

Accountability

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[0 : 00] Bragging on what happened in California last night and rebuking people around the country that couldn't get that many men together from that many different churches.

Amen, when there's churches every 30 miles. And people drove hundreds of miles to be here. So it was a real privilege to be the speaker.

And it was an extra bonus that I got to hear some preaching. And Greg's testimony was phenomenal. And I really enjoyed seeing him again.

And we're off to a good start. And so this is our first five weeks in California. This is the first meeting. And like I mentioned, Sunday school, we had a guy saved last night.

So I can go home right now and we're ahead of the game. But what a privilege it is. And to see Bible Baptist of Silmar doing well and on course.

[0 : 59] And amen, it thrills my soul. There's a battle going on. People that don't get out of their home church much have no comprehension of the war that's being waged against the church of the living God.

So every outpost, amen, every lighthouse that's standing for the truth, it's a big deal. Amen. And we're making a difference. Say, well, we're not affecting thousands.

How about one? How many souls are worth your best efforts? I mean, a soul that's going to live forever. We're not building a club here. We're trying to do something to show Jesus Christ.

We appreciate it. And I'll tell you what, he blesses us. Amen. Take your Bible this morning. Go to Romans chapter 14. Appreciate your prayers for the next, like I said, I got four more churches after this.

We'll be at Brother Pina next Sunday. And then we'll start three revivals in San Pedro, Las Vegas, and El Cajon. They'll be Wednesday through Sunday.

[2 : 04] My wife will be doing a ladies' meeting each of those three Saturdays. I let her stay home for the first week because the grandkid's two weeks old. But I said, come on, you've got to report for duty.

So she'll be flying in about a week and a half. I need her. Amen. And so I appreciate your prayers for those meetings. And of course, you're invited to come.

And Brother Walski's got my schedule. And, you know, if you ever guys wanted to venture down to San Pedro, we start on the 30th, I believe. My wife is speaking on the 2nd there.

And she'd love to see you. Amen. All right. Romans chapter 14. And here's what it says in verse 11. For as it is written.

No, it says, for it is written. As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me and every tongue shall confess to God.

[3 : 03] Father, I pray and ask that you'd see fit to meet with us again this morning. Bless those that have come. Help me to say something that's according to your will. And be a blessing to your people.

And, God, if there's a person here that is not sure that they'd end up in heaven when this thing's all said and done, I pray that today you'd give them some light. Pray, God, you'd just help us to endeavor to worship you in spirit and truth.

And open our hearts to the word of God. And anything that goes right, we'll give you the credit, the glory. You're the only one that deserves it. Thank you for Jesus Christ.

In whose name I pray. Amen. Amen. Amen. So, Paul said, it is written. I just finished a message the other day. And it began. But as it is written, and I went into detail about what a blessing it is that we have the Bible.

That it's written. Amen. And so, he says that. It says, every tongue shall confess to God. And here's what every tongue is going to confess.

[4 : 05] He wrote in Philippians chapter 2 and verse 11. That every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Amen. To the glory of God the Father.

And so, after he writes that, what he wrote in verse 11. And he shows us by comparing scripture to scripture. He's talking about Jesus Christ being the Lord. He writes verse 12.

And it says this. So then, every one of us shall give an account of himself to God. That's a serious verse.

Amen. That means that every one of us is going to answer for some things to God. Amen.

Accounting. I'll call this message accountability. I was a lazy high school kid in the 60s. And our high school had an opportunity to go to a vocational school and learn a trade.

[5 : 05] And I figured it'd be easier to go there and learn a trade than actually study in high school. And I went there. And there were all the trades. The carpentry, plumbing, electrician stuff.

All that. And they all required work. I was raised in a carpenter's home. So, I know. My dad worked hard. But they offered accounting. I never claimed to be good with numbers or have any interest in it.

But it seemed easy to me to get an office somewhere and to deal with books and numbers and things like that. Than rather to get up at 4, 35 o'clock in the morning in northern Ohio.

And go out when it's 5 degrees above zero and work building buildings. Amen. Or be out in the sweltering heat. I thought climate control would be a good way to make a living.

And my understanding was accountants make good money. I lasted one year. I found out it wasn't near as easy as I thought it was going to be.

[6 : 09] Accounting is very serious business. Amen. And I want to remind you of something this morning. Giving account of yourself to God is very serious business.

Amen. It's that every one of us. So then every one of us shall give to God. Everyone means everyone. Right. Without distinction.

God no respect your persons. Amen. There's no loopholes. This is without exception. There's no loopholes. Nobody's getting around it. Everyone's going to give an account. You need to think more often than you do about how that day is going to go for you.

Because it's coming. Amen. Sometimes we Baptists get to singing about the rapture and looking forward to the rapture. And we act like we're going to go up out of here and come down at the marriage supper of the Lamb. And I'm looking forward to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

But we conveniently forget that the judgment seat of Jesus Christ is there. And before we ever enjoy the glories of heaven, we're going to give an account of what we did with this life.

[7 : 14] That Jesus Christ went to the cross to make a way for us to give back to him. It says, everyone shall give an account of himself. You're not going to give account for anybody else.

You're going to give account for your wife, for your husband, or your kids. Amen. You're going to give an account of yourself. And something I emphasized in Sunday school this morning, and maybe needs to be emphasized a lot more than it is.

This thing with Jesus Christ, this relationship you have when you became a child of God, is very personal. Amen. And what I see traveling around is it's a lot easier, rather than to examine ourselves, like Paul admonished us to do in 2 Corinthians 13.

It's easier to look at other people. And the fallacy there is you're not giving account of anybody else. So why do we waste so much time and thought worrying about other people?

So that everyone of us shall give an account of themselves to God. The significance of that is God knows every detail of your life.

[8 : 23] Amen. It's not your side of the story. He knows the facts. Amen. You can fool others. You can tell others and hope you don't ever get found out, maybe in a detail, but you're not going to deceive God.

The Bible says, The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Who can know it? You can deceive yourself. And we do it. And then we'll back and later think, What was I thinking? I've been there more often than I want to remember. And when I don't remember, my wife reminds me. Amen. But so you can deceive others for a while. You can deceive yourself.

But I just want to remind you of something, that no one's deceiving God. It says in Psalm 103 that he knows our frame. He remembereth that we are dust.

He knows what we are. We're the ones that forget we're dust. We're the ones that start thinking more highly of ourselves than we should. Best thing you could ever do is to try to make sure you got as many things in order on that day when you give an account to God.

[9 : 28] I'm going to give you some areas this morning that you're going to give an account to. There won't be one thing in this message you haven't heard before. It's all just that old black book that we love and believe. Amen.

You've got to give an account of your salvation. You've got to give an account of your salvation. John chapter 14 and verse 6, Jesus says unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. And it's significant to notice that it doesn't say a way, or the fastest way, or the best way. Jesus said, I'm the best way to eternal life.

No, it says the way. It's the only way. The verse finishes with these words, No man cometh unto the Father, but by him. People have more ideas than they should.

We dissect things and try to reason things out. And again, the truth is black and white. No man cometh unto the Father, but by him. There is no other way.

[10 : 25] The religious way isn't going to get anybody in. And there's nice people in every denomination across the land. I've met many of them. Amen.

Some of them are nicer than we are. Amen. To our shame. But the religious way isn't getting anybody to heaven. The good person way. If you've ever done much personal work.

Amen. Handing out tracts or knocking on doors. You'll hear a lot of things said. I'm okay. Nobody's okay. Until their sins are under the blood of Christ.

The Bible says all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. I've heard people explain to me that they don't believe God will put them in hell because they're a good person. And by society's standards, they probably are.

But that's not the standard. The standard is Jesus Christ. Amen. The good person way, the religious way is not going to cut it. You must come the Jesus way.

[11 : 23] I mean, that's not my idea. I didn't make that up. I'm not a promoter of Bible Christianity. I'm a benefactor of it. And so are you if you're safe. I saw a sign outside of a church somewhere traveling around.

Nobody is getting into heaven until Jesus gets into them. There's no way around that. Amen. I'm glad. I'm glad. I made so many bad decisions in the first 37 years of my life.

If salvation was multiple choice, I'd have got it wrong. But it's not multiple choice. It's Jesus Christ. In Matthew 27 and verse 22.

Go ahead and go there. Pilate said this in verse 22. Pilate says unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus, which is called Christ?

That is a deep question right there. They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. Bad answer. But I'm telling you this morning that every one of you is going to give an account for what you did with Jesus Christ.

[12 : 29] When you're presented with the glorious gospel of Christ, you had a decision to make. And if you made the right decision, you put your faith and trust in him as Savior, plus nothing, minus nothing, you'll end up in the right place.

You'll end up in heaven. Amen. And you put your faith and trust in anything else. Amen. You'll end up in the wrong place. You'll end up in the lake of fire.

You'll end up in hell. You'll end up in that place that you've got it figured out in your mind is all for the worst of the worst of the worst of the worst. And that'll be your company. If you die trusting in your own goodness or your religion or your good works, that's where you'll end up.

And I'm not saying that to admonish you. I'm saying that to warn you because churches in America right now, this hour, are filled with people that are counting on the wrong thing.

And it's our duty and our obligation to proclaim Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life. And that's what you get here on a regular basis. Amen. The Bible says, For by grace are you saved through faith, then not of yourselves.

[13 : 38] It is the gift of God. You're familiar with Ephesians chapter 2 and verse 8. And verse 9 goes on to say, Not of works. Lest any man should boast.

A lot of people say, Well, you get saved by faith, but you've got to work to keep it. And that's not the case. And here's why. Because if you did have to work to get saved or work to keep your salvation, when you got to heaven, that's what you'd be bragging on.

That's why it says it like that. Lest any man should boast. God puts up with us bragging on ourselves down here. Even as Christians. He ain't going to put up with it for all eternity. You get there, you're going to know it was Him, His grace, His blood, His love, and nothing else. Amen. You're going to give an account of your salvation.

And if there's an outside chance anybody in here is trusting anything besides, believing in their heart what Jesus Christ did on the cross, well, you need to get that thing fixed.

[14 : 41] You need to get, you need to let one of us open a Bible. You need to be willing to be open to what the Scripture says because time's running out. Say, but I'm young and I'm strong and I'm healthy and that book says boast not thyself of tomorrow for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

I've been around longer than I ever thought I would. I never dreamed I'd live to be almost 72 now. Amen. And I know this, I've been saved 30, almost 34 years and I've seen a lot of things change. But some things don't. And this thing about judgment to come, this thing about us giving account to ourselves, it isn't going to change. And the reason we need to be, to preach on it and get prepared for it is because we don't know when it's going to be.

You're going to give an account of your salvation. I hope everybody in here this morning, I got no reason to think otherwise. But as a preacher of the gospel, I'm obligated to present that to you like I did.

Amen. You're going to give an account of something else. 2 Corinthians 5, go ahead and go there. 2 Corinthians 5, verse 17, I gave it as a life verse last night.

[15 : 55] One of many. The Bible says, therefore, if any man be in Christ, he's a new creature, all things are passed away, behold, all things are become new. Things are supposed to change when you get born again.

Ah, let me rephrase that. Things will change when you get born again. You can pray all the little prayers you want, but if nothing changes, I'd be real concerned about eternity if I was you.

Amen. Here's one of the things that changes. In the next chapter, in 2 Corinthians 6, verse 17, the Bible says, wherefore, come out from among them and be ye separate, sayeth the Lord.

Well, I'm just here to remind you that you're going to give an account of your separation. People don't like to hear about separation. And most Christians resist it because they want to walk the fine line between worldliness and godliness.

In Bible, Christianity is dumbing down and casualing down exponentially year after year. And some of the old things don't seem to matter like they used to.

[17 : 03] If it mattered to God 100 years ago, it probably still matters. Amen. That's why there's very little standards anymore. We don't want to hear about separation. Amen.

That's why you're a legalist if you talk about separation. I had a guy ask me, Brother Spurgeon, are you a legalist? And I thought that was really interesting because for 15 years I was a professional illegalist.

I was an outlaw. I was a criminal. I got saved in jail. Amen. To be called a legalist. I don't know. It was kind of, I don't know if it was a compliment. He didn't mean it as one. But I'm telling you something.

You know what I asked him? I said, I never thought about that. But are you an illegalist? Amen. I mean, are you a basking in the rebellious nature that you just want to push against and go against? That's the way we are. Well, you do it your way. This is like Burger King, man. You do it any way you want. But I'm just here to tell you, remind you, you're going to give an account of those decisions.

[18 : 04] You can convince yourself. You can convince me. Well, you're not going to convince me, but you can argue. Amen. But, you know what I want to remind you of? There is no fine line between godliness and worldliness.

You can't do this thing one foot in the world and one foot at walkway. Worldliness and godliness are polar opposites. You have to make a decision.

Amen. And if you make the wrong decision, you don't get all the way in. You're faking it. And I'm going to just tell you, you can't fake it forever. Amen. Bible says in Romans 14, 5, one man esteemeth one day above another.

Another esteemeth every day alike. Let every, that sounds pretty open-minded, but then it says, let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

I like that. Fully persuaded means severely, severely, no, sincerely. They might work severely. Sincerely convicted about something.

[19 : 08] Fully persuaded. Your mind's made up. Amen. And it's good to be fully persuaded about some things. That's what keeps you from getting tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.

Holy ghost convictions, I believe, are what makes Bible Christianity. You hear me say that a lot. What makes Bible Christianity different from religion?

Where, well, we think this and we think that. You're welcome to think anything you want. What sayeth the scriptures? That's what I'm concerned with. And I feel sorry for folks that don't have any convictions and I see it more and more and more in our standards.

We act like we're doing God a favor if we quit drinking or smoking or doing whatever we used to do. We act like we're doing God a favor if we show up to church once in a while, drag ourselves out of bed, and I'll tell you something.

If you ever get a hold of this thing, maturing in the Lord and developing some Holy Ghost convictions, God would do you a favor. I don't know why so many Christians are satisfied with staying in the shallow end of the baby pool, but there's a lot more to this than that.

[20 : 14] Amen. That's pretty good preaching. People with no convictions, you know what they have? They have rules. A code of conduct. They have rules. And I know this.

As a professional rebel for most of my life, and I fight it now. Amen. Rules breed rebellion. Yeah, go back to 1776 and do a little history.

The Bible says, So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God. And I just want to say before I move on, you are going to explain to the Lord Jesus Christ, not to me, not to your pastor, you're going to explain to the Lord Jesus Christ why you made some of the decisions you made in this life.

And I got a feeling many of us, maybe all of us, are going to be pretty embarrassed at how many times the I word shows up when you give an account. Like, well, I thought, or I felt, or I wanted, and that's where we get off track because it ain't about you and me.

It's about him. Going to give an account of some things. Amen. Going to give an account of our salvation. Amen. It's the most precious gift you ever received or ever could.

[21 : 33] It's the most expensive gift ever purchased. And God purchased it for your eternal life. Amen. You're going to give an account of your separation.

You need to make up your mind. You need to make a decision. Amen. Get in. Get all the way in. I'm not saying get in or get out. Some people, it takes a long time to get in. I'm just trying to encourage you to.

Amen. And then, you're going to give an account of your stability. Stability. Instability describes the day and age we live in at every level.

James chapter 1 and verse 8. James chapter 1. Verse 8. The Bible says this. A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Amen. All his ways. I think the people that waffled on some areas and a flag goes up and said, if they're doing that here, there's other areas in their life. I'm not a psychologist. I'm just a Bible believer.

[22 : 36] Amen. I'm just saying again, you're going to give an account. 2 Timothy chapter 2. You're going to give an account of your stability. A couple verses over here in 2 Timothy chapter 2 beginning in verse 25.

Verse 24. The servant of the Lord must not strive but be gentle unto all men patient, apt to teach. I probably slaughtered it.

But verse 25 says this. In meekness instructing them that oppose themselves. That's unstable.

Opposing themselves means you say one thing and do another. Amen. The Bible word for that coined by Jesus Christ himself is hypocrite. And again, you've done much personal work, you'll find that people are using an excuse not to come to churches because of all the hypocrites.

That's not a good excuse not to come to church but it is sad that it's so true. We have a purpose in our heart. I can't do anything about them but I don't want to be one. Amen. Because if I'm going to give an account of it, so are you.

[23 : 43] And the verse finishes with these words, If God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth. You want the truth in a nutshell? God is always right.

You've got a right to have your own opinions and thoughts but at the end of the day, God is always right. Amen. Well, the preacher says this or I think the Bible says this or the Holy Spirit says this but I want to do this.

Well, okay God, could you give me repentance to the acknowledging of the truth? You know what he'll do? He'll take you back to the book. He'll take you to the one that gives account for you to God on a regular basis.

That's your preacher. Hebrews 13, 17. Amen. Verse 26 says this and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil who are taken captive by him at his will.

That ought to be unacceptable that you can be saved and that you can make some progress in the Lord. And you get a little double-minded in your actions and the devil's like wait right there ready to slide in take captive.

[24 : 55] that should not be okay. Amen. It says God will give repentance to the acknowledging of the truth that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil or taken captive by him at his will.

Instability beloved makes you an easy target for the devil. That shouldn't be alright. He's already got 90 well I don't want to throw out a statistic but a vast majority of the world he's already got them and he wants your testimony.

Amen. So that we don't reach any more of them. He knows he can't get your soul. Too bad so many Christians think he can but he can't. But he can sure enough get your family. He can get your testimony.

Amen. You need to get some things nailed down and get some stability. And he tells us to do it. Wherefore come out from among them. Wherefore don't be double minded.

Amen. Ephesians chapter 4 and 14 says that we henceforth be no more children. This is why Paul gave us evangelists pastors and teachers. That we henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine by the slight of men and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

[26 : 17] Beloved God has given us all the tools necessary. to get off the emotional drama driven roller coaster that many American Christians seem to have a season pass to.

Listen, if you're saving here this morning your sin debt is cancelled. Paid in full. However, you will give an account of some things.

You will give an account of your stability or lack thereof. Amen? Alright, moving on to most people's favorite subject.

You're going to give an account of your submission. Ooh, that's a word nobody likes. Amen? I'll just throw it out there and get it off the table. Men don't like submitting to their pastors.

That's not a question. Don't raise your hand. Wives don't like submitting to their husbands. Children don't like submitting to their parents. Students don't like submitting to their teachers.

[27 : 25] That's just how it is. That's how we're wired. We're flawed. Amen? With that being said, oh, here he goes, husband, wife, submit to your... No, no, that's not where I'm going.

Here's what you're going to give an account of according to 1 Peter 5 and 5. Likewise, you younger submit yourselves unto the elder. That doesn't say older. It says elder. Old people aren't automatically very smart.

But it does say elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another and be clothed with humility for God resisteth the proud and giveth grace unto the humble.

Amen. We're to submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God. And I'm talking about working together forbearing one another in order to get something done for the glory of God.

That's what the kind of submission we're talking about. Paul said it like this in 1 Corinthians 12 and 12. For as the body is one and have many members and all the members of that one body being many are one body so also is Christ.

[28 : 43] For anything to get done the body's got to be working properly. For anything to get done for the glory of God the body of Christ has to be working properly. Not warring with each other.

Not everybody trying to be ahead. Amen. Not everybody trying to be anything. Let's just be what we can be for the glory of God. They say well I don't like that.

I don't even care if you do or not. My job is to just remind you that you're going to give an account of that spirit when you get before him.

You're going to give an account. So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God. Got it? Romans 6.

Go to Romans 6. Romans 6 verse 16.

[29 : 36] Paul writes this. Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey his servants ye are to whom ye obey whether of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness.

Amen. You're going to give an account of your service. to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey. That means that's up to you.

You've got to vote. You've got a choice to make and it's a decision you will make right or wrong. I'm just here to tell you. You're going to give an account of that decision to God one day.

A little reminder this morning. Amen. You're going to give an account of sacrifice and that could be a long list and a message in and of itself but Hebrews 13 15 says by him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Sacrifice of praise is gratitude. If there's anything that can be said for modern Christianity we're not thankful for what God's done.

[31 : 03] I was in a meeting recently and they sang the song count your blessings and name them one by one and I reminded as a very young Christian a Sunday school teacher took a piece of paper and drew it down lying down in the middle and said put your blessings on this things and your complaints on the other and start writing.

And she did that for like I don't know maybe a junior high class. And if you're remotely honest that blessing side is going to fill up a lot quicker. And truth of the matter is none of us have that much to complain about.

Maybe nothing to complain about. If somebody got the gospel to you, somebody brought you to church as a kid, somebody knocked on your door, somebody street preached, somebody gave you a track, somebody told you about Jesus Christ, you got nothing to complain about.

And maybe you're here today and you can relate to somebody in one of those categories, but you've never trusted Christ yet. This would be a good day. You can still get saved. But I'm going to tell you the key issue, we live in a day and age where people aren't thankful, they're covetous, and the Lord calls, giving thanks to his name as sacrifice.

You're going to give an account of that. Amen? We're talking about giving an account. How about this? Proverbs 11. Go to Proverbs 11. Proverbs 11.

[32 : 33] There is a reason, I mean, God left us here. It says in verse 30, the fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise.

Some of us weren't very smart before we got saved. And maybe we were IQ wise, but we did a lot of dumb things. And the dumbest thing anybody could ever do is not getting saved. Amen?

But I'm going to tell you something, if you got in on the best God had to offer, the gift of eternal life, I just want to remind you, you're going to give an account of your soul consciousness, because you weren't the last person to get saved or else we'd all be gone.

So that means there's still work to be done, and that means we're the workers that are supposed to get the work done, and you're going to give an account of your efforts to win souls. And I know everybody's not a super soul winner, amen, but everybody's got an opportunity to participate in church outreach ministries.

You are given an opportunity today, coming up soon, right? Trunk or tree or something like that.

Amen? We used to play that, but we put the person in the trunk. No, I don't want to go there. We're supposed to pray for souls.

[33 : 46] The Bible says, the effect of a righteous man avail as much. And so we can pray. We're supposed to pray. We're supposed to pray for missionaries. We're supposed to pray for each other.

We're supposed to give to missions. It says, go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. How in the world are you supposed to do that? Well, I'm doing that in a number of countries right now while I'm standing here.

missionaries because every month I faithfully support those ministries to keep those missionaries on the field. That's how we can fulfill the Great Commission. That's how we can have a part in the souls that they win.

Amen? There are no superstars in the ministry of Jesus Christ except him. But we all can have a part of this together. And if you haven't noticed, several churches I preach at, there's a sign over the door going out.

It says, you have now entered the mission field. And I thought that's pretty appropriate. And if you haven't noticed, America is a mission field. Amen?

[34 : 46] And just personally, I'm glad to be called to carry the gospel around to the churches of America. Amen? That's my calling. Amen? So I'm not the guy that sits back and just slams and bashes America all the time.

I love my country. I'm a veteran. Amen? I don't like all the things that are going on, but I don't see any edification and sitting around and talking about how bad everything is or politics when I've got a commission that gives me the duty to get the gospel to a lost and dying world.

And do you not realize that when things get bad, people are more susceptible to something good? Soul consciousness. Amen. All right.

I just don't understand. I'm almost done. I don't understand how a person can take the best God had to offer and not feel any obligation to give back anything. I don't understand that.

I wasn't raised that way. But truth of the matter is it doesn't matter what I understand or not. My job is to tell you that one of these days you're going to give an account to God for how you feel about this, how you think about this.

[35 : 57] You're going to give an account of what you did to help somebody else get the gospel. Amen. That's a big deal. So, accountability.

So that every one of us shall give an account of himself to God. That shouldn't be intimidating. That keeps me on track. I'm capable of some pretty wild ideas and wild things.

And knowing that I am not a loose can and I'm not just, now I'm saved, I'm going to do whatever I want. And I can find a crowd that will let me just believe anything I want and do whatever I want. No, I got a Bible that tells me that I'm going to give an account to Jesus Christ and trust me, accountability helps me and it helps you.

And that's what keeps us on track. Amen. You spend so much time on the television, on the computer, listening to idiots here and there, whatever, and buddy, you can fall for anything.

That's why we go back to the book. We're going to give an account. Before I close, I want to just say this. Are you saved? I would feel negligent not to revisit that topic again.

[37 : 08] That was the first thing. You've got to give an account of your salvation. And John wrote in John 3, 3, 3, Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except the man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

And he said in verse 7, marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again. Amen. Listen, you don't have to be saved to be a good person.

I know a lot of good people that aren't saved. I know some that have many better attributes than some Christians I know. Amen.

But you have to be saved to get into heaven. Amen. Someone once said a long time ago, I guess the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

It doesn't matter what the intentions are. The road to hell ends up in hell. And you'll not have a good excuse when you give account for why you passed another opportunity to trust the offer, the free gift of eternal life that Jesus Christ is offering today.

[38 : 21] He said, come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. My life was chaos and turmoil for almost 38 years. I didn't know any better.

Then I met the Prince of Peace. And I had no clue where we were going to go from there. If the Bible was true, I wasn't going to hell. But there's so much more to it than that. Amen?

Let's all stand. We're talking about giving an account. Give you opportunity to think about what's been preached. You're going to give an account of your salvation. Again, if you're not saved, let one of us take a Bible.

Answer a question. Show you what the book says. You're going to give an account of your stability. You're going to give an account of your separation. Sometimes what Christians get hung up is the fact that they're kind of like Christians on the weekend, but then the rest of the week, they're kind of like have a split personality.

That's not scriptural. Amen? If you're a child of God, you're a child of God 24-7. And the flesh wants to fight, but you need to pray and ask God, what about this, Lord?

[39 : 26] What about that? And if you'll go to God like that, there's some things He'll encourage you to give up, get rid of. Even if they're not evil or wicked, maybe they're just in the way of you being fully submitted to Him.

Amen? Just say whatever you think about that, but just a warning, you're going to give an account of your decisions. Amen? You're going to give an account of your efforts to get somebody else to Jesus Christ, to the Savior, whether in person, or whether through a ministry, or whether through a missionary.

We've all got part of this. Amen? Accountability. So, let's bow our heads, close our eyes. Let's take a moment to reflect on the, I'm not going to repeat the message.

What I'm hoping, what I trust, is that along the way, that maybe God pricked your heart on a topic or two that might need some spiritual attention.

Because that's what this is all about. This is not religion. religion. This is about dedicating some time of our week, of our life, to submit ourselves to the still small voice of God, so that he might point things out that might need some spiritual attention.

[40 : 44] What's so easy to do is to compare ourselves with others. And then, well, we think, well, compared to them, I'm doing pretty good. But the Bible says that's not wise.

So that every one of us shall give an account. Order's open, preacher's going to come. Trust you'll do business with God.

And again, if you're not sure you're saved, let one of us open a Bible. Show you what it says about the greatest miracle that ever taken place on the planet.

Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher. Preacher.

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