

Bible Study 11172021

Religion Gone Wrong Pastor Jeffress

Sister Shelbia opened us with prayer.

I'm going to trust that everyone can hear me cause we really need to pray cause the enemy is working hard all over.

Our father, you hear us. You hear all of us. We are thankful for this. Holy Spirit is in our heart.s. Jesus communicates with you so we are asking right now the best way we know how to ask that your word will be anointed and each person that is on here will hear the message from Dr. Jeffress. We ask you will cover everything with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are so thankful for salvation, for what Jesus has done for us and what's he's doing for us now We commit this time to you and ask that all demonic activity will be bound up and each lady will receive what you would have them receive. In Jesus name, Amen.

We are very blessed to have these studies from these men that have studied. I love how they explain these things. Its really interesting that we can hear their backgrounds and make the Bible so alive and real.

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Remember this book as one thing. To be obedient to Christ. Why? Because Jesus Christ is returning to earth one day soon to reward the righteous and to punish the unrighteous.

This is what the theme of Revelation is. When John wrote this book hew as on the island of Patmos, exiled because of his belief in Jesus Christ the world was beginning to go thru persecution for their Christian beliefs and they were getting discouraged. God said, Don't be discouraged, Jesus is coming back again. Remain faithful!

While John was on the island of Patmos, Jesus appeared to him.

Revelation 1:19 he said, 19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

And in this verse you see the three fold division of Revelation. Write down the things you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. This is the outline of Revelation.

This refers to the vision John saw in Chapter 1, write down the vision of the things you have seen; of Jesus in His glorified state, and not some little whimsy rabbi that some imagine Him to be. Jesus was king of kings and lord of lords and John saw a vision if Christ as He will return and reign over this earth.

And then He said to John to write down the things that are - Chapter 2 & 3, the messages to the 7 churches in Asia Minor. Messages that are relevant to our church today about what God wants in each of us.

Then the 3rd and final division, which is the majority of Revelation, is to write down the things which shall take place after these things. Chapters 4-22. And that's about what it yet to come. Revelation is focused on the future, not the past.

Some theologians say, this has already happened. NO! Its yet to come. This is about the things that are yet to come.

When we come to chapter 4 the church has already been raptured into heaven. That midnight cry has already happened.

In chapters 4 & 5 you see the church worshipping Christ after being rewarded. But remember that picture of the throne of God, you hear the thunder, you see the lightening - representing something terrible is about to happen on earth.

Beginning in chapter 6 we get into the final 7 years of earths history. We call it the tribulation. It is a time that God pours out his judgment on the earth for a final time. Why? First of all, for salvation. To bring people one last time to give them a chance to trust in Christ as their savior.

But its not just a time of salvation, its a time of condemnation. For God to pour out his wrath on those that refuse to believe and that is why I am absolutely certain that we the church will not be there during the great tribulation.

We are not going to escape persecution or tribulation, but we are going to escape Gods condemnation.

Romans 8:1

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

If you are a Christian you never have to fear the wrath of God; and the tribulation is about the wrath of God being poured out upon the earth.

And it comes in the form of 3 judgments:

Chapter 6 - The Seal judgments

In chapters 8 & 9 - the Trumpet judgments

And then in chapter 16, as we looked at last time, the final judgments - the Bowl judgments that are poured upon the earth.

And last time we looked up those 7 bowl judgments and when we get to the end of chapter 16, we are at the very precipus of the return of Jesus Christ.

Armageddon is returning, the Lord is about to return.

But when we get to chapter 17, Jesus hits the pause button in his message to John.

He says to John before I describe my return, I want to describe 2 other things you and your readers need to understand:

And this happens quite often as John gets up to the brink of something, there is a pause and he goes off and explains something else.

He does that here in Chapter 16. We are at the brink of chapter 19, but in chapter 18 and 19 John is going to describe something else he saw that was related to the antichrist. And he does so using the term Babylon. He's going to talk to us about Babylon.

Now Babylon is central, not only in the book of Revelation but in the Bible. In the book of Revelation, 50 out of 404 verses deal with the judgment of Babylon. What is Babylon?

Quickly, Babylon is used 3 ways in the Bible. Sometimes it refers to the ancient city of Babylon, the king of the Babylonian empire.

Remember Saddam Hussein who wanted to rebuild ancient Babylon to the glory of the days of Nebuchadnezzar.

There are some bible scholars who believe during the tribulation, the antichrist will rebuild Babylon and that will actually be the antichrists headquarters. I don't believe that for a number of reasons.

Other times the word Babylon is code for another city. For example in **1 Peter 5:13 Peter says 13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.**

He was referring to Ancient Rome. It was a code word for Rome, a corrupt city.

Thirdly, and I think this is how John uses it here in Jesus, That Babylon refers to a system. We talk about Wall Street, What's happening on Wall Street. We are not just talking about a street, we are talking about an economic system.

Not only in the United States but in the world.

When we talk about Babylon, we are talking about a system; and in this case, it represents the empire over which the antichrist will rule.

There are 2 aspects to the antichrist empire:

There is a religious Babylon, which is a false religious system, that will aid antichrist in his rise to power. But then there's a political and economic Babylon that we'll look at next time in chapter 18.

But let's look at the religious system called Babylon over which the antichrist will preside.

This religious system is described as a Harlot. Look at verses 1 and 2 of **Revelation 17:**

1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials (bowls), and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

At the end of chapter 16, the bowls have been poured out, so John is taking us back.

Now you know what a harlot is. A harlot is someone who gives sexual favors in return for money. The harlot presides over many people, in many different nations.

Now it's interesting in the Bible, the Israelites are referred to as God's wife. Israel was married to God and when Israel chased after other gods, God accused her of adultery because she went after other gods (other lovers).

But here those who are engaged with the harlot are not accused of adultery, they are accused of prostitution. They go to bed (so to speak) with a prostitute.

Israel had relationship with God, so her sexual sin was adultery. Here, it's prostitution. She does to bed with the harlot. And notice the harlot commits immorality with first of all, the kings of the earth and we'll see in just a moment,

This false religious system seduces kings and they use each other to achieve their own goals. But not only that, she seduces those who dwell on the earth.

Remember that phrase in Revelation? It refers to unbelievers. People that have their minds on worldly things instead of heavenly things. And because of that they miss the rapture of the church and they are still on the earth, seduced by the harlot.

But today false religions seduce people all of the time. Whether it's Islam or Mormonism, these are religious prostitutes that seduce people and keep them from the truth of God.

They are admirations of Christianity itself.

They can be described as religious prostitutes.

The prosperity gospel you hear so often today, is a religious harlot. It is immoral to tell people that if you give enough money or pray hard enough you will be spared from the hard things of life and guaranteed health and wealth. That is religious prostitution.

To seduce people with this kind of lie. It will be true in the final days too. She will seduce not just kings, but those who dwell upon the earth. Those unbelievers have been rejected by God and will be seduced by religious prostitution.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:11 Paul says

11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

Now, when we get to verse 3, we will see this harlot in great detail. This is what John saw:

3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

We don't know if the spirit took John away to Saudi Arabia or if this was a spiritual experience.

4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

Wherever it was, the angel took John into the wilderness and he saw this vision of a woman setting on a scarlet beast full of blaspheming ways.

Look at the image of the harlot. The woman was clothed in purple (denotes royalty); and scarlet (luxury) and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, etc.

This woman was beautifully dressed with a golden cup. The thing I want you to know about this woman is that she is seen riding the beast. That implies that you are in control of the beast. To many people it will appear that the false religious system is controlling the antichrist, but indeed we will see its the antichrist who is supporting her.

They are in an unholy alliance. The false religion of the earth and the government at the time.

Throughout history there has always been an uneasy relationship between the church and government. There's always been a strained relationship between the church and the government. This has led Christians to adopt the idea of isolation - government is so dirty and become a sinner just like those politicians. The church has no role in the government whatsoever. There needs to be a wall of separation between the church and government. The left loves this idea. They don't want the church to influence them, but they want to tell the church who to hire and when they can be open. They don't want the church to have any influence on them. This is a totally unbiblical view.

We are to be salt and light. In Jesus day, it was a preservative. Jesus says he wants us to influence every part of the world he made, including the government. But salt can't help as long as it remains in the salt shaker. To have influence, you have to get out of the shaker. We have to get out of the church and get into society if we are going to have influence in society; and I believe its better to have a God fearing leader and I believe America is a better place to live and a better country if we will stop the slaughter of babies. America is a better place if we allow people to pray in school and teach about God.

I think our nation is a better place if we stand on the right place of Israel and support the Apple of His Eye.

God is no respecter of people or nations. He will bless any nation that reverence's him.

Blessed is the nation that honors the Lord.

Now the other extreme, some too closely identify with the government and thats the problem with religion in the final day. You won't be able to tell who is controlling who in the final days.

I make it very clear. I am not of any political party. This church is not an extension of the Republican Party. We don't do their work. I am an independent who votes for people based on how closely they align with scripture. I vote based on a person's policies. I never want us to be perceived as a political arm of anyone. We are the church of Jesus Chirst with a unique mission and message to share with the world.

The biblical perspective is to influence government because you will influence the nation!

If we learned anything from adolph Hitler, from Germany, we learned that a leader determines the spiritual direction of a nation and the morality of a nation. And I believe its better to have a God fearing leader or at least one who follows Gods policies than one who doesn't follow God's policies. And I believe that America is a better place to live - a better country if we stop the slaughter of the unborn. I think God will bless our country if we do that. I think America is a better place if we allow children to pray and read the Bible in school and to teach that God is someone to be feared and obeyed as He was for 150 years. I think God blesses that kind of nation! I think our nation is a better place if we stand on the right side of Israel instead of against Israel; and do what God says and support the Apple of His eye, as God says of the nation of Israel.

5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

The harlot uses the antichrist and he uses her.

In the first century when John wrote if you went to a brothel, the prostitutes wore a bandana on their head.

This woman is the chief prostitute. She is not just another false religion, she is the mother of false religions. Her name is Babylon, which denotes the source of every false religion in the world today. The unsaved worship the god of their imagination instead of the real God.

In 1862, Alexander Hislop wrote The Two Babylons. He traced the beginning of Babylonianism. Throughout the Bible; throughout all of history, all the way onto the first century, this infected the church at Pergamon. We see this in Revelation 2.

Throughout the Middle Ages and even today.

Alexander Hislop believes this false religion is a particular brand of Christianity that we find in the world today. I'm not gonna mention it, in case I'm going to get more angry emails, but he says its a particular church you are very familiar with.

The more I study this, I think that is not the case. I think its going to be a brand new religion that will be one part evangelical christian, one part Catholicism, one part Islam, one part new age movement, one part positive thinking and a little bit of patriotism sprinkled on top.

I believe this concoction, this religious brew will be so inclusive that it will offend nobody and attract everybody.

The spirit of Babylonianism is very apparent today. Is pervasive. We call it inclusiveness ism, pluralism. Nobody has a market on ways to God. There are lots of ways to get to God. The different religions offer different paths up the same mountain to reach God himself. Have you ever noticed that those who cry for inclusivism and tolerance are the most intolerant when it comes to conservatism.. They can tolerate any belief except the Christian belief that there is ONLY one way to God, and thats through His son, Jesus Christ.

That's the way it will be in this final concoction of religious heresy. The final form of Babylonianism. We'll invite everybody to come and we'll teach everyone everything, except the right thing.

Remember the story of Babel. After the flood, God told the people to scatter throughout the nations. By the way that is God's plan right now. You hear all this talk about we need to be citizens of planet earth and think globally. This is completely contrary to God's plan. God told the people to scatter to find the nations of the earth.

The founder of Babel was Nimrod and they tried to create their own religion. Throughout history, these cities were dedicated to false gods.

6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great

This woman is picture as drinking from the cup, the blood of the saints. She is the false religious system and will work with antichrist to persecute the Christians during the great tribulation.

That is the image we see of the harlot. We'll talk about her judgment in just a little bit. But lets look at **THE JUDGMENT OF THE BEAST** itself in verse 7.

The beast of the abyss is satan, is the power behind all of it.

There's the beast out of the sea, thats the antichrist, the final world dictator.

There's the beast out of the earth, the false prophet who assists the antichrist.

Notice what he says in verse 7.

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7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

We are going to read a lot about beasts in Revelation. Remember, there are three beasts that are part of the satanic trinity.

8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

You'll see this repeatedly. He was, he is not, and he's about to be. What is that talking about?

Remember the antichrist comes to power at the beginning of the tribulation (Revelation 6). He's assisted by this false religious system. They work together.

But early on he appears to be assassinated. A mortal head wound. (He is not). He will appear to be resurrected but it's a counterfeit resurrection. Satan counterfeits everything God does, including Jesus's resurrection.

When this beast is resurrected, people all over the earth will go crazy and follow him because of the miracle he presumably performs - his own resurrection.

9 And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

Look at the 7 heads of this beast. The

7 heads are 7 mountains. They are 7 kings, 5 has fallen. 1 is and the other is to come.

Remember John is writing in 90 AD.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

The 7 heads represent world empires.

5 of them have already occurred and have disappeared from the earth. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media-Persia, and Greece. They were already in the dust bin of history by the time John wrote this.

1 is Rome. Rome was currently the world power when John wrote these words.

The 7th is the kingdom of the antichrist. When he comes he must remain a little while.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

How could he be the leader of the 7th kingdom and the final 8th kingdom. While he's the leader of the 7th kingdom he appears to die and will be resurrected and come back in an even stronger form in the 8th and final kingdom.

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

Antichrist will have 10 governors to rule over various aspects of the antichrist kingdom.

13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

They have one purpose and they give their power and authority to the beast.

People often ask where is the United States of America in all of this? If we're even still existing at that time, we are probably 1 of the 10 nations that have lost all national distinction. We are part of this government that the antichrist rules.

You've seen the beginning of this for decades now. You've seen the world bank. The world council on churches. You've seen the world health organization.

In fact, globalism will cause all nations to lose their distinction. America will no longer have a constitution to follow. There will no longer be any freedom of work, no freedom of speech, no freedom of commerce.

All of these things will have been usurped but he leader of this global government. The antichrist himself.

Now, look at the defeat of the beast. Verse 14.

14 These (the kings of the earth) shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of Kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

John is fast forwarding to chapter 19. He says these kings are going to gather at Armageddon and wage war against the antichrist. But suddenly the Lord will appear in heaven and we will appear with Him and the Lamb will overcome them. That is the defeat of the beast.

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

Now lets look at the defeat of the harlot that John saw in verse 15 and 18.

16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

Halfway through the tribulation, the antichrist, after using the harlot for his own purposes will discard her and destroy her. He will decide that he no longer needs the church - this false religious system. He has all the power he needs so he will turn on the false church and completely destroy her.

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

And why will the kings do that? Cause God has put it in their hearts to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God are fulfilled.

Isn't it interesting ? The reason the 10 pagan kings destroy the harlot is because God put it in their heart to do so.

18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Could I just remind you that God is able to work in the hearts of non-Christians just like he is able to work in the hearts of Christians. Don't think that that mate of yours has to be a Christian for God to use them.. They have to be a Christian to go to heaven, but God can still speak to that ungodly husband and use him. He can speak thru ungodly rulers - Gods purpose will be accomplished and you see that even in these final days.

God will use false religion in a sense to accomplish his purpose. False religion will play a role in the final 7 years of the tribulation. False religion is all around us today as well.

In **1 John 4:1**, the passage we read just a moment ago - remember the warning:

1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try (test) the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

How can you keep from being seduced by false religion? How can you know if religion is from God or not?

1 John 4:2-3 gives us 3 tests for any religion -Questions you ask to evaluate any religion:

What does the religion teach about Jesus?

See Verses 2-3

2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

(1) Does this religion believe in Jesus Christ as contained in the Bible?

There are many religions that profess to believe in Jesus. The Jesus they know is from an imagination of another person.

Islam - believe in Jesus as a prophet - they believe Jesus was removed from the cross before he died, so he didn't have to be raised again.

Mormons - church of Jesus Christ - but its the Jesus that Appeared to Joseph Smith.

To believe Jesus is Lord, means that Jesus is the unique son of God who came to earth in human form, died on the cross, was buried and rose on the 3rd day, who ascended into heaven, and is coming back one day to reclaim this earth for himself.

That's the Jesus you have to believe in!

(2) What does this religion believe about salvation?

Galatians 1:8

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Paul said, even if we are an angel from heaven, if we preach any other gospel than what God's Word contains, we are cursed!

Paul was writing to the Galatians who were falling for a doctrine that said you need to have faith in God and also 'do this'. So faith and something else.... Like obey the 10 commandments. Paul said if anyone tells you this kind of message let that person be cursed. Literally, it means damned forever.

Anybody who adds to Christianity, its faith or something else is teaching a false truth.

CNN interviewed an Episcopal bishop who went on and on with a bunch of religious gobbledygook stuff. As I'm watching, I said, *so what do I have to do to go to heaven when I die?*

If you talk with another religious leader, just ask them that question.

If they say anything other than trust in Christ and Christ alone for the forgiveness of your sin, you know they are espousing to false religion.

What does that faith teach about salvation?

What results does this religion produce?

In 2 Timothy 3:5

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Paul describes a form of godliness. They hold to a form of godliness although they deny His power. Paul says to avoid men such as these!

You know my concern for a church like First Baptist in Dallas is that we can know Gods word forward and backward, we understand the importance of the harlot in Revelation, we can give you 10 reasons that the virgin birth is important, we can spout off all of these things, but we still can't forgive those who harm us. We still can't overcome sin in our life. We still can't overcome racism (hating someone because of the color of their sins.)

(3) True faith in Christ will result in a transformed life with the power of the Holy Spirit. If that transformation isn't taking place in your life, then your religion is just as false as the other religions.

John is telling us to avoid all kinds of false religions. Avoid anything that denies the person of Christ, the provision of God for Salvation and denies the power of the Holy Spirit to transform a life!

Sister Shelbia shared from David Reagans book:

David Reagans summary on Revelation 17 - he's a little different than Dr. Jeffress.

Page 88 You have to make up your own mind. It doesn't matter a whole lot.

Chapter 17:1, introduces us to a vial scene of a great harlot riding a scarlet beast. Women are used in scripture to symbolize religious systems, and that is the case here. Dr Reagan believes this represents the apostate and corrupt Roman Catholic Church which will dominate the religious scene during the first half of the tribulation. He agrees that the church will rally apostate Protestants and practitioners of other religions to rally behind the antichrist. She is described as being drunk with the blood of the saints and with 'the blood of the witnesses of Jesus' (Chapter 17:6) because she will persecute all true believers who refuse to cooperate with her, even as she has done historically.

He talks about how the apostasy of the Roman Catholic Church has accelerated in recent years in preparation for its role during the first half of the tribulation. In October, 1986 Pope John Paul II invited the leaders of the world's religions to come to Assisi, Italy, to join him in praying for world peace. One hundred sixty representatives came, including the Dali Lama (who considers himself to be a god). Each representative prayed to his own god at the Pope's request.

Did the Pope believe their odds were real? Or did he believe that they were all praying to the's amen god, but under different names?

In December 2000 Pope John Paul II muddied the waters further when he addressed 30,000 pilgrims in St. Peter's Square. He told the multitude that "All who live a just life will be saved even if they do not believe in Jesus Christ and the Roman Catholic Church". The Pope added, "The Gospel teaches us that those who live in accordance with the beatitudes..will enter God's kingdom." He concluded by observing that all that is needed for salvation is 'a sincere heart'.

Pope Francis continues with this all inclusive message. In January 2016, he issued a video in which he proclaimed his believe that there are many roads to God. Here's how he expressed it:

Many think and feel differently, seeking and meeting God in difference ways. In this crowd, in this range of religions, there is only on certainty that we have for all: "we are all children of God".

Galatians 3:26, where it adds we are children of God in faith with Christ Jesus.

I understand why Dr. Reagan is strong in the Catholic Church being the most

Chapter 17:3 - Notice that the harlot is portrayed as riding on the back of the antichrist. This symbolism indicates that the church has become a nuisance. The antichrist has used her to help consolidate his world kingdom, but now she has become enamored with power, and so the antichrist turns on her and destroys her (17:16). He replaces her with his new one-world religion that is headed up by the false prophet.

Brother Jacks notes - He did a lot of studying and has a lot of references.

He states, "I choose not to include in my notes much of the sorted history of the Roman Church". I will only include a couple of excerpts;

The first from Cardinal Baronius, 1538 -1607, he was made a cardinal and librarian of the Vatican in 1596.

This cardinal though he was a defender of the papacy in 16th century Ecclesiastical Annals, wrote that: "The Roman church was covered with silks and prestigious stones, which publicly prostituted itself for gold. Never did priests, and especially Popes, commit so many adulteries, rapes, incest, robberies and murder...as in the middle ages.

Quote from great Italian poet, Petrarch - 1304 to 1374. In describing the Papal court in Avignon, a city in southeast France which was the seat of the papacy from 1309 - 1377 - described the papacy as "the

shame of mankind, a sink of vice, as we're proud where is gathered all the filth of the world. There God is held in contempt and money is worshipped and the laws of God and men are trampled under foot. Everything there breathes a lie; the air, the earth, the houses and above all the bedrooms". Referring to the city of Avignon as "the BABYLON of the west."

"Here reign the successors of the poor fisherman of Galilee **LOADED WITH GOLD AND CLAD IN PURPLE**, boasting of the

Spoils of princes and nations. Instead of the

Holy solitude we find a criminal host...instead of sober ness, licentious banquets, instead of the bare feet of the apostles....horses decked in gold and fed on gold, soon to be shod with gold, if the Lord does not check this slavish luxury.

We could go on and on with, such as the sale of indulgences which is: A remission of temporal or purgatorial punishment still due for a sin after he guilt has been forgiven in the sacrament of penance, "For money of course."

The most visible example of that, which we might be familiar with is the Giving of money for masses, prayers to be said for the dead.

This started way back in Pergamum - the church married to the world. In 300 AD - prayers for the dead started.

So this golden cup full of abominations and filthy ness: speaks of Idolatry, spiritual fornication!!! So when things are set aside for God's purposes and then corrupted from those purposes, we find the term "**Abomination,**" **because they are offensive in Gods sight!!!**

The tragic part of the churches history is its quest for power. That is what derailed the church in those early centuries, from about the 4th century onward. And it is still visible today!

I wanted to bring to your attention from Tammy Jones, on line. It caught my attention, but I only got so far. I got the part that I want to emphasize here.

Every single person alive on this earth is positioning themselves for something. Even those happy to do nothing, they have positioned themselves for that.

God says position yourself for God.

We have to position ourselves for God.

The whole chapter of I Thessalonians 5

is really good and is noteworthy for us positioning ourselves for God. That is our job and our mandate here.

I Thessalonians 5:

1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

16 Rejoice evermore.

17 Pray without ceasing.

18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

19 Quench not the Spirit.

20 Despise not prophesyings.

21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

25 Brethren, pray for us.

26 Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss.

27 I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.

28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Prayer List:

Sharon - headaches

My cousin Ron - serious infection

Levy and Shirley

Judy - past away - family prayer needed

Joyce and Keith

Elsie

Vada and Jim

Jerry & Kay

Steve & Carolyn

Sarah & Steve

Ruth Ann

Della

Jane

Caroline

Rachael

Summer Rose

Christians worldwide -I just learned that David Barton and Wall builders have been effective in getting Christian's out of Afghanistan.

Praying for Christian's worldwide.

Praying pastors will be firm in Gods word and truth. That Pastors will focus on God's truth.

Leaders to be Godly leaders.

Josh Hawley

Heavenly Father, we ask that you will hear every prayer for each person on this list. We praise and thank you for your healing touch in each situation; and give you the glory for everything we have in this life.

Thank you for each person who attended today, and help them to be bold in their witness to you.

In Jesus name, Amen.