

August 17, 2024

West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

"SUSTAINABLE"

Embedded in the issues of today's political conversation is the concept of "sustainable energy" – a term used to describe "energy that is capable of meeting the energy needs of the present without compromising the resources and energy supply of the future." John records a conversation Jesus had with the Jews of Capernaum where He speaks of a "manna" that sustains the believer, meeting his needs of the present and providing for his needs for eternity!

In John 6 is the account of Jesus feeding 5,000 men – actually likely many more than 5,000, when women and children are also included. No wonder the crowds sought him out the next day! And Jesus told the people "face-on" that's why they were looking for him. They had been fed the day before, and they saw in Christ One who would be able to provide indefinitely for their needs.

But Jesus used this opportunity to lead his listeners to the greater miracle of Himself – "the bread from heaven" – "food" which will sustain the receiver for eternity! Jesus said to the crowd,

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. 'I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 'This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. 'I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.' John 6:47-51.

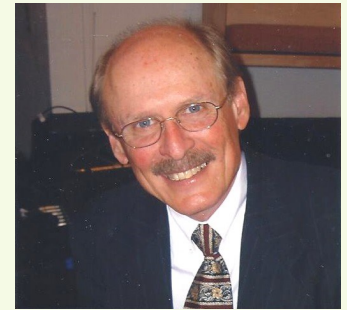
It is estimated that as many as a quarter of a million Hebrew slaves left Egypt on the day of the Exodus. And for forty years, God fed Israel *manna* from heaven to sustain them in their journey to Canaan – 200,000 to 250,000 people every day were fed by God! Jesus reminded his hearers that these Hebrews, however, eventually died in the desert.

Yet, Jesus said, the life He gives those who believe in Him is for eternity! He is the "living bread from heaven," the believing recipient of which will never die. And not only will he never die, but he will experience life here on earth "more abundantly."

By receiving with the hand of faith "the Bread of life," we "pass from death to life!" John 5:24. "Why then do we spend money for what is not bread, and our wages for what does not satisfy?" asks Isaiah. Isaiah 55:2. How can we possibly invest our hearts and resources in that which is rapidly coming to an end when we have the opportunity to invest today in eternity!?

Jesus invites us to partake of Him in faith, and He promises that to do so will bring us life **abundant** and **everlasting**!

In Him,
Pastor Chilson

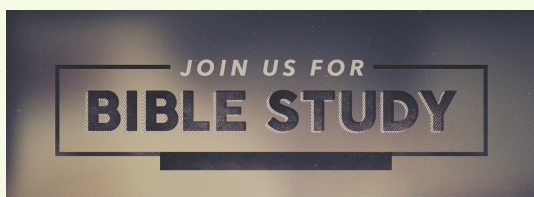


Pastor Darrell Chilson

***"We are living in
the season of
Christ's return."***

***Jesus said, "Watch
and be ready, for
the Son of Man is
coming at an hour
you do not expect."***

***The mission of
West Valley Minis-
tries is to help
Christ's followers
recognize the signs
of His approaching
return and be pre-
pared for that
Great Day.***



John 6 – Part 3

“Rejected by His Own”

41 The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven."

42 And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, 'I have come down from heaven'?"

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, "Do not murmur among yourselves. **44** "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. **45** "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. **46** "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.

47 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. **48** "I am the bread of life. **49** "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. **50** "This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. **51** "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."

52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us [His] flesh to eat?" **53** Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. **54** "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. **55** "For My flesh is food

indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. **56** "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. **57** "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. **58** "This is the bread which came down from heaven--not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.



- 1) Where does this part of the story take place? (See verse 59).
- 2) Why were the Jews complaining about what Jesus was saying? What was He really saying? Why was that offensive to them? (See verses 41-42).
- 3) How would you have reacted to Jesus if you had watched Him grow up and live among you for the past 30 years? Were Jesus' claims preposterous to anyone looking on?
- 4) Enumerate the points Jesus makes in verses 43-46.
- 5) Do you think His words in these verses had any effect on their confusion? Were these points comprehended by Jesus' listeners? What kind of person would have been interested in knowing more?
- 6) To what experience in the history of Israel does Jesus compare Himself? (See Exodus 16:35).
- 7) How would you paraphrase the words of Jesus, "I am the bread of life" — "I am the living bread", to make Jesus' words applicable to your life?
- 8) Discuss how the remaining verses might have been interpreted by Jesus' listeners and how we might understand them now, looking back on the whole story of Jesus.



“AXIS OF EVIL – FALSE PROPHET” Part 5

Just a few months before Jesus offered His life on Calvary for our sin, Jesus told His disciples:

On this Rock [speaking of Himself] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. Matthew 16:18.

By the end of the First Century, less than seventy years later, the Church Jesus had established was seen by John to have within it the seeds of false doctrine and the rise of Antichrist.

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 1 John 2:18.


In 313 AD, after 200 years of persecution of Christians by Nero and Diocletian and other Roman emperors, Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity in the Roman Empire and the blending of paganism and Christianity gave birth to the Church of Rome. The Council of Nicea in 325 AD was a defining moment in the consolidation of power for the Catholic Church, and the growing rise of Antichrist became a reality.

During the following centuries, the Church of Rome dominated the religious world and the rule of princes and kings. The corruption of the Christian faith progressed for the next 1,200 years with the adoption of such teachings as:

- ◇ 321 AD – The legislation of Sunday as a day of rest
- ◇ 363/364 AD – The declaration of Sunday as the Lord’s Day at the Council of Laodicea
- ◇ 375 AD – The veneration of dead “saints” and the use of images
- ◇ 431 AD – The veneration of Mary
- ◇ 593 AD – The doctrine of Purgatory (dogmatized in 1439 AD)
- ◇ 786 AD – The worship of images and relics
- ◇ 998 AD – Obligatory attendance at Mass
- ◇ 1090 AD – Invention of the Rosary
- ◇ 1190 AD – Sale of indulgences
- ◇ 1215 AD – Teaching of transubstantiation and confession of sins to priests
- ◇ 1545 AD – Tradition of Church was declared to be equal to the authority of the Bible
- ◇ 1854 AD – Immaculate Conception of Mary
- ◇ 1870 AD – Papal infallibility

NOT ONE OF THESE TEACHINGS ARE SCRIPTURAL – ALL ARE THE FALSE DOCTRINES OF THE ANTICHRIST AND CONTRARY TO THE TEACHINGS OF SCRIPTURE!

At the same time the Church of Rome was strengthening its grip on the people of Europe, fleecing them in exchange for the promise of the deliverance of their dead loved ones from Purgatory, and enslaving their consciences with the threat of death and hell if they dared question the authority of the Church, God was providing His Church with hope.




- ◇ John Wycliffe completed the translation of the Bible in 1382 (He died in 1384, and in 1428, the pope decreed that his body be exhumed and burned for heresy!)
- ◇ The printing press was invented around 1440 by Johannes Gutenberg, who printed the Bible around 1450+, making it available to the common masses
- ◇ On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his “95 Theses” to the door of the Wittenberg Chapel, making public his opposition to the doctrines and policies of the Church of Rome. This act is considered to be the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.
- ◇ As the Bible was slowly being made available to the common masses, the voices of the Reformers were also being heard as they opened the eyes of the famished souls held in darkness and superstition. The blood of the martyrs was flowing, and by it the seed of truth was watered. The Gospel was being resurrected and powerfully proclaimed by Luther, Calvin, Knox, Zwingli, Huss, the Wesley brothers, and others. And the Church of Rome was being exposed for what it was – Antichrist. All the reformers were in agreement on the identity of the Papacy as the Antichrist of Bible prophecy.

And then "the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth." Revelation 12:16. America became a refuge for the followers of Christ and a haven for a Republic that would offer freedom from the tyranny of the Church of Rome and the persecution of all who refused to obey and offer the allegiance to the Church. America became the lamb-like beast of Revelation 13:11. And for two hundred years, America was a Christian nation, founded and governed on the principles of the Bible.



Then a change began to take place that would result in a return to Rome, a reversal of the Reformation, and a movement that would lead to national apostasy – the Ecumenical Movement – a movement that would seek to unify the Christian world, creating a coalition of different versions of the Christian faith that would work cooperatively to evangelize the world. The first efforts of this movement focused on bringing unity within the Protestant world. Now the movement includes Protestants (or Evangelicals) **and** Catholics. Over time, unity has become more important than “doctrinal purity” and a common mission more important than a distinctive faithfulness to Scripture. The result has been that Catholics and Protestants are officially in agreement on the very issues that once separated them and created the persecution of the Reformation years! Following is a summary of events which have been quickly changing Christian America into the False Prophet of Revelation:

1908 – Twenty-nine denominations unite to form the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America

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- 1910 – The World Missionary Conference brought together U.S. 1,200 delegates from different denominations who desired to evangelize the world
- 1948 – The founding of the World Council of Churches
- 1962 – The Consultation of Church Union brought together nine denominations oriented toward organic reunion in a church “truly catholic, truly evangelical, truly reformed.”
- 1965 – Second Vatican Council and Joint Catholic-Orthodox Declaration, focused on bringing unity between Catholics and Protestants
- 1970’s – Catholic-Evangelical collaboration
- 1990’s – Joint collaboration of Catholics and Evangelicals in the mission of “The Moral Majority” movement
- 1994 – “Evangelicals and Catholics Together” was signed by leading Evangelical and Catholic leaders, establishing a common mission
- 1999 – Lutherans and Catholics sign “Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification”, a document that completely nullified the ministry of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformers by denying any significant differences on the very doctrine that was front and center during the Reformation – Justification by Faith Alone!
- 2009 – The Manhattan Declaration – 640,000 Evangelicals signed an accord that says Evangelicals share a common faith with Catholics and the Gospel of Jesus Christ – AN OXIMORON!
- 2017 – World Communion of Reformed Churches, which includes 225 Protestant Churches worldwide, signed the “Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification” IN WITTENBERG, IN THE 500th ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF LUTHER’S 95 THESES NAILED TO THE WITTENBERG CHAPEL DOOR!
- (For additional support from a former Catholic, and a knowledgeable evangelist to Catholics, Mike Gendron, watch this video: <https://www.proclaimingthegospel.org/file/e9d6c8d0-d554-11ed-b578-e778bf354a16>).

While this list of events and organizations is not comprehensive of the Ecumenical Movement which seeks to take Protestant Christian America “back to Rome”, it demonstrates the emergence of Christian America, once “like the Lamb”, into what the Bible calls the “False Prophet.” The False Prophet is hidden in the fabric of America. He wears the clothing of Christianity in the American culture – the likeness of the Lamb. Beneath his covering is a compromised and false Christianity that has emerged from within the Christian faith of America.

In our next issue, we will demonstrate how America, represented by the two-horned beast of Revelation 13:11, not only looks like a lamb but speaks like a dragon.

Stay tuned!

