

Revelation or Revolution

Fighting for King or Country



Bobby D. Brown

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Revelation or Revolution, Fighting for King or Country

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BOOKS WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR

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Stand Your Ground (2021)

Carrying the Cross (2021)

The Index Card (2022)

Hell and Judgment Are Coming (2022)

Forgiven (2022)

Unprepared (2022)

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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to Dawson D. Brown, Pfc., USMC. 3rdBn, 24thMar, 4th MarDiv, Fleet Marine Forces, Marianas, July 5, 1944. RIP Grandfather.

APPRECIATION

Saturday Morning Men's Group, gentlemen, thank you for your friendship, mentoring, caring in times of need, and accountability. God Bless!

Pastor Ronny, thank you for your mentoring and friendship. God Bless!

Pastor Phil, thank you for continually pouring into my life, my friend. God Bless!

Tammy, a particular word of appreciation for your superb job reviewing the transcript. Your suggestions were invaluable. God Bless!

PREFACE

I am a sinner saved by grace. I am not perfect, and I do not claim to be. I have flaws, but with God's help, I am working towards becoming a better man.

All the glory and credit for the inspiration, writing, and publishing of *Revelation or Revolution, Fighting for King or Country*, belongs to God.

Thank You, Jesus!

THE CALL

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Isaiah 6:8, NASB

MISSION

We seek to see an awakening in America through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Our prayer is for an America that fears God above the world, a nation that, while not perfect, loves Jesus Christ as the risen Savior—recognizing His power and authority to rule over *all* creation, including men, women, and nations.

Regardless of America's fate, which rests solely in the hands of God, we seek to reap the harvest for Jesus Christ's glory, His credit, and His honor, not our own.

Test everything written here against the Word of God.

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FORWARD

Bob Brown is my dear friend and my brother in Christ. Bob is also a lawyer, yet I do not hold that against him. He is also a prolific author, having penned around a dozen Christian books. Some are like a travel log, some are renderings where he filets his soul, but all have something in common – he urges those that have not found Christ to find Him and those that know Christ to spread the Gospel. I guess they are overt altar calls, not spoken but shared with the reader on paper. This work follows suit and will not disappoint those that read Chapter 1 and beyond.

Let me add that Bob is an ordained Pastor, and his writings evidence his calling. Bob is also an insatiable student. His CV contains a BA, an MBA, and a JD, but not being satisfied with this litany of degrees, he is currently enrolled in studies at two separate seminaries. His knowledge of scripture is extensive; he can quote scripture from memory. With all this, he remains a humble servant, serving God and man. I am proud to call him my friend.

Enough of my ramblings; read Bob's work(s), get closer to Jesus, and serve others.

Blessings
Phil White, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Orange Park, FL, August 2023

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

Fighting for King or Country is not intended to be the answer to one of the most challenging questions I have ever faced and one which you may also be facing. Instead, this book is intended to make us think, study God’s Word, and pray - lots and lots of praying. As we read the following pages and search our Bible, perhaps we can discover the answer to this burning question: Can we serve two masters?

Perhaps because of the strong pull of patriotism, or maybe I have made an idol in my heart of my freedoms in America, I am torn between my duty of loyalty to my country and my commitment to God.¹

¹ The reference to God in this book with a capital “G” is to the one true God; the Lord God; the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The Creator of everything ever created (Genesis 1:1-31). This reference is to the “I AM” of Scripture (Exodus 3:14; John 14:6; John 8:58). He is the all-powerful Creator and Sustainer of all things visible and invisible, eternally existing in three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, having the same nature, attributes, and perfections, and are worthy of precisely

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Perhaps my faith struggles with letting go of worldly concerns. Can devotion to faith and country coexist?

the same honor, confidence, and obedience - one in essence but distinct in person and function.

Chapter 2

A NATION IS BORN

On April 19, 1775, possibly the first shots heard around the world were fired at Lexington and Concord. This armed skirmish between the Colonist militia (Minutemen) and British soldiers (Red Coats) began a civil war - British subjects waging war against the English crown. This struggle would come to be known as the American Revolution.

On July 4, 1776, the thirteen colonies declared independence from England. In so doing, the signers of the Declaration of Independence claimed inalienable rights from God. What is not mentioned in the Declaration of Independence is God's command that Christians honor the government (Romans 13:1-2).²

² Historically, the term Christian, which was first used at Antioch to identify the followers of Jesus Christ and had a universally recognized meaning as someone who believed that: (1) Jesus is the Son of God, (2) Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit eternally exist in three Persons yet are one God (three in one), having the same nature, attributes, and perfections, and are worthy of precisely the same honor, confidence, and

Preachers, pastors, and clergy left their pulpits to fight alongside their congregations. They fought for the freedoms the fledgling nation was claiming. Freedom was the rallying cry.

Yet, we must never forget that God sets every nation's time and boundaries (Acts 17:26). God places each nation's leaders (Romans 13:1-2).³ The apostle Paul

Obedience, (3) through Jesus, all creation was made, (4) Jesus was born of a virgin and took on human form (fully God and fully man), (5) Jesus lived a sinless life on earth to serve as a perfect sacrifice (Luke 2:11; Luke 19:10), (6) Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried, and, on the third day, He rose from the dead in bodily form (Matthew 28; Luke 24:39), (7) Jesus ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, (8) Jesus is the only path to forgiveness of sin (John 14:6), (9) Jesus will return to judge the living and the dead, and (10) the dead will be resurrected (Matthew 25:31-46; Acts 5:31; Acts 11:26; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Timothy 4:1-5).

However, in the 21st Century, the word Christian is increasingly co-opted by those who are against the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As such, this book will more often use the term Believer, blood-bought born-again child of God, or simply child of God when describing those who trust in Jesus Christ, having been born again in Jesus (John 3:5-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

³ *“Everyone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist are instituted by God. So then, the one who resists the authority is opposing God’s command, and those*

teaches in 1 Timothy 2:1-3 that we are to pray for our rulers. In Mark 12:17, Jesus teaches that we are to render to Caesar (the government) what is Caesar's and to God that which is God's. In this, a Believer's greatest duty is to God (Mark 12:17).

In Matthew 5:38-44, Jesus teaches a new way of life. Jesus teaches that if someone demands a Believer's shirt, we are to give him our coat also (Matthew 5:40). Jesus teaches that if we are struck on our right cheek, turn our left to the person (turn the other cheek) (Matthew 5:39).⁴ In Matthew 5:41, Jesus teaches that if anyone forces you to go with them 1 mile, go two (go the extra mile).⁵ In Matthew 5:43-

who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves" (Romans 13:1-2).

⁴ One might read Matthew 5:39-40 as teaching that turning the other cheek is about being physically attacked. However, noted Bible scholar and commentator Craig Blomberg believes that verses 38-40 address personal slights or insults and that verse 40 deals with legal matters. He further contends that verses 38-40 are not a prohibition against self-defense in response to unprovoked physical attacks. Craig Blomberg, *Matthew*, vol. 22, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1992), 113.

⁵ Roman law limited the distance a Roman soldier could require a person to carry the soldier's equipment to one mile. Stuart K. Weber, *Matthew*, vol. 1, *Holman New*

44, Jesus teaches that those who love God are called to break the bondage of hate, revenge, and retaliation through love.⁶

You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you (Matthew 5:43-44).

Yet, acquiescence to authorities does not mean we are to abandon our faith or calling. Likewise, loving those who hate us does not mean we forgo our Savior – we are not supposed to go along to get along. In Acts 5:27-28, Peter and other apostles are arrested and ordered to stop preaching Jesus Christ. Yet, the apostles responded that they must obey God, not man (Acts 5:29). Their response risked immediate physical abuse, prison, and even death. But they did not waiver.

In examining the Colonies' grievances against England, it does not appear that the grievances required the colonists to deny Jesus, the cross, or

Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 69.

⁶ Blomberg, *Matthew*, 114–115.

salvation through Christ alone. Instead, the grievances appear to be matters of economics and personal justice.

Nowhere in Scripture does God command or allow a brother to kill a brother. Said another way, an authentic Christian is a child of God. We are one family regardless of geography, political affiliation, or earthly nationality (John 1:12; Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:26; Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 2:19-22). For a Believer to kill another Believer is an abomination against God.

I was asked in writing this book whether God called America's founders to war. We may recall, He called Israel to war or battle several times in the Old Testament (Numbers 33:52; Joshua 6). Nonetheless, I cannot locate New Testament Scripture where Jesus calls Believers to pick up arms.⁷ In the Book of

⁷ In Luke 22:36, Jesus says, "*But now, whoever has a money-bag should take it, and also a traveling bag. And whoever doesn't have a sword should sell his robe and buy one.*" Bible scholar and commentator Robert H. Stein likens buying a sword in v. 36 to a Believer arming themselves with the spiritual weapons of faith to prepare for the coming fierce battles. Robert H. Stein, *Luke*, vol. 24, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1992), 555; see also Norval Geldenhuys, *Commentary on the Gospel of Luke: The English Text with Introduction, Exposition and Notes, The New International Commentary on the Old and New Testament* (Grand

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Revelation, when facing insurmountable armies encircling Israel, Jesus Himself wages war (Revelation 19; Revelation 20:7-10).

Does this mean that the American Revolution was un-Godly? I do not know. I know that America is protected with God, and America is destined for destruction apart from God. Our founding fathers knew this truth:

[W]e ought to be no less persuaded that the favorable smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained.

George Washington
First Inaugural Address
April 30, 1789

Men must be governed by God or ruled by tyrants.

William Penn

Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1952), 571 (Jesus did not literally mean a sword).

In 1854 the House of Representatives knew this truth:

Had the people, during the Revolution, had a suspicion of any attempt to war against Christianity, that Revolution would have been strangled in its cradle. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged, not any one sect [denomination]. Any attempt to level and discard all religion would have been viewed with universal indignation.... In this age, there can be no substitute for Christianity; that, in its general principles, is the great conservative element on which we must rely for the purity and permanence of free institutions.⁸

Nearly 3 million service members (or more) have died or been injured to establish and preserve

⁸ Reports of Committees of the House of Representatives Made During the First Session of the 33rd Congress (Washington: A. O. P. Nicholson, 1854), pp. 6, 8.

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America. This does not include service members such as my father, who received a fatal blow in Vietnam but remained unaware of their death sentence until many years later when cancer connected to Agent Orange took their lives. Nor does this number include the firefighters, police officers, and countless others who have given so much to this country.

I believe we have an obligation to preserve the America our founding fathers birthed, and so many have given so much to keep. To allow America to fall to tyrannical movements, outside money brokers, and systematic government manipulation of the people, all of which deny the one true God, is a betrayal of those who sacrificed so much to preserve an America where God and freedom were our rallying cry.

Chapter 3

AMERICA AND “I AM”

The America I love was a God-fearing nation. She was never perfect, but we tried to live up to our potential under God. Collectively, the people of this nation knew right from wrong. We knew the Godly from the ungodly, even if we failed to live up to this understanding.

I love that God used America to stop Hitler’s planned annihilation of the Jewish people. I love that when the British government turned its back on the Jewish people, America was the first nation to recognize the newly reconstituted country of Israel.

I love that the American people are the most generous in the world.

I love that America has sent more missionaries around the globe than any other nation.

I love that churches were the fabric of most American communities.⁹ Churches and the people attending those churches were considered essential by local communities and governments for over 200 years. Now the church and blood-bought, born-again children of God are seen as enemies by many local and state governments and the Federal government.¹⁰

America, even though we had many flaws, loved God. In times of thanksgiving, it was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the great “*I AM*” whom America thanked. In times of peril, it was this same God, the God of the Bible, to whom America turned. This America is gone and, if not gone, quickly being dismantled, destroyed, and driven down a Satanic abyss.

⁹ As established initially, the church was not a building or an “it.” The church is the worldwide body of Christ comprised of individual believers (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). Local churches exist where believers gather to meet, fellowship, and learn God’s word, but buildings never were and never will be the church.

¹⁰ I would be remiss if I did not mention that within the federal government, there are Believers trying to hold the line against the Satanic agenda. I would also be remiss if I did not mention that within some local and state governments, Believers are pushing back against Satan’s attacks.

Chapter 4

A REVOLUTION THAT NEVER WAS

The question of submission or revolution is not a new question facing America. While the issues facing America today differ from those faced by opposing sides a little over 160 years ago, they are no less tangible.

In April 1861, a civil war erupted in America. Ultimately, over 800,000 Americans (Union and Confederate) were injured or killed.¹¹ The war cost an estimated eight billion dollars with a “B.”¹² As a result, the nation remained united geographically. Nonetheless, the South was economically devastated for years, and the country remained politically, socially, and spiritually divided.

¹¹ Department Veterans Affairs, “America’s Wars” (May 2021).

¹² Claudia D. Goldin and Frank D. Lewis, “The Economic Cost of the American Civil War: Estimates and Implications,” *Journal of Economic History* 35(2), (1975): 299-326; <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2119410>.

In 1863, two years into the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln called the nation to a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer:

Whereas, the Senate of the United States, devoutly recognizing the supreme authority and just government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and nations, has by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation;

And whereas, it is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and recognize the sublime truths announced in Holy Scriptures, and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.

Abraham Lincoln
March 30, 1863

The fight on America's shores is already underway, led by demonic forces on the east coast, west coast, and in the heartland. The enemy has established inroads into every aspect of American life, including schools, all levels of government, and the church.¹³ The fight is for your children and the very soul of America. The fight is upon us; the battle lines are drawn. The battles will only intensify:

*Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child. Children will even rise up against their parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by everyone because of My name (Matthew 10:21-22).*¹⁴

You will have to choose.

¹³ To be clear, not all denominations or local churches have sold out to the satanic agenda. There are pastors and churches across America who are holding firm to Jesus Christ. However, the antichrist is alive and active in some churches and denominations (1 John 4:3).

¹⁴ Brother turning against brother is not referring to children of God turning on each other. Instead, the point is that in time, your trust in Jesus Christ will cause the world to hate you, even close relatives if they are not saved.

Chapter 5 AMERICA TODAY

The America of today, or at least the government, the media, a large segment of the courts, and most major cities, hate God and His children. In America, pastors have been jailed for holding church, church members threatened with fines for attending church, and school employees fired for acknowledging Jesus Christ. These same haters of God hate the freedom Americans enjoy unless the haters are free to attack anyone who disagrees with them while muzzling everyone else.

Satanic forces are interwoven into mainstream America. This includes being hidden in plain sight. They have captured our schools,¹⁵ infiltrated our

¹⁵ “A Pennsylvania School District Requires that its Staff Withhold Information From Parents About a Child’s Gender Identity,” American News, February 27, 2023, <https://thepostmillennial.com/pa-school-district-requires-teachers-keep-students-gender-identity-secret-from-parents>; and Sophia Lorey, “Los Angeles Unified School District Trains Teachers to Use the Preferred Names and Pronouns of Students,” California Family Council March 23, 2022, <https://www.californiafamily.org/2022/03/los-angeles->

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military and the FBI,¹⁶ and captured our government.¹⁷ Because God has not abandoned America, a complete takeover of America by Satanic forces has not occurred. But not for lack of trying.

unified-school-district-trains-teachers-to-use-the-preferred-names-and-pronouns-of-students.

¹⁶ Rich Lowry, “America’s Woke Military is Leaving us Dangerously Unprepared,” New York Post, July 18, 2023, <https://nypost.com/2023/07/18/woke-culture-wrecking-us-military-and-leaving-us-less-safe/>; and “Mueller Report: FBI Lawyer 'Altered Email' to Wiretap Trump Aide,” BBC News, August 14, 2020, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-53784048>.

¹⁷ Tyler O’Neil, “TRANS TAKEOVER? Biden EEOC Pick Will Force Gender Ideology on Employers, Critics Warn,” The Daily Signal, July 12, 2023, <https://www.dailysignal.com/2023/07/12/will-federal-government-force-transgender-ideology-employers-senate-vote-biden-eoc-pick/>.

Chapter 6

AMERICA TOMORROW

Satan must take away the ability of an armed citizenry to fight back to speed up the destruction of America. Satan is in a hurry because He knows his days are limited (Revelation 12:12). To finish off America, Satan must take away hope.

Once the fabric of America has no weapons, free speech will be outlawed; children will be taken from their parents and placed in indoctrination camps; Jesus Christ will be declared an enemy of the state. Recall Matthew 12:29: *“How can someone enter a strong man’s house and steal his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house.”* Satan knows Scripture; God and guns must be removed from the American way of life (or at least God) to finish destroying America.

There is only one nation that is promised God’s protection — Israel. The end-time events described in Revelation do not include America as an identifiable

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nation. America will fully succumb to Satan. It is only a matter of when not if (Revelation 16:12-16).

Chapter 7

THE QUESTION

The question of whether we will serve the King or country is a question that may require an immediate answer. The practical application of this question is whether children of God should engage in armed resistance to hold the land or whether our greater allegiance is to God. The answer to this question results in two completely different paths, two completely different strategies, and two completely different weapons of warfare. Our answer also determines the here and now. The answer may reveal our hearts.

Chapter 8 REVOLUTION

In keeping with a foundational American document, the Declaration of Independence, whenever the government becomes destructive to the rights granted by God, free men have the right to alter or abolish that government:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its

powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Declaration of Independence

July 4, 1776

However, for Believers to take up arms, we must first conclude that God calls His children to use armed resistance to right their nation's wrongs. To this aim, to take up arms against America, we must conclude that God cares more about our nationality and earthly citizenship than our eternity. In Acts, chapter 10, the apostle Peter learned from God that God does not respect races or nationalities. God sees inside each person and judges their heart. To take up arms, you must conclude that God cannot rescue America from Satan without you picking up a gun.

Chapter 9

CLOSER TO HOME

Looking closer to home, I have been asked whether I would take a life to save a life. Think of the mall shooting at the Greenwood Park Mall in 2022, where an armed citizen shot and killed a man determined to kill others. Or the 2019 church shooting at West Freeway Church of Christ in Texas, where an armed congregation member shot and killed a shooter inside the church building. How about closer to home? My home, would I kill someone who breaks into my house? Would I kill someone in the immediate act of threatening the life of my wife, children, or grandchildren? What about my life?

These are all great questions. Questions I have struggled with. I have an answer, I am not sure it is God's answer, but I take some comfort in Ephesians 5:25.¹⁸ Most of all, my hope is in a loving and forgiving God.

¹⁸ *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her”* (Ephesians 5:25).

If it is the life of my wife, children, or grandchildren, versus the life of someone intending them harm, I will fight to protect my family with my very life. If it is my life versus someone meaning me harm, Jesus's teaching to love those who hate us and Stephan's prayer of forgiveness for the men killing him weigh heavily on my mind.

What about in public places such as the Greenwood Park Mall or the West Freeway Church of Christ? Based on the circumstances faced by the men who stopped the shooters in these two incidents, they are heroes. If placed in the same situation, I pray I will have the same courage and ability to save lives as those men who stood in the gap for their community, friends, and strangers.

Wait, is not standing in the gap for America the same as defending my family or people in public places? What about when the government starts jailing pastors for holding church services and threatening people for attending services?

First, it has already happened in America. Pastors were jailed, and church members were harassed for

going to church.¹⁹ The war has already begun. It started for the church two thousand years ago. Recall that Peter and John were beaten and jailed for preaching the word (Acts 5:17-40).

What about when the government starts executing Christians? First, it is my earnest prayer that by the time the government in America decides to start killing Christians for their faith, the rapture will have occurred, and the church will have been taken away to meet God. However, this was not the case for Stephen. You may recall that Stephan was stoned to death by a mob for preaching Jesus Christ as the perfect sacrifice on a Roman cross. He was preaching that Jesus Christ died for the world's sins. Stephen was stoned for preaching Jesus's resurrection from the dead so that all who believe in Him as their Lord shall have eternal life (Acts 7).

¹⁹ "Chicago Mayor Launches Police Raid to Shutdown Black Church's Sunday Services," BREITBART, [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com). Web. May 1, 2021; and David K. Li, "Florida pastor arrested after holding church services despite coronavirus orders," NBCNews.com, March 30, 2020, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/florida-pastor-arrested-after-holding-church-services-despite-coronavirus-orders-n1172276>.

The rapture did not happen before Roman Emperor Nero burned Christians alive or 3,000 Christians were killed in the Roman Colosseum, including being fed to lions.²⁰ The early church never took up arms against the government or rulers, and yet the church survives. Facing imminent death, Stephen asked God to forgive those murdering him (Acts 7:57-60).

If you think God needs you or me to rescue the church from Satan, you might have a skewed view of God. This is the God who wiped out an army with a wall of water (Exodus 14:15-31). This is the same God who knocked down a wall with a trumpet and shout (Joshua 6:20). God works through people at times, but do not ever mistake God working through people as an indication that God needs people to accomplish His will. As Creator of everything ever created, God does not require you or me to ensure that His will is carried out to its entire end as predetermined by God (Isaiah 55:11).

²⁰ Jim Kuo, “The Colosseum: Power, Brilliance, and Brutality” University of Washington, Honors Program in Rome, (September 8, 2004), https://depts.washington.edu/hrome/Authors/jimkuo2/IlColosseum/253/pub_zbpage_view.html.

Chapter 10

REVELATION

Believers are called to be citizens of God's kingdom before citizens of any nation, race, or ethnicity. In Philippians 3:20, Paul reminds Believers that "*our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.*" This heavenly citizenship necessitates that we do not make our earthly existence our ultimate concern.²¹ In Galatians 2:20, the apostle Paul teaches that if we are born again children of God, Christ lives in us.

In Mark 12:29-31, Jesus states that the two greatest commandments are: Love God with all your heart, soul, and strength, and Love your neighbor as yourself. Two excellent illustrations which demonstrate the application of this teaching are found in Matthew 25 and Luke 10.

²¹ Richard R. Melick, *Philippians, Colossians, Philemon*, vol. 32, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1991), 144.

As recorded in Mathew chapter 25, in describing what it will be like when He comes into all His glory, Jesus tells the story of a King who separated the sheep from the goats. The sheep were given high praise and treated royally. However, the goats were cast out into utter torment.

The sheep were honored because they fed the hungry, visited the sick and imprisoned, clothed those without clothes, and cared for widows and orphans. The King said that as his loyal subjects cared for those in need, it was as if they were doing it to the King himself (Matthew 25:31-40).

However, the goats were punished for failing to feed the hungry, visit the sick and imprisoned, clothe those without clothes, or care for widows and orphans. The King said that as the unfaithful subjects failed to care for those in need, it was as if they had neglected the King himself (Matthew 25:41-46).

The King expected the people to be his hands and feet. As Believers, we are called to serve God. One way we do this is by being God's hands and feet on earth. Being faithful with the resources God has given us, we are to love our neighbor.

Luke records Jesus's parable of the Good Samaritan. In this parable, Jesus answers a lawyer who was arguing with Him about who the lawyer's neighbor is (those we are supposed to help when they are in need) (Luke 10:25-37).

A man went out on a journey. On the way, he was waylaid (mugged) and left for dead. Walking upon the injured man was a pastor. Seeing the man, the pastor crossed the street to pass on the other side of the road. Next, a deacon (or church elder) came upon the injured man. Seeing the man, the deacon also crossed the street to pass on the other side of the road. Yet a man from another country (the Good Samaritan) came by the injured man. Though considered a second-class citizen because of his nationality, the Good Samaritan stopped and helped the wounded man. The Good Samaritan provided for the injured man's care and well-being.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus casts a much wider net than anyone expected about who is our neighbor.

However, we must be mindful that the children of God do not do these acts of kindness to be

loved by God. We do them because God loves us. Yet, some are Christian in name only. Jesus asks in Luke 6:46-49, why do you call me Lord and do not do what I command?

Today the body of Christ, what some refer to as the church, is losing members in nearly every denomination. During periods of persecution, a winnowing of the church can be expected (1 John 2:19). The winnowing is partly because not all within the church are children of God (Matthew 7:21-23; Matthew 24:13; 1 John 2:19). Yet, “*the one who endures to the end will be delivered*” (Matthew 10:22).

Deitrich Bonhoeffer commented something to the effect of Those who trust in the Lord obey Him. Those who obey the Lord trust in Him.

Chapter 11

GOD MEANS WHAT HE SAYS

We are told forty or more times in Scripture that God's Word is holy, righteous, and trustworthy. He lives in and through His Word (John 1:1; 1:14). God's Word is how the faithful know God's Word. Obedience is how we know God.

God does not change (Isaiah 40:8; Hebrews 13:8). His Word does not change (Matthew 24:35). He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow (Revelation 4:8). Scripture is the Holy Word of God. Scripture provides direction, insight, instructions, and promises from the living and faithful God to His children (Hebrews 10:23). In this regard, Scripture is meant for building up the faithful. Scripture is intended for our edification, correction, reproof, and training (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

God desires obedience, not sacrifice. In Numbers 20:7-12, we are taught the necessity of heeding God's word. God instructed Moses to speak to a rock to provide water for the people, but in his anger, Moses

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struck the rock twice instead. Because of Moses's disobedience, he was denied entrance to Israel's promised land.

In John 17:17, Jesus declares the trustworthiness of God's word. In Matthew 16:21; Mark 16:6; and Luke 24:34, we are shown the trustworthiness of God's Word. God's Word does not change. Our times and circumstances change, but God's Word never does (Matthew 24:35).

Chapter 12

WHO'S YOUR MASTER?

If God's word is sacred and is to be obeyed, how do those who claim to be blood-bought, born-again children of God disregard His command not to return evil for evil (Luke 6:46; 1 Peter 3:9; 1 Peter 3:14)?²²

Early Believers did not revolt against Rome when faced with prison, torture, and death. Early Believers did not violently rebel against the Jewish officials when faced with persecution and death. As he was being stoned to death, Stephen's plea was for God to forgive those killing him (Acts 7:59-60). Stephen's plea for forgiveness for his murderers included Saul (Acts 7:57-58). Saul would later be called Paul after

²² Thomas R. Schreiner likens 1 Peter 3:9 to insults and slanderous words directed at a person for being a Believer. However, he does not limit the suffering mentioned in 1 Peter 3:14 to verbal insults or slanders. Thomas R. Schreiner, *1, 2 Peter, Jude*, vol. 37, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 164–165, 170-173.

encountering the Risen Savior on the road to Damascus. Paul would later write at least thirteen books of the New Testament and die for his faith in Jesus Christ.²³

In Acts 16:16-40, about midnight, Paul and Silas were in prison praying and singing praise to the Lord. The other prisoners were listening when God shook the prison so hard that all the doors opened. The prisoners could have escaped, but they stayed. The prison guard awoke and was about to kill himself because his punishment for losing the prisoners was more than he could bear. Paul stopped him. Because of Paul and Silas's faithfulness, the prison guard and his household became Believers.

Jesus, when faced with His pending torture and crucifixion, declared that His kingdom is not of this world (John 18:36). Jesus made clear that if His kingdom were of this world, His followers would fight to keep Him from being arrested (John 18:36). Likewise, Jesus had the authority to call more than twelve legions of angels (72,000 angels) to rescue Him (Matthew 26:53). He did not (Matthew 26-28).

²³ John Foxe and The Voice of the Martyrs, *Foxe: Voices of the Martyrs*, (Bartlesville, OK: VOM Books, 2013), 24.

Chapter 13

PREACH JESUS

A well-known pastor made a statement recently that he does not preach about ethics, morals, or politics because that is not his calling. Instead, he preaches about Jesus Christ crucified and risen. His job is to present Jesus to a lost and dying world.

The pastor's statement may be put into application something like this: If we bring people to the foot of the cross to hear about a crucified, perfect, willing sacrifice and then help them look past the cross to a risen Savior, correct morality, ethics, and politics become apparent.

At the foot of the cross, we start to change (1 Corinthians 1:17-25). In the risen Savior, we are brought out of the darkness into the light (John 1:4-5; 1 John 1:7). Nothing but the love and blood of Jesus Christ can save a nation or an individual. We must be right with God, and this is through His Son (John 14:6). Without this, nothing else really matters.

We cannot clean ourselves up enough to be acceptable to God. We cannot straighten up or wash off enough filth to be pleasing to God. Only the blood of Jesus, who gave Himself as a willing sacrifice, will ever clean you or me well enough to be in the Father's presence (Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:7). Through Jesus, we are known to and loved by the Father (John 14:21). To be crystal clear, a sinner does not get clean and then come to Jesus; no, it is through Jesus that we are made clean. You and I cannot do anything of ourselves to be worthy of Jesus's love. Instead, He loved you and me while we were still covered in our sins (Romans 5:8).

Chapter 14

FIGHTING FOR THE KINGDOM

War has already been declared. Jesus Christ demonstrated His authority over Satan in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11). Jesus secured victory at Calvary (Hebrews 9:11-14). He defeated Satan and death with His resurrection (Hebrews 2:14-15). Yet battles continue until God says enough is enough. At God's appointed time, Jesus will put everything right. Jesus Christ will restore His people to Him, bring justice, and vanquish Satan for all time.²⁴

Japanese soldiers were positioned on islands across the Pacific during World War II. After the Japanese surrendered on September 2, 1945, isolated troops continued to fight. One soldier did not surrender until 1974.²⁵ Like these WWII soldiers, Satan has lost

²⁴ Neither this paragraph nor this book is intended as a treatise of end-time events.

²⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiroo_Onoda.

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the war but continues fighting. He will not give up until he is cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

As such, fight we must. But our struggle is not with flesh and blood. The real battle is in the unseen, the spirit realm (Ephesians 6:12). We fight against principalities. As such, our weapons are of another world (Ephesians 6:14-18).

Every Word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him (Proverbs 30:5). We must never forget that our fight is against Satan and his forces of darkness. We fight against “*spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places*” (Ephesians 6:12). Because of this cosmic battle, we must take up the whole armor of God. Through the weapons and armor God gives to every Believer, we can resist Satan. Stand firm (Ephesians 6:13). When we fear men, we run into traps. When we trust the Lord, we are exalted as His children (Proverbs 29:25).

You are sadly mistaken if you believe that a Believer can hide in a crowd of people and not be engaged in hand-to-hand combat by Satan. Satan knows your name. That is right; he knows who you are.

In the book of Job, we are told of a righteous man before God; his name was Job. One day God was bragging about Job, that's right, God boasts about his faithful children. When God asked Satan if he knew how righteous Job was, Satan did not have to ask, "Job who?" Satan knew precisely who Job was. Satan even knew how God was protecting Job (Job 1).

If you are thinking, well, that was the Old Testament, we will look at the apostle Peter. Satan knew precisely who Peter was also. Satan went so far as to ask permission to sift Peter (Luke 22:31).²⁶ But Jesus stopped him (Luke 22:32). Satan seeks to destroy your ministry, family, testimony, life, and relationship with Jesus.

*Be sober, be vigilant; your adversary,
the devil, walks about like a roaring*

²⁶ This warning from Jesus to Peter that Satan had asked to sift Peter was letting Peter know that Satan would test him, that his Apostleship (ministry) was at stake, and that Jesus would see Peter through the battle. Joel B. Green, ed., *The Gospel of Luke, The New International Commentary on the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1997), 772; and Trent C. Butler, *Luke*, vol. 3, *Holman New Testament Commentary*, ed. Max Anders (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 371.

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lion, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8-9, New King James Version).

The question is not if the enemy will attack you but how you will respond. With the weapons of this world or the weapons of our Heavenly Father?

Chapter 15 WARRIOR'S PRAYER

The 23 Psalm:

*The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I lack.*

*He lets me lie down in green
pastures; He leads me beside quiet
waters.*

*He renews my life; He leads me
along the right paths for His name's
sake.*

*Even when I go through the darkest
valley, I fear no danger, for You are
with me; Your rod and Your staff—they
comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;*

my cup overflows.

*Only goodness and faithful love will
pursue me all the days of my life, and I
will dwell in the house of the LORD as
long as I live*

Chapter 16

AN AWAKENING

While America and the world spin out of control in a satanic death spiral, a generation of young people is searching for truth and meaning. Like the hippies of the 60s/70s, these kids search in the wrong place and do it full throttle. In the 60s/70s, it was sex, drugs, and self-actualization. In 2023 it is in self-identification and self-awareness (I am who/what I say I am).

America and the world stand at the precipice of a potential worldwide great awakening. However, only God knows if we will see it happen. There are far too many false teachers in the church and far too many lazy or, perhaps more accurately pseudo-Christians. If you cannot tell the difference between your local church and the world, then the world has infiltrated your church. That is a bad thing.

The Bible is either the Word of God or it is not. If the Word of God, then we must teach and live it without apology or compromise. Young people want the

truth—we have the truth, the way, and the life. On Him, we must make our stand (John 14:6).

We must teach and live the truth in family and community. We must do this in love without compromising the whole message of Jesus Christ. Jesus, when He encountered a repentant sinner, did not condemn the person or beat them over the head for their sins (John 4:1-42; John 8:1-11). Instead, Jesus forgave the person's sins and told the person to stop doing what they were doing (stop sinning).

Jesus taught the truth and offered community and power over sin with compassion. If the church is not about this, then I do not know what it is about (Matthew 28:18-20). However, sometimes we seem so busy trying to keep people out that we forget to invite them in, or once they get in, we expect them to live more holy than we are living.²⁷ Yet, Jesus calls everyone who is thirsty to drink from the well of pure water that never runs dry (John 7:37). Will you come? Will you invite someone to meet our Lord?

²⁷ In the alternative, some churches invite everyone in and fail to teach about sin and repentance. Thank God for the churches that invite people to know Jesus and teach about sin and forgiveness. God's house is not to be a house of iniquity.

Chapter 17

SALVATION IS AVAILABLE

Salvation is available to all who will call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Romans 10:13; Acts 2:21). Through Jesus Christ, the risen Son of God, we are offered a new life if we will trust Jesus. Through the blood of Jesus, sins are washed clean, the shame of sin is removed and replaced with the honor of being children of the Lord God, and the weakness that sin causes is replaced with God's authority (Romans 6:6; Romans 10:11; James 4:7; 1 John 1:17). In Christ, we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Jesus Christ's sacrifice on a Roman cross paid my debt for all time (1 Peter 2:24). In and through the blood of Jesus, I was declared innocent (Colossians 2:13-14). Believers refer to this transformation as being saved.

Being saved is repenting of our sins and trusting (also referred to as "believing" or "believing on") Jesus Christ's death and resurrection for our salvation. In

so doing, we are placing our lives in His hands (John 10:28-30; Romans 8:31; Hebrews 13:6). Upon taking this step of trusting Jesus, He drops the charges against us; we are saved from our transgressions (sins) (Psalm 103:10-14; Romans 4:8). Being *saved* is replacing disgrace with honor because we become children of the one true God (John 1:12). Being saved replaces fear with authority over sin in our lives (Job 1:8-12; Luke 22:31-32). Fear is replaced with faith (2 Timothy 1:7).²⁸

Satan's authority over a person's life is destroyed when we surrender to Jesus Christ because it is Christ who lives in us (Galatians 2:20). Being saved is being born again to a new life, a new life in Jesus Christ (John 3:3). The old you washed away; the new you alive in and through Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

A snappy prayer, raising a hand at a crusade or church, a song, or wishful thinking will not bring you into the right relationship with Jesus Christ. Being "saved" or born "again," in its simplest terms, is trusting in Jesus Christ, trusting Jesus enough to

²⁸ Each Believer must determine to what extent they will use the power of faith. Faith is what moves mountains (Matthew 17:20). But unused faith is misused faith.

repent (confess your uncleanness to Jesus and turn from your ways to His) (Mark 1:15; Acts 17:30-31; 1 John 1:9). Being saved is trusting Jesus's death and resurrection for your eternal protection (Romans 10:9), trusting that Jesus died for you! Trusting Jesus enough to walk with Him today instead of the world (1 Timothy 1:12; 2 Timothy 4:17; Psalm 23).

Being saved is about a relationship, not a religion (1 John 15:18; Revelation 3:20). Being saved is not about being perfect (Romans 7:15-20; Philippians 3:12); it is about growing in your relationship with Jesus (Hebrews 6:1-4). You cannot buy or work your way into heaven; instead, being saved is about admitting that you cannot save yourself (Ephesians 2:8). Being saved is about surrendering your will to God's will (Luke 9:23). A relationship with Jesus is about walking with Him in times of joy, times of sorrow, and during struggles and triumphs (Psalm 18:2; John 14:15-18).

Then he said to the crowd, 'If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your way, take up your cross daily, and follow me' (Luke 9:23, New Living Translation).

Turn to God, calling out to God, repenting of your sins. “*Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.*”²⁹ Accept Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of your life so that you may have a relationship with Him now and forever (Acts 2:20-46 and Romans 10:9-13). The following is a prayer that can help you get started in your conversation with Jesus. But remember, words do not save anyone, only trusting Jesus Christ (John 14:6). What matters is what is in the depth of your soul (heart):

Dear God, I am a sinner. Please forgive me for my sins. I reject my sinful path and surrender to Jesus Christ, the resurrected living Son of God, as the Lord and Savior of my life. Amen.³⁰

If you have trusted Jesus Christ, welcome to the family. I encourage you to:

- Tell Someone
- Get Baptized

²⁹ Romans 10:11.

³⁰ How do we know we are saved? We take God at His word and act upon it (Luke 6:46-49; John 14:15; and 1 John 2:15-17).

- Study the Bible
- Pray without ceasing
- Get in and stay in a community of Believers
- Join a Christ-Centered Bible Church

Jesus will not force anyone to follow Him (John 12:46-48). It is a choice. Jesus came the first time to destroy the works of Satan and save the lost (Luke 19:10; 1 John 3:8). However, when He returns, He will come to judge (2 Timothy 4:1). Believers to an eternal glorious reward and the lost (also referred to as unsaved) to everlasting damnation (Mathew 25:31-46).

Being a Believer and rejecting God are both choices. Likewise, failing to choose is also a choice. Choose wisely (John 3:36).

Chapter 18

UNCOMPROMISED

As blood-bought born-again children of God, we are called to live life like Jesus' return is imminent, and the flames of hell are nipping at our heels.³¹

Let me remind you of Daniel. Though held in captivity, he served multiple pagan rulers. His faithfulness to these earthly kings was only second to his devotion to God. Daniel was so faithful in his walk with God that King Darius declared Daniel's God the true living God. (Daniel 6:10-28). The same can be said of Joseph after being sold into slavery in Egypt (Genesis 41:37-57).

Let us take a closer look at Daniel. Daniel was carried off to Babylon when Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah (Daniel 1:1-7). When offered to eat the king's choicest foods, Daniel declined because it violated Jewish law (Daniel 1:8). Yet, Daniel prospered

³¹ Author unknown.

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(Daniel 1:8-20). He grew in stature and prominence in Babylon (Daniel 2:46). He continued to worship only the God of his fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

As time passed, other officials were so jealous of the favor Daniel found with the king that they laid a trap for him (Daniel 6:1-9). These officials knew that Daniel would not worship any god or man but his own God. These officials tricked King Darius into passing a law requiring that anyone petitioning a god for the next 30 days must only come to Darius (Daniel 6:6-9). Death was the penalty for failing to comply (Daniel 6:7). Daniel did not yield (Daniel 6:10). Daniel was thrown into the lions' den with hungry lions (Daniel 6:16). The following day, at first light, the cover was opened, and the king found Daniel unharmed (Daniel 6:19-22). The King was exceedingly glad because he liked Daniel (Daniel 6:23). He then threw Daniel's accusers, their wives, and their children into the lions' den, and they were devoured by the lions (Daniel 6:24).

Daniel knew he could not serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). He was perfectly willing to work for Nebuchadnezzar and Darius. But when required to deny the one true God and worship someone other

than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Great “*I AM*,” he refused. Daniel stood without compromise, facing execution, yet never wavering in his faith or allegiance to God. Daniel put his faith into action.

A day may come soon when you must choose whether to remain loyal to a nation that hates God. Jesus teaches that we are either with or against Him (Matthew 12:30). There is no middle ground. Choose wisely, remembering that God has already given heavenly weapons to every blood-bought, born-again child of God (Ephesians 6:14-18).

Chapter 19

STAY CLOSE

If you claim the mantle of a born-again child of God, you must stay close to Jesus. Seek Him, and He will not be far off (James 4:8). Stay in the Word. The Bible is God's Word to the world; do not depart from Scripture (2 Timothy 2:15). If we seek His discernment, He will give us understanding (Proverbs 19:66; 1 Corinthians 12:10; James 1:5). The Holy Spirit will reveal evil spirits in our midst, including spirits attacking our families. He is our shielding and arsenal.

The battles are intensifying; war has been declared, and the old guard (those of us who have seen the casualties of this war) must hold the ground. We must train, prepare and stand with the next generation. We must be making disciple-makers.

Chapter 20

THE CALL

With salvation in Christ comes the power of the Holy Spirit. With the power of the Holy Spirit comes an obligation to stand in the gap for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are also to be praying for lost souls in America who do not know the love of Christ so that they, too, may join our family before they are called to judgment day to answer for their life.

God is seeking those who will answer His call. The fields are ready for harvesting, but the workers are few (Matthew 9:35-38). God asks whom He shall send (Isaiah 6:8). Can you say “send me”?

Chapter 21

FAILURE TO ACT

Before 1933, German pastors were free to preach the word of God unhindered by the government. However, with the passage of the Treachery Law in 1933, for pastors to speak against the Nazi party was a crime.³²

Deitrick Bonhoeffer said that failing to act in the face of evil is evil.³³ He made this statement as Germany raced to become one of Europe's most demonically controlled nations. Bonhoeffer was a man who, based on his writings, deeply loved God.³⁴ In the face of repeated threats by the German government, he

³² Michael Van Dyke, *Radical Integrity: The Story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, (Uhrichsville, OH: Barbour Publishing, 2001), 75.

³³ Emily Maust Wood, “20 Influential Quotes by Dietrich Bonhoeffer,” Crosswalk.com, March 4, 2021: “Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.”

³⁴ Examples include Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Letters and Papers From Prison* and *The Cost of Discipleship*.

continued to teach Bible truth. To counter the Nazi church, he helped start a Christ-centered church movement in German.³⁵ Yet, this man who loved God was reportedly involved in two failed attempts to assassinate Hitler.³⁶ Turning the other cheek is hard. Steadfast in his resolve, Bonhoeffer never succumbed to Nazi pressure to support the party or Hitler.³⁷

Germany, a nation with a rich traditional Christian heritage, led a movement to exterminate the world's Jewish population. As early as 1933, a strong push was evident to ensure that being a good Christian in Germany meant being a good Nazi. By the end of World War II, Satan, using Adolph Hitler and the German people as his proxy, killed over 6,000,000 (6 million) people of Jewish descent.

Notably, Hitler was not the first man Satan used to try to take out God's people or His chosen leaders. Satan tried to kill Moses when he was a baby (Exodus 1:15-22); he tried to wipe out the Jewish people in the desert (Exodus 14); he tried to use Haman to kill

³⁵ Van Dyke, *Radical Integrity*, 91-92.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, 7-8.

³⁷ The Nazis executed Bonhoeffer as the war was coming to an end.

Mordecai and the Jewish people (Esther 3:5-15); he tried it with Jesus in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16-18); He tried it at Calvary (Mark 16:6); he tried it on October 6, 1973. He continues to try.

America has perfected what Hitler failed at (annihilating an entire people). In America, over 64,000,000 (64 million) future doctors, lawyers, architects, pastors, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives, mothers, and fathers have been murdered.³⁸ Hitler was junior varsity at killing compared to the blood lust in America.

In Germany, the nation went off track. The people made their country an idol. The people and government placed their nationality above God. They did this in their hearts and with their actions. Too many were silent in the face of evil because speaking out had a cost. To speak out was seen as unpatriotic. In America, for over 200 years, the cross and the flag have been wrapped around each other. Growing up, I was taught that to be a good American was to love

³⁸ “U.S. Abortion Statistics By Year (1973-Current),” Christian Life Resources, updated January 2023, <https://christianliferesources.com/2021/01/19/u-s-abortion-statistics-by-year-1973-current/>; and www.numberofabortions.com.

God, the flag, apple pie, and mom. Conversely, I was also taught that to be a good Christian was to love God, the flag, apple pie, and mom.

America, for many, has become an idol. Across this nation, churches have placed patriotism above or on par with God. God is God; anything or anyone we put above or on par with Him is our idol. God must be first in our hearts and minds, especially if we want to save this nation or our neighbor (Mark 12:30).

No political party will save America. The Democratic Party, based on what I have observed, is an instrument of Satan, a den of vipers. Any political party which champions the mutilation and murder of children is demonic.³⁹ Do not be fooled into thinking that the Republic Party is the answer. For the most part, partisan political parties are only interested in

³⁹ Zachary Faria, "California is poised to take children away from parents who won't help them get sex changes," Washington Examiner, June 12, 2023, <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/california-is-poised-to-take-children-away-from-parents-who-won-t-help-them-get-sex-changes/ar-AA1csvxy>; and Lila Rose, "Hillary Clinton's radical support for abortion: The candidate has lost touch with America's values," The Washington Times, Tuesday, September 13, 2016, <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/sep/13/hillary-clintons-radical-support-for-abortion/>.

their own self-interest.⁴⁰ They will sell you, me, our children, and our grandchildren's future for power, money, votes, prestige, control, and other lusts of life.

America has but a single hope. This is not a multiple-answer exam. It is Jesus Christ or nothing (Matthew 12:30). The only hope I see for America to survive as a land where Believers can worship the one true God is if America turns to the only man who can save her. This man was before time (John 1:1). He was with God and is God (John 1:1-2). He created everything ever created, and nothing was made without Him (John 1:3). This man, who was fully God and fully man on earth, lived a sinless life though tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11; John 1:14; John 2:27; and 2 Corinthians 5:21). He willingly gave His life for everyone who would trust Him (Luke 22:42). He now sits at the right hand of the Father, waiting to return (Colossians 3:1). When He returns, He will return to rescue and judge (2 Corinthians 6:10).

⁴⁰ With this statement, I leave room for the possibility that within any political party or organization, there may be God-fearing men or women trying to serve God from the inside or those who do not understand what is happening around them.

There is a catch, America must trust Jesus Christ for its soul. This means rejecting Satan, rejecting ourselves as gods, rejecting Satan's worldview, and repenting. For America to trust Jesus Christ, individuals must trust Jesus with their very lives. To follow Jesus, we must be willing to lay down our lives daily, die to ourselves, and follow Him (Luke 9:23-24). A nation does not repent; its people do (Jonah 3:6-10). As the German people turned from God to Satan, the American people must turn from Satan to God. America is doomed if it is not following Jesus Christ (Matthew 7:24-27).

Regardless of the consequences, Believers must share Jesus Christ. To have the key to the strong box which contains life-saving water and then deny that very water to a person dying of thirst would be heartless and likely criminal. As Believers, we have the key to water that never gets stagnant, water that never runs dry or becomes undrinkable. We know the Key to the Living Water. In the face of evil, Believers cannot be silent. Silence in the face of evil is evil. ⁴¹

⁴¹ Emily Maust Wood, "20 Influential Quotes by Dietrich Bonhoeffer," Crosswalk.com, March 4, 2021.

Chapter 22

A LIVING FAITH

Biblical faith prompts action; it is taking God at His word and acting on it. You must decide if you are living for God or the world. To live for God is to put God first, to put God above yourself, to put God above the world. (Mathew 6:33; 16:24-26; 20:26-28) To live for God is to live in Jesus Christ. (John 14 and 15) To live in Christ is to live out His commands daily.

Being a follower of Jesus Christ is more than just one-and-done. It is a life-long relationship with the Creator of the world. It is a decision every day to follow Jesus. It is a process of growing and living life trusting Jesus. Following Jesus Christ does not guarantee or promise an easy life. Instead, God promises to walk with us if we are His.⁴² Do not trust on your own understanding, but in all things, depend on the Lord Jesus Christ (Proverbs 3).

⁴² He will never leave you or forsake you (Deuteronomy 31:8; Matthew 28:20).

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

At about six years old, I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior and was baptized in our Baptist church in California. I would love to tell you that my walk with the Lord has been smooth sailing. It has not. At age 17, the Lord called me to the ministry while sitting in a pew at Windsor Park Baptist Church in Corpus Christi, Texas. However, I spent several years trying to prove to God that He was wrong (I do not recommend this course of action).

However, in 1999, the Lord got my attention when an 18-wheeler hit me on the highway between Victoria, TX, and Corpus Christi. This began the journey with the Lord that I am still on.

In 2014, I was privileged to participate in ten days of revival meetings in Haiti. The fruit from these meetings poured out across the nation for several months. In 2014, I was also ordained as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the laying on hands by Elders of Cornerstone Church in Jacksonville, FL, and Believers' Gathering Place, Fleming Island, FL.

Since 2014 I have been privileged to share the Word of God through teaching, preaching, and writing. In sharing the word of God, a guiding Bible verse that we follow is Matthew 10:8, which teaches that what we have received free of charge, we are to give free of charge. This is why this book and others I have written are free in PDF download from www.acts17301.org.

God Bless!

War has already been declared. Jesus Christ demonstrated His authority over Satan in the wilderness. Jesus secured the beachhead at Calvary and defeated Satan and death with His resurrection. Yet battles continue until God says enough is enough. At God's appointed time, Jesus will put everything right. Jesus Christ will restore His people to Him, bring justice, and vanquish Satan for all time.

**Bobby D. Brown
Florida, 2023**

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