the whole Bible. It's very important. However, in the evangelism side of things, I'd rather have the bulk. So we work through that as people come to know Christ. We do send whole Bibles. That is part of the ministry as well. So that's why we do those two books, and that's why they're marked editions to be able to take those and see people come to know Christ as Savior.

One day we'll get to heaven. We'll meet people that we have no idea who they are. I can just see it. They'll come tap us on the shoulder, "Hey, you don't know who I am. But, you know, we were at Old Paths Baptist Church, and I got a Bible, and I trusted Christ as my Savior. I want to tell you, thank you for doing that, for putting yourself out there to be involved." I just think about that as I do a lot of driving, and I think about what heaven is going to be like and the people that

we've had an influence on. I have someone ask, "How many scriptures have you put together?" I say, "I have no idea." My smart-aleck answer is, "David was told not to number the people." So I really don't know. But I can tell you November was 20 years that we've been involved in this ministry, and every year has grown. It is amazing. During COVID, when things were so crazy, those were our banner years as far as being able to produce scripture, put the scripture out. When those stimulus checks came, there were many people that said, "This isn't my money," and they would sign those checks over to buy paper to be able to produce scripture during those times. We had churches where we wrote mandatory work orders. You remember when you weren't supposed to meet and all of those things? We wrote letters and as mandatory work orders, they would get together, put Bibles together through that time. It was an amazing time. We were so thankful for the people of God that would come together and just be faithful to put the scriptures together so that people all around the world can have a copy of the scripture in their language so that they can see what Jesus did for them. So it's an exciting thing. Thank you, thank you, thank you. It's like being at home. I mean that from the bottom of my heart. I served a few I had met prior, and it's good to see you all again, and just thank you. If you haven't come up and seen our table, there's all kinds of stuff up here. There's all kinds of different languages. There's some audio Bibles here. I'll show you those in just a minute. Be sure to get a prayer card if you're interested in our prayer letter. Write your email down there. We send out prayer letters. Try to do those quarterly. I've got a friend helping me now, so hopefully we'll do better at that. They do come out in a MailChimp form. So if you'd like to be added to that list, please write your email down, and we'll make sure that you are added and keep up to date with what's going on.

Let me get that radio. Let me get the monkey out of the room too. I have my tie on just because that's what I do. But I forgot my dress shoes. So you all go ahead and laugh. We got that out of the way. So that won't distract you now. I'm going to go back here and hide. Praise the Lord for that.

When all these years ago, whenever we started in the ministry, we were simply putting John and Romans together. That's how it started. Through time, it got to the place where we had more projects than we had material available to put together. Through prayer and wondering, "Well, what now? We have churches scheduled, but we don't have material to assemble." Over the years, we've been able to pick up other print shops, print shops that are run through local churches, which is important. We're going to talk about that in the message this morning. So print shops that are run by local churches, God's people handling God's Word. We now have eight print shops throughout the United States that we pick scriptures up. We started out with a Dodge pickup truck that I think it had 300,000 miles on it when we got rid of it, had 700 and something on it. We got rid of that thing, but I don't know how many transmissions in it. We got to the place just brainstorming, "What if we got a semi truck?" So I'm on Craigslist, and I'm looking. I don't even think that's a thing anymore. But we were on Craigslist, and we're looking, and we found a 2003 International for \$10,000. It's like, "That's so much money." But it worked out, and we're still running that truck. It's got a million and two on it, and it just keeps working. So we had an opportunity to buy this truck. Now I'm wondering if it was a good idea. Some of you know what I'm talking about. But we were able to get a truck that was 20 years newer. This one's only got 600,000 miles on it. Some of you, you know, when it turns 100,000 on your car, you have a heart

attack. But that's okay. It's the Lord's. He'll let it last, and it'll break when it's supposed to, and it'll run when it's supposed to. So I don't get worried about those things anymore. We've been in the ministry long enough that we recognize everything happens for a purpose and a reason.

What some of you don't know, last night, the young man that was here working on that, his name was Alex, and we were talking while he was waiting on a phone call. He knows the Lord, but he didn't have assurance of his salvation. So we were able to help him with that through scripture and showed him God's either a liar or He's telling the truth. You're either Savior or not through the Word of God. God's Word cannot lie. Therefore, if you trusted Christ, you're adopted in the family. So I was able to help him with that. I found out he lives 20 minutes from here in Lord Will, and he'll come and visit sometime soon. So pray for Alex. Maybe that's why the truck broke. I don't know. But those opportunities are all around us, and we need to be looking for those opportunities to be able to share the gospel, whether it's the gospel and we lead them to Christ and we're able to pick that fruit, or whether it's just helping them with assurance of salvation. There are so many people out there in the world today that I believe are truly saved that were never taught the assurance of salvation to realize that when you're saved, you're sealed. So that's one of the things that we work on, and we're very careful about as we lead people to Christ.

This year at the Kansas State Fair, we had 110 people trust Christ out there. If you'd like to go on a stateside missions trip, the fair is over in Kansas and Hutchinson area. It's not too far from here, I think four hours. You don't need a passport. You don't need vaccines or anything like that. It's a 10-day fair, and we have opportunity. We pass out usually over 10,000 scriptures there, and those people are there. We have an opportunity to visit with them, and just absolutely it's a wonderful, rich time of being able to serve the Lord. So we have those opportunities available. We have the Washington Town and County Fair down in Washington, Missouri. We had, I think it was 92 trust Christ there. We have just opportunities that are there. We have the Veterans Day Parade in Branson. We've passed out as many as 22,000 John and Romans in that parade. So just as different things as we can really think outside the box to traditional ministry. We place these things in these boxes, and we find ourselves with churches dying, and we find ourselves with problems in churches because they're not willing to do the ministry that God has given them to do. It's got to the place where we have to think on our feet. How can we be more effective? How can we do more? How can we be effective and reach these people?

One of the neat things about the Veterans Day Parade, there are people from all over the United States that come to Branson, Missouri, to the Veterans Day Parade, which is November 11th at 11 a.m. It's a two-mile parade, and there are people everywhere from all over the United States. They're there expecting something to receive something from the parade, and we give them the truth of the Word of God. It's a marked edition that they can go home and they can see for themselves how to trust Christ as their Savior. Our church name is on the back. We've had people reach out to us to be able to help them find a church that's good for them. So there's opportunity available.

I'm going to change gears here. Now back to the foreign mission side of things. When we go down there and we take scripture, we came to the realization when we had went down the

Amazon River about six hours and found a trail, and we walked up the trail. We had a bucket filter and with the idea of something went south, we could show them this bucket filter. You pour the Amazon River water in it. It looks like chocolate milk, and it comes out pure white like this. So that was our plan if we had a problem. We did have a problem. So when we walked over the hill and we went into the village, we met the chief there, and through the interpreter, this was a Ticuna Indian village in the Amazon jungle with no cell phone service, and if it would have went bad, it would have just went bad. So the opportunity came. We showed them what we were there for. We had the bucket filter. We put the water in it. It came out clean and pure. Through the interpreter, the problem is there's no written language there. Well, now we got another problem, don't we? So what do we do? So we prayed about it, the team, we prayed about it. What are we going to do? At that particular time, we were able to use the bucket filter as a visual aid that our sins make us dirty like the river water. We put the water through the bucket. It comes through the filter, Jesus Christ. It washes our sins away through His blood. It comes out pure when we're usable. So it was an opportunity.

Through that, about six months later, we started this idea of being able to, what if we recorded Tana's fiancée, who is a Ticuna, reading the Spanish, but speaking it in Ticuna? So we were able to do that. We recorded that onto a little SD card, and we put those into these solar-powered hand-crank radios. This particular one, I think, is Spanish, and this is a New Testament. What we do on these, because it's a little bit tricky as far as getting the gospel out, we start with the New Testament, then the Old Testament with a, I'm sorry, the New Testament testimony of somebody who trusted Christ in their language so that they can understand it's a presentation of the gospel, and then the Old Testament on there as well. I want you to hear just a quick blip of how this works. As you can see, I can't speak that language fluently. I don't know Ticuna. I don't know Yaguar, another language without a written alphabet or any kind of written words. But those people, Jesus died for them too. They need to hear the truth of the gospel. So this ministry was born of that, and it's funny that I have a friend who lives next door to Franklin Graham, and so we were talking about this thing, and next thing we know, they're doing it too. I'm not saying we started that, but praise the Lord for audio Bibles. Praise the Lord for that.

There are people being saved. We went into a village one time where clothing was optional from the waist up for everybody. This is the village where we showed the bucket filter. About eight months later, we came back, and as we topped the knoll of the hill, we could hear the audio Bible playing, and we looked over, and there were about 15 to 18 people sitting in a circle listening to the Word of God. They didn't know we were coming. They didn't know that. They had no way of knowing that. You peek over, and you see them, and guess what? They have clothes on. So we asked David, "David, why are they dressed? What happened?" "The Bible taught us that." What a testimony to the truth of the Word of God, how it changes lives. It changes lives. It changes us from wicked, wretched people to righteousness through the blood of Christ. Amen for that. So we have the audio. These are roughly \$20. I mean, we got \$20 in that. We have about 23 different languages now that we're able to send out. Some of the countries, we call them restricted access nations. Sometimes we have to get clandestine in the way that we get scripture in there. But God has opened doors. If you look and pray hard enough and long enough, God's going to give you a way to make it happen because God's not willing that any should perish, but that all should come

to repentance. That's the goal that we have is to see people come to know Christ. That is our goal, and that should be your goal as well.

Some of you might say, "Well, you're the missionary. That's your job." Are you saved? You're a missionary too. You have a Jerusalem. You have an influence of people around you. You have a job. You know people that I don't know. I know people that you don't know. Brother Bob knows people that you don't know. So you have a circle of influence that has people that you're responsible for. You're truly responsible for them because we're here in Christ's stead. You've been bought with a price. You have an obligation to reach folks for the glory of God. Think about this. We're here. The angels could have shared the gospel message. We're here. We're responsible for it. Yet we're sinners. We do things wrong all the time. We try to do right, and we fail. God forgives us for it. We try again, and we fail again. But yet we have the glorious gospel. We have the truth of the Word of God. We have the cure for separation from God in hell. We have the cure for that, and it's the gospel message. We have that, and we're responsible for it. That's the introduction.

As you can see my family here, we have six kids. I didn't plan that very well because there's not many cars you can get that has that many seatbelts and can pull a trailer. So I'm sorry that they're not with us, but I talked to my wife this morning, and they're doing very well. I'm thankful for that. My youngest two, this will be their second mission trip. January 2nd, we're going to Costa Rica. Some of these scriptures will be going there. My boys are going with me, and I'm proud of them. I told them, "I'll buy your passport, but I'm not paying for your ticket." I can't afford it. I didn't tell them that, but I can't afford it. So they got busy raking leaves, mowing grass, and different things, and they came up with their \$1,200. Ethan is 15, fixed to be 16, and Josiah is 13, and those boys worked hard. They paid their own way, and I'm proud of them. I don't know what the Lord is going to do with my family, but I just can't wait to see. I'm excited about that. God is good. I never dreamed that I would be doing what I do. I hate to be apologetic, but I'm not a great preacher. So Lord willing, He'll speak through us this morning.

I'm going to pray, and we'll get started. Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your Word that You've given us. Thank You, Lord, for the opportunity to be able to serve You, Lord. We're just a tool in the toolbox, Lord. I pray that You would help us to do our job well, and that You would take our lives and that You would use it for Your honor and glory. Lord, that we would be found faithful, Lord, as we are about the Father's business, Lord, as we heard earlier. Lord, I pray that You would speak through me this morning, that You would help me to say what needs to be said, Lord, stay away from the things that doesn't. Lord, I pray that You would help us to come away understanding the biblical responsibility that we have to be able to take Your Word and to send Your Word around the world, Lord, and to provide it to the missionaries that are there on the front lines, Lord, that are serving You. Lord, that we can give them the tools that they need. Lord, that we would see many people come to know Christ because of it. Lord, that we'd see them grow in the Lord, and that they would reproduce themselves, Lord, that we would just see a tidal wave of people, Lord, coming to know You, and that we would see our world change. Lord, we know that elections don't change anything. We know that decisions from powers that be don't change anything, Lord, but Your Word, the truth of the gospel. Lord, that will change the hearts

of men from darkness to light. Lord, that that is what's going to change, Lord, the nation that we live in today. Lord, I pray that You help us to be faithful as a remnant. Thank You, Lord, for loving us. Thank You, Lord, for giving us the opportunity in Jesus' name.

## II. The Kingly and Priestly Responsibilities

This morning we're going to talk about a few things that some of you have never heard this before. Perhaps some of you might have heard this before, but I want to talk about the responsibility that God has given us. In Revelation chapter 1 and verse 6, the Bible says that we've been made kings and priests through His blood. I don't know how many times I've read over that, and I read that as like, "Wow, that's pretty neat." Now we know, of course, Brother Bob, he's a Lord, and his wife is a lady. That's impressive, but you know, think about this: we are made kings and priests through Jesus' blood. With that comes biblical responsibility of being a king and a priest. I tell my daughters all the time, and you've heard this one, "You're my princess," and my boys, "They're princes," and they truly are. But you know what? They've trusted Christ as their Savior. They have kingly and priestly responsibilities as well. As a king and a priest, we find in the scripture that we have these responsibilities. We can't just name the name but not do the responsibilities. If we are truly born again and we have Christ in our heart and He has saved us from our sins, and our name has been written in the Lamb's Book of Life, we have a responsibility much more than just coming to church, much more than just studying the Bible, much more than just doing what we can do to help others. We have a responsibility that God has given us, and we're going to look at that this morning.

Revelation 1:6> And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Also in Revelation 5:10, we find also we find there that we're made kings and priests through His blood. Revelation 5:10> And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

I want you to look at a couple of things. We're going to look at the priest first this morning and the responsibility in the Old Testament. You say, "Well, that's the Old Testament." Yes, so. It's still the Bible, is it not? It's given for us to be able to glean information from, to be able to learn about. In Deuteronomy chapter 18, we're going to be using our Bibles this morning quite a bit. I know this is not probably necessarily a Sunday morning message, but it's what we have this morning, and the Lord is going to use it. Amen.

Deuteronomy 18:1-2> The priests the Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and his inheritance.> Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: the LORD is their inheritance, as he hath said unto them.

So we find here the tribe of Levi has been given the priestly responsibility as their job. They've been given that. We'll look here in just a minute that that's been given to them as a gift of service to all of Israel. "This is your job. I'm giving this to you. This is a special job. We have this for you to do." We find here in verse 2, very interestingly enough, and we're going to look at this just

a minute, "Therefore shall they have no inheritance." That's interesting, isn't it? Sometimes we know people that have had family pass away, the uncle that they knew nothing about, and they receive an inheritance, maybe some money or property or land. So we find here that the priest, the Levites, they shall have no inheritance among their brethren. So those things, they're cut off from that. That's kind of a bummer thing. But you know what? We have to inherit. We have heaven to inherit. We have something far greater than anything that could ever be given to us on this earth, and that's heaven, because the Lord tells us through His Word, "They shall have no inheritance among the brethren. And the Lord is their inheritance, as He has said unto them."

Now if we turn over in Acts, over to Acts chapter 4, verse 36, we find here a scripture verse that gives us a little bit more light into this subject. This has always bothered me. I've always wondered, "What does this mean?" I hope to shed some light on that this morning. Acts 4:36-37> And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,> Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Well, he wasn't supposed to have that land, was he? We just saw that. So as this has been, we've heard it preached before, "Well, you know, sometimes the Lord tugs at your heartstrings to give." Sometimes you have things you ain't supposed to have, and you need to repent of that. If we repent of that, that puts us back in a place of blessing where God can use us. If we're in a place where God can use us and we are focused on Him and what He has for us, life is good. It might not be easy, but we have that inheritance that we can look forward to. Just as Brother Jim talked a little bit about last night, we have that inheritance of heaven, being with the Lord for eternity. We have missionary friends, one of which was martyred in Iran not too long ago. He was killed in front of his wife and kids. He's in heaven. He has received his inheritance. He's there. He's received it. We have that to look forward to as well. Mr. Jim's wife, she's received her inheritance. She's in heaven. She wouldn't come back if she could. She has her inheritance to be with the Lord forever. If we know Christ is our Savior, we have that inheritance that's coming for us, to us.

Numbers chapter 4. Numbers chapter 4, if you'll turn over there. Again, we're going to be using our Bible quite a bit this morning. Numbers 4:4> This shall be the service of the sons of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation, about the most holy things:

Here we find scripture that teaches us what the service of the Levites are. "This shall be the service of Kohath in the tabernacle of the congregation about the most holy things." At this present time, the most holy things were the Ark of the Covenant. You remember what they were? What was in the Ark of the Covenant? The Word of God. The Ten Commandments, was it not? So the Word of God is there. There to be about the most holy things, serving the Lord with their lives. Serving Israel with their lives with an inheritance that's out of this world. As we look through that, the priest had this responsibility.

Numbers 18, just a few pages over. Here we find scripture that gives us a little more insight into what God has given us to do. Numbers 18:5-6> And ye shall keep the charge of the sanctuary, and the charge of the altar: that there be no wrath any more upon the children of Israel.> And I,

behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel: to you they are given as a gift for the LORD, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

You know, it's a gift to serve the Lord. It's a precious thing to serve the Lord. That's pretty serious, folks. Numbers 18:7-8> Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for every thing of the altar, and within the veil; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.> And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Behold, I have given thee the charge of mine heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel; unto thee have I given them by reason of the anointing, and to thy sons, by an ordinance for ever.

The stranger that cometh in trying to serve and be a counterfeit Christian. What does the Bible say here? "The stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death." Now you say, "Well, Jesus has come back. We're in the New Testament." You're right. Or Jesus has come. He's been born. He's died on the cross. We're under a New Testament. You're right. But we still have priestly responsibility to be about the Father's business. To serve the Lord with gladness and to be about the most holy things by an ordinance forever. The most holy things today is the Word of God. We have the full canon of scripture. We have the Word of God. We're to be about those things forever.

Deuteronomy chapter 17. Revelation 1:6 it says that we're made kings and priests through His blood. What about the kings? What's the responsibility there? Deuteronomy 17:18-20> And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites:> And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:> That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.

Here we find scripture. This is some of my favorite scripture. This is just an amazing thing to think about. The Bible says in verse 18, concerned in the king, "And it shall be when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom." Dads, you ever thought about that's talking to you as a saved man? You have a responsibility as the head of your home. As a king, as a saved man, you're a king in your castle. "When it shall be when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests, the Levites. And it shall be with him and he shall read therein all the days of his life that he may learn to fear the Lord, his God, to keep all the words of this law and the statutes to do them." Why? "That his heart be not lifted up among his brethren, that he turn not aside from the commandments to the right hand or to the left, to the end that he may prolong his days in the kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel." So daddies, I'm talking to you. We have a responsibility to read the Word of God, to study the Word of God. Why? Because your family depends on it. How are we going to transfer the beliefs that we have through the Word of God to our children if we don't talk about it? Why are we going to transfer the next generation what the Word of God says and teaches for us to do if we don't study those things and share those things with our children? I'm here to tell you, my youngest, my two boys that's going on the mission trip, their second trip,

they're excited about it because they understand what's going on, that we're taking the Word of God, we're taking little flashlights into the darkness, and a little bit of light makes a whole lot of darkness run and hide. So we have that responsibility. The girls want to go so bad, and I told them, "I said, when you're 13, you can go." So I got a couple years yet, so it won't be long, it'll be time to take them. Young people, before you graduate high school, I'm telling you, I'm begging with you, pray about going on a missions trip because it'll change your life. Once you get into the world with buying a car and getting into buying a house and all these things and life happens, before you know it, you're too busy to go. You've missed that opportunity to be able to go and see the world that God created, but also the people that God created that need to hear the truth of the Word of God. We've got to get that in our minds. We have the Word of God that teaches this. As fathers, we have the responsibility to study the Word of God that we can be blessed because of our stance and our position with God because of what we study. That's an amazing thought. So here we have the king's responsibility. We've looked at the priests, we've looked at the kings.

### III. The Failure of Kings and Priests

But what happened? We find in Proverbs 25:1, let's turn over there. This is a proverb that you'll be very familiar with. I don't know how many times I just read through this and blew right by it, and it missed me. I absolutely missed it. Proverbs 25:1> These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

The Bible says, "These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah, copied out." It goes on. It's a good proverb there that we can read about. But in verse 1, we find a problem. What's the problem? Who is supposed to copy the Word out? The king was, right? So here we find, "These are also proverbs of Solomon." Okay, no problem there. "Which the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah, copied out." What's your problem? Hezekiah didn't copy them out. He had it done. "I'm doing this today. You go copy that out for me. I ain't got time to do that." If we're not careful as Christians, we find ourselves, even I'm sure you do as well because I do, we find ourselves, "Well, I got to do this today," and we neglect this thing that we're supposed to do, that we as the men, as the king and the priest, have a responsibility to do, we subcontract it out. We find the faults in that here in just a minute. We've got to be so careful that we have one shot at this thing. Let's get it right. We have one shot. Let's get busy about it. So we find here that the king had started. Hezekiah is known as a good king. When you go through your history and you look at what he did, he was a good king. But he messed up here. How much better of a king could he have been if he would have just followed what God told him to do? Wow, what a thought. So we find that. That's Proverbs 25:1 if you're making notes.

Let's turn over to Ezekiel 44:7. When's the last time you turned to that book? Amen? I wrote the page number down so I...Ezekiel 44:7-8> In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations.> And ye have not kept the charge of mine holy things: but have set keepers of my charge in my sanctuary for yourselves.

Here we find this is one of the saddest, to me this is one of the saddest verses in the Bible. Ezekiel 44:7, the Bible says, "In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers." Now we were just warned of that not very long ago, weren't we? "This is your job. You keep the Word pure. It's a gift of service. This is to be a blessing for you." We find that they had already lost that first love. That's a familiar term that we see in the Laodicean church age, is it not? "In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh to be in my sanctuary to pollute it. Even my house, when ye offer my bread and the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations." Verse 8, "And ye have not kept the charge of mine holy things, but ye have sent keepers of my charge in my sanctuary for yourselves." We find that they had not only subcontracted the work of the Lord out, but they did it with strangers. And strangers that weren't saved, strangers that weren't even circumcised, that means they weren't even Jews. And they're in the temple, and they're trying to play church, if you will, while the people that were supposed to be doing it were doing whatever they wanted to do. That's a picture of the church today. We find churches all over the United States. We have pastors up there that are no more qualified to preach than my three-year-old. We find ourselves in the world today where we have problems like that, and we have sheep and we have goats. The day is coming that's going to be separated. We want to find ourselves working through the church that God has given us and being responsible about the things that God has given us. We need to be in the Word of God, studying the Word of God, sending the Word of God around the world. Over 400 English translations in the Bible. You know why? Uncircumcised in heart, uncircumcised in flesh, into my house, to defile it.

As I said, this is one of the saddest scriptures in the book to me. Ezekiel 44:13> And they shall not come near unto me, to do the office of a priest unto me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, in the most holy place: but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed.

Verse 15, Ezekiel 44:15-16> But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD:> They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge.

Here we find a remnant. There's always a remnant. Praise the Lord that this church is a remnant to what we used to have. I'm telling you, as time goes on, it was mentioned last night, the young people. It's an amazing thing to see all the young people here. All the young people that came on Friday night, when you had so many other things that you could do, to come together, standing up at tables, elbows to elbows, putting Bibles together. You may never go to some of these places, Costa Rica or El Salvador. I hope you do. But if you don't, your fingerprints are on the Word of God that's going. When somebody comes to know Christ, that's fruit to your account, just as much as it is the missionary. The Lord knows who tore those bundles, who collated those bundles, who put the covers on, who stapled those, who cut those, who boxed those, who's fixing to load them up in the trailer here in just a little bit. The Lord knows who did that. When somebody comes to know Christ, that's fruit to your account. Praise the Lord for that. That's fruit

that I think one day that when we get to cast our crowns back at the feet of Jesus, what was so precious to the Lord on this earth? The souls of men.

Now give me some liberty here, and there's some scriptures that I think I can back this up. Can you imagine when we have that opportunity to pass these crowns back at Jesus' feet, I feel like on this earth we have an opportunity to decorate these things just a little bit. Now Brother Bob is the Lord. Would you rather have a crown that's just a piece of gold crown, or would you rather have a crown with jewels and all these beautiful diamonds and rubies and all these things? Which would you rather have? The decorated one, amen? I don't think he has his hearing aids in today, do you? But can you imagine as we do the work of the Lord and we're giving this crown, I feel like our works through life, works don't save us, but works is an evidence of that salvation. As we lead people to Christ and as we disciple them and we see them grow and we see them reproduce themselves and we see second and third generation Christians because of what the Lord did in their lives, can you imagine taking that jewel and putting it on that crown? Think about that a moment. As we do these works and we have this next opportunity and we get to put these decorations on the crown and we get to cast a crown back at Jesus' feet that is fit for a king. A crown that is decorated with the souls of men that we get to give these things back. We're not doing it in our own power, we're not doing it, it's in His power and it's through Him. I can't do this by myself, folks. Can you imagine me trying to put, me and my crew putting together 40,000 Bibles in less than six hours? That's unheard of. What a team, man. As we have these opportunities, and I guarantee you people are going to be saved through these, there are some statistics that we try to keep. It's said that each one of these will be read by seven different people before it's destroyed through the humidity or bugs or just gets torn up. Seven different people. All of these scriptures, this can have an impact where they go. Again, little flashlights in a dark world, a little bit of light will make a whole lot of darkness run and hide. And you did that. You helped us do that. Praise the Lord.

So we find the fall of the king, we find the fall of the priest. However, these things were given to them as an ordinance forever, and yet we find where they failed in their responsibilities. We find here where people repented and got right, and they got where they were supposed to be in the work of the Lord. We find here that the kings were supposed to copy the Word of God. We find that they did that up to a point, and then there was a time and a place where they got busy and they decided, "I'm not going to do that. I'm going to subcontract that out too." We have a responsibility as a king and a priest, and I don't think that it's a far stretch to say we're to be about the Father's business, we're to handle the Word of God.

#### IV. The Importance of the Pure Word

As I said earlier, over 400 English translations in the Bible. Why? Uncircumcised in heart, uncircumcised in flesh, into the temple to defile it. It's God's work for God's people through the local New Testament church to print the Word of God. I believe that, and that's why I do what I do, and that's why we encourage you to get involved to do what I do, because again, I can't do it by myself. You say, "Well, that sounds good, but I ain't convinced." Okay. Romans 10:17> So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Does it get any simpler? It takes the Word of God. Without the Word of God, there's no faith. It takes faith. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." According to the US patent officers, over 400 English translations in the Bible. These particular copyrighted Bibles have to be 33% different from each other. So now we start here with the King James Bible as the benchmark to all of these others because that is the authority. 1611, there it is. The government recognizes that. You get 400 Bibles later down here. Don't look at my shoes. You get all the way down here. What do you got? You got a storybook with no meaning at all. A fairy tale. That's what we got. Again, why? Because God's people didn't do what their responsibility was for them to do.

The English Standard Bible, and I'm going to go through this pretty quick, but if we believe this, we need to understand why that's wrong. As we go through our lives, all of you have had this conversation before. I've had it with my brother-in-law. We've talked about these things. "Well, that's hard to understand." Well, no, it's really not. If you pray before you pick your Bible up and you ask the Lord to show you, there will be things that jump off the pages that you just are like, "Wow." That doesn't happen in those books. The English Standard Blog, the final words of the blog as they translated this thing over into a funny book. The Bible says, "We will not come after you if you don't cite quotes from the ESV according to the guidelines, but we would appreciate it if you did." Reading the letters ESV also helps take the popularity, that's interesting, is it not, the popularity of the ESV into the blogosphere. The motive was wrong right off the bat. It didn't need to be done. Here we find the true heart. They wanted stature and standard among the people. It's wrong. That was in 1982 when that blogosphere, that thing stopped, whatever.

The New King James was returned 11 different times to the patent office before it could get a copyright, 11 times. They wanted that thing so bad, they kept changing it. Now you and I both know sometimes you write your paper, your message, you go back and you redo it and you redo it, but you don't present it 11 times, "this is it," and then get turned away and redo it. 11 different times the New King James was turned away.

Psalms 10:5 in the New King James, the Bible, that ain't the Bible, the book says, "His ways are prosperous." In the King James, Psalms 10:5> His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.

That's night and day difference, is it not? Prosperous, grievous, they're different. The things that are different are not the same. Amen.

Isaiah 9:3, the New King James, "ye have multiplied the nations and increased its joy." The King James says, Isaiah 9:3> Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

Again, a direct contradiction, is it not?

Proverbs 18:5, this is my favorite, the words of a tail-bearer are like tasty trifles. Before you got saved, you might have participated in some of those gossipy things that you really enjoy hearing. We see here that it's like a tasty trifle. What does King James say? Proverbs 18:8> The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

Wow, is that not totally different?

The NIV committee member Jack P. Lewis, "The RSV opened the era of the multitude of translations flooding today's market all competing with each other." Why is the Word of God competing with each other? The Word of God stands for itself. It interprets us, we don't interpret it. "The RSV opened the era of multiple translations flooding today's market all competing with each other." God's not the author of confusion. There's nothing else I need to say there. It's confusing.

Delete the word "yet" and present Jesus as a liar in the NIV, the NASB, the ESV, and the Holman Christian Standard in John 7:8-10. Don't believe me, go look. I'll share my notes with you. Delete "without a cause" and present Jesus as a sinner like in the NIV in Matthew 5:22 and Mark 3:5. Delete proof text from the Trinity like in the NIV, the ESV, the NASB, the HSCB, and 1 John 5:7-8.1 John 5:7-8> For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.> And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

Two Bibles that read different cannot be the same. Ezekiel 44:7, "in that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, uncircumcised in flesh, into my house, to defile it."

I've got a quote here that I want to read to you. This is something that Noah Webster said, and I had it where I could pull it up real quick and easy, and then it ain't there. Here it is. Daniel Webster said, "If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, I do not know what is going to become of us as a nation. If truth be not diffused, then error will be. If God and His words are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy. If the evangelical volume does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt, litigious literature will. If the power of the gospel is not felt throughout the length and breadth of this land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness will reign without mitigation or end." Daniel Webster said that in 1870. Look at us in 2000, almost 25. Why has the Word of God not been spread abroad? This is a whole other message for a later time, but it's because we followed the philosophy of missions in the 1800s instead of the missions in the Bible. That's why.

## V. The Global Task and Personal Responsibility

We have this responsibility. God's Word must go out. Isaiah 55:11> So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

The verse before that, you know every raindrop that's ever fell accomplishes exactly what God has for it to do. Every raindrop that has ever fell onto this earth has accomplished what God has for it to do. You know every one of these copies of scripture will accomplish what God has for it to do. You ever thought about the rapture could happen and we're called home, but the Word of God that has your fingerprints on it will remain. It'll still be here. There could be people saved that you get credit for that ain't even in heaven yet. What a thought. It's like bonus points, you

know? What an amazing thought. God's Word will not return unto us void. We have to be faithful to do what God has for us to do.

You might say, "Well, what does that have to do with missions?" Well, I'm glad you asked. Did you know there are 7.7 billion people in the world, billion with a B? This is probably an old number. Every day people are born, I understand that. 2.3 billion claim Christianity. Christianity today does not mean born again saved people. Christianity in this number, that's a lump sum of all kinds of mess, but there are saved people included in that number. That leaves 5.4 billion who are not religious in any way, shape, or form. To count to one billion, you know how long it would take if you counted one second per number? It would take you 32 years to count to one billion. Put that into perspective. We have a job to do. We have a big job to do. God wouldn't give us this job if we weren't capable of doing it.

North America has 580 million people. South America 422.5 million people. South America 746.4 million people. Asia 4.561 billion with a B. Australia 43.1 million people. But we've done a great job of reaching Antarctica. You know how many people are there? Zero that live there through the census. Romans 10:17, "Faith cometh by hearing, hearing by the Word of God." We have a task to do. Pray about what God would have you to do. This was a big project. Most churches don't do a project this big. But when Brother Bob told me, "We'll have 150 people there," I think he meant 200, but amen. We got it done. Can you imagine what kind of springboard of the missionaries that received these scriptures, the opportunity to grow the ministry through people with the zeal that you have to be about the Father's business? What could we do? The sky's the limit. God's for us. Who can be against us? We've been made kings and priests through His blood. We have kingly and priestly responsibility. We have a responsibility to be about the holy things. That's the Word of God. We have a responsibility to be fathers and mothers that are kingly and queenly. Amen. We have those responsibilities. We have this task to do.

My responsibility is to get the scriptures put together. We take responsibility over and above that, going on missions trips and taking people and letting them see and let them hand out scripture that they put together. We have that opportunity. We have opportunity to go through the Kansas State Fair. My life is crazy. My wife is my hero. I don't know why she puts up with me, but she does. I'm so thankful for that. We have a big job to do. We've got to get busy about what God has for us to do and to get the job done so that when we get to heaven, we hear, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." That's my desire. I hope it's your desire. Again, I want to thank you so much for letting me be a part and just being welcomed into the family of believers here. Thank you so very much. I hope this message this morning will sink in and you think about what God has for us as kings and priests through His blood. Not Levitical priests, but kings and priests of the order of the Melchizedek. Jesus being the last priest, we get to serve under Him as the high priest here on this earth until He comes back and gets us. Wow. Until we go to Him.

Heavenly Father, we thank You again for Your Word that You've given us. I pray, Lord, that this morning, Lord, that it would be an encouragement to others, Lord, to be busy, Lord, about what You have and that we would take our talents, Lord, and that maybe if they were buried, we would dig them up. Lord, we would use them for Your honor and glory, Lord, that we would get

serious about the things that You have for us to do and that we would get serious about it, that we would get faithful to You, Lord, that we could hear one day, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." We love You. We thank You for Your Word that You've given us, Lord, the pure holy form, and I pray that You'd help us to be faithful to be able to send this scripture all around the world. Thank You, Lord, for the opportunity. In Jesus' name, amen.

## VI. Conclusion and Bible Dedication

Now, I think that, do you want me to do that? I don't even know what time it is. Pardon me? Do you want me to do some questions and answers or anything? You know, I'm going to go ahead and cover those on Thursday night. I got pretty much on you, you know, because we can get them packed up and everything. Very good. That was great, man. That's exactly what we needed today. Well, I appreciate that. It gives us a better understanding of where he's at and where we can fit in, and I want to tell you, we were going to take some questions, but you have been bombarding me with questions, and so I got with him this morning to save some time today to get everything loaded and some things that he's got to do. We'll go through your questions on Thursday night. I made a list of them and got them answered, talking with him this morning. So you don't want to miss Thursday night. We'll, again, have everybody here and then go from there.

Before we do the dedication, and Diane, if you'll come up and pick up that paper off of there. Tonight, Danny said 5:30 at the Kenny Cutts Open House. Start coming. Stay as long as you want. Do whatever you want. Tomorrow, we're going to take everybody that, Miles is going to be gone, but everybody that's still here at 10:15, we're going to meet down in Lee's Summit at the exit room, and we're going to go to some coffee shops and just hang out and let them see down there. So if you're available in the morning, meet there at 10:15, and then we'll get that all ready to go. Tomorrow night is our last preaching service, and you really need to be here. We close this thing out. Of course, I know you will be, but 6:30, give you a little chance to get out of work and get here. Sean and Joe, we're going to preach tomorrow night. Afterwards, for those of you that still have anything left in you, we're all going to IHOP out on Lee's Summit on 291. Not the church IHOP, but the place. Got to make that clear. You know, just have, I'm trying to get as much time with these people for you as I can. Then we'll go from there. Tomorrow night, I will lay out for you so we don't get too far ahead. I'm just going through tomorrow night, and then tomorrow night I'll tell you where we're at. We're scheduled. Everything's on there, but I'll remind you as we go through.

Now, we're going to dedicate these Bibles. In most churches, what they do is everybody comes down and lays hands on the Bible, and that's fine. That's great. Not for us the way we are, that's not going to work. Here's what we're going to do. Listen carefully now. I'm going to have each family in this church that wants to participate, starting at the front, come down and take one box. Fill up this whole thing here, and then as you move down, you can keep places down here, here. But every family is going to take a box, and I'm going to give you about a minute or two minutes once we get going to dedicate with your family these scriptures that are going to Peru. Then I'm going to have two or three of you guys pray corporately. Joe, I'd like to have you do one of them, okay? David, I'd like to have you do one of them, and let's see who is there, and you do one of

them, okay? All right, so let's bow our heads, and I'll give you a couple of minutes and just ask the Lord to bless us. Joe, lead us in prayer, buddy. Go ahead.

Our Father, we come here in Jesus' name. We thank You so much for this day. Thank You so much for You, Lord, and who You are, the Almighty God, the Most High God, Lord, the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords. We thank You that in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Father, we're thankful for the privilege that You've given us to handle the Word of God and to have the Word of God to hide it in our hearts that we might not sin against You. We are so grateful, Lord, that You've come into this world and given us the privilege to take Your Word to others and to see them turn from darkness to light, from Satan unto Almighty God, that they might receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance in the Lord Jesus Christ. We thank You for the privilege of knowing You. We thank You for the privilege of serving You. We thank You, Lord, for Your presence, even as it was preached last night that Your presence will go with us and that You will give us rest. Thank You that faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. So bless and anoint Your Word as it goes forth from this place today, Lord, protect it by Your Holy Spirit. Lord, we ask You in Jesus' name to bind the hordes of hell that would seek to keep it from getting to its destination. And that's into the hearts and minds and lives of people for Your honor and Your glory. So, Lord, we commit the Word of God to John's and Romans here today and to Your Holy Spirit, who is the all-powerful God. Lord, do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask You and all that we think in Jesus' name. Amen.

David. Amen. Amen. Amen. Father, we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus. I thank You, first of all, for Your Son for dying on the cross and shed His blood that we might have the salvation that You provided for us. Then, Lord, I thank You for Your infinite wisdom and Your great scheme for Your plan in the universe and all that You do that You allowed these people and us to be together. Lord, You handpicked all down through life the men and women that are here. You brought us together as a church, as a team. You gave us a common Bible that these common people could have a common faith in You. Now, Lord, You keep building every year. Here we are standing on truly our defining moment as a church that we, Lord, now stand at the opportunity of the door of utterance to take the Word of God to the people around the world. Lord, we pray, Father, that You'll bless these scriptures that we've done, bless the labors of the families that made something they can talk about and pray about now in their family devotions in times that this box of Bibles that they hold in their hand can become the center of their family, that they actually put their fingerprints on the Word of God to go around the world. Thank You, Lord, again, for these good people, for the privilege of being their pastor. We ask You now all these things in Jesus' name, for our sake we ask it. Amen.

Listen very carefully now. You younger guys, head out first. Just go right out here or here, dump your Bibles, and then I want you younger guys to make sure nobody falls going down that steps with the kids, and then load them up, and then we need to get the rest of these out. But go first. Guys, young guys, head out, and I'll see you tomorrow night. If I don't see you before, we'll put the ending on this, and then Thursday night we'll put it all together.