

Degrees of Reward

Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.

Date: 01 December 2002

Preacher: Bro. Van Ashton

[0 : 00] Get real excited about it, amen? Move back over here just a little bit. Right there. There you go, that's far enough. And nothing excites me anymore than when I see Christians begin to grow in the Lord spiritually.

Amen? Hallelujah. Somewhere along the way, the devil has told everybody that, especially Pentecostal Christians, we're all supposed to be poor and ignorant and broke and down and out. But that ain't nothing but a lie from the devil, amen? How many knows that Job was a righteous man? And the Bible said that he was perfect. Job 1 and 6, have you considered my servant Job? There's none like him. When a fierce guy and a stueth evil, amen? And Job was the richest man in all the land. Now God took it all away from him for a while.

But then what did God do? He turned around and they gave him double. Double. He was already richer than everybody else. When he got it all back, he was twice richer than he was to begin with. Can you say amen? The Lord even says in the Word of God, he said, I would that you prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers, amen?

[1 : 11] How does your soul prosper? I thought I just had a soul, but I didn't know my soul could prosper. I didn't know my soul could grow. The only way that your soul can prosper is when you get into the Word of God. The Word of God is the thing that causes your soul to actually begin to prosper, amen?

And without the Word of God, you know, you got a little shout and you got a little dance as long as everything's going right and you're on the mountaintop. But when the shout's gone, amen, if you haven't got that Word hit in your heart, then you're in a bad place physically and financially and spiritually and every other way, amen?

Last week I taught on degrees of rewards. You know what I want to talk on this week? Degrees of rewards. How many likes a reward?

I'm reminded of the old west. When somebody robbed a bank or shoots somebody or something, they put out a reward point. And the meaner you was, the greater your reward was. Or the greater the reward that was on your head was, amen?

Well, you know what? God has a system of rewards also. But He don't reward you for doing bad. He rewards you for doing good. And the more good that you do and the better that you are, and specifically the more Word of God that you lay up in your heart, God will reward you.

[2 : 32] How many know? How many? Hebrews 11 and 6. For he that cometh to the Lord must believe that He is. That's what's wrong with most of the world. If you don't believe in Jesus Christ, you're already condemned and you're going to hell.

That's it. Amen? So first you must believe that He is. And then He put these other words in there and you must believe that He diligently, He rewards those that diligently seek Him.

He rewards them that diligently seek Him. Everybody say diligently. Seek Him. Do you know what? If you look up the word diligent, you know what it comes back to?

A simple little word we all know, study. What's the Bible say? Study to show yourself approved under God a workman that neither thought to be ashamed. When you look up the word study, it means to be diligent.

And the word diligent means to study. In other words, what's that saying? God's going to reward you if you study the Word of God. If you study it diligently.

[3 : 30] You know how you diligently study something? If you just pick it up like the newspaper, look at it and just go on off, then that's not diligently studying. But diligently studying is trying to take the Word of God and understand, meditating on it, so that it's just not a dead letter on a page that's good to put you to sleep or good to run to when you've got some great big catastrophe in your life.

But you meditate on it and it becomes, you can't understand. It becomes your exceeding and great reward. Amen? You're exceeding.

What becomes your exceeding great reward? The Word of God. When God measures your spiritual growth, what is He going to measure your spiritual growth by? He's going to measure your spiritual growth by how much of the Word that you have received.

And just let me tell you this. I've been sitting here going on 17 years. It'll be 17 years in June. And I've preached a whole lot of gospel, a whole lot of Bible, a whole lot of mysteries in the last 17 years that most people have yet to get.

They can't understand it. And instead of seeking the answer, they say, well, that's just too deep for me. So I want to preach to you a little bit this morning, again, on rewards. And there's two ways that we grow in God.

[4 : 48] We grow in moral development. Somebody say moral development. Amen. And then we grow in spiritual maturity.

Praise the Lord. Glad to have you folks with us this morning. Come right on in. Somebody say moral development. Moral development. And what does moral development, what does morals mean?

The problem with the churches today and the problem with the United States of America, but it filters on down from the, actually when the preacher quits preaching it. And then the people that are sitting in his pulpit that are in politics, they quit.

They say, well, the preacher's not preaching it anymore, so I guess it's all right. And those people that are in politics, they go from the courthouse to the state house and finally to the White House, and it all filters down.

What happens when the children, when the children of the United States of America sit by and let Madeline Mary O'Hara take prayer out of the schools? Oh, well, that just means they won't pray no more.

[5 : 47] Honey, you didn't know what we were doing. We opened the door to the greatest flood of immorality that has ever been. Back then, you didn't kill babies because they were considered sacred and holy, and they were a life that was given from God.

Amen? And, you know, the stork didn't bring it, but God gave you a precious bundle of joy, and that was a life that God entrusted in your care to take care of it and to raise it up.

Amen? After they took prayer out of the schools, then they began to take our babies out and slaughter them. And then the most grotesque thing that could ever happen is they came with this thing that they call partial birth abortion.

Do you have any idea what that means? Partial birth. That means after you've carried that baby for nine months, and that baby starts out of the birth canal to be born, just waiting to get its head out, just waiting for its little lungs to go, ah, ah, ah, ah.

Right before that, the surgeon stands there with a pair of scissors in his hand, with a vacuum tube right by his hand, and he stops that baby from coming out of that birth canal, inserts those scissors in the base of its brain, and takes that vacuum hose and sucks its brain out.

[6 : 54] So then it's born dead. That's okay. That's okay. Can you imagine that being okay? What if it was your baby? What if somebody had aborted you? It wouldn't have been okay then, would it?

Yet we live in the United States of America, supposed to be one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all. It is if you get to make it out of your mama's womb. But honey, if you don't make it out of your mama's womb, they've said that in the mother's womb is the most dangerous place you can live on this earth.

You thought, well, I thought it would be over in Israel somewhere. No, in the United States of America, in your mother's womb, in this day and age we're living in, because there is over 500,000 births aborted every year.

500,000. How many millions have we been aborting since that? And this all came as a direct result of immorality.

Morality. The only, the only thing, the only Bible, the only book that tells you right from wrong, the only book that tells you not don't do this and don't do this and don't do this and it's okay to do this and it's okay is the Bible.

[7 : 56] It's the Bible. And everybody, most people's got four or five Bibles laying around. But if you don't read them, then the morality, you don't know the morality, so you believe a lie. Well, that's okay. That baby's not born, so it's not really a life yet.

I kind of have a problem with, if a mama's in an accident with her baby in the car and that baby gets hurt also, they sue that guy that hit him not only for the damage to the mother but also to the damage of her unborn baby.

But then the doctors, they can go to the hospital and abort that baby and there's nothing wrong with that. Does that not tell you? I said this last night, I'll say it again today. The greatest nation that was up on the face of the earth at the time was the Roman Empire.

They conquered all of the known world. There was no place that they didn't go that they did not rule. But you know what happened after they conquered all the known world? Then they sat down and they began to go in immorality.

They began to brawl in homosexuality and every perverse thing under heaven and they collapsed from inside. Amen? You know what the greatest nation on this earth is?

[9 : 01] Today is the United States of America. We can go anywhere. We can whoop any country. We can whoop four or five of them at the same time. It don't matter. Just bring them all on. Amen? And you know what's happening? We're going to go down just like Rome did.

If God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, do you think we're going to get by? When they marched down the streets of their city, I don't know why I'm preaching this. This ain't costing you a thing. When they marched down the streets of their city shouting we're queer and we're here and ain't nothing you're going to do about it.

When they're demanding that being the Boy Scout leaders, when they're demanding to take your children and be school teachers to your children so that they can teach them their immoral practices. So one way that you know how much spiritual growth you got is that you are developing in morality.

You're marking up to a higher standard of what it means to live right, to do right, to talk right. See, when I was a sinner, I acted, but Paul said that when I was a baby, I acted like a baby. I thought like a baby.

But when I became a man, I put away foolish things. When I was a sinner, I act like a sinner. I talk like a sinner. The only person that used more curse words than I did was somebody that knew more than I did because I used all of them I knew and I used them as frequently as I could so that it was just like a second language and I couldn't talk without cursing.

[10 : 16] I could not talk without cursing. That was my makeup. That's what I was. Amen. Until Jesus Christ came. When he came in, amen, he condemned me of my sin. He convicted me and he said, that's wrong.

So, he said, here, if there be any honor, if there be any glory, if there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things. Think on things that are holy. Think on things that are pure report.

Think on things that are good. Think on things that are godly.

Amen. And when we begin to think on these things, then we've given the Lord a good report from us. You know why God destroyed the world in Noah's day?

Because every imagination of the thought or the heart was only evil continually. The only thing they thought about was doing something wrong and bad. Can you say amen? I'm talking about this morning that that's enough about them because we're not, we're not on to them.

We're on to Christian people here. Amen. And God wants us to grow up. I like, I love that sister flow. I got to have a copy of that. If, if God was a man, is that how it was?

[11 : 21] Yeah. Let me, let me look at this real quick here. How many people have pictures sticking on your refrigerator? Amen. Used to be of your children, but when you get older, then it's your grandchildren.

Amen. God, if God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. Man, my, my front of my refrigerator is covered with all the pictures, all my grandchildren.

Amen. You know why? Because I love them. I mean, I love them. I mean, you just don't understand love. I love, I love. I got my, my youngest grandbaby is just a year old.

And I told my daughter the other day, I am bound and determined that she's going to be my kid. She's going to know her path all loves her. I might die. I might go out in a car wreck.

Ain't no matter, tell them what's that love that happened to me. But if, but if I do go, I want her to know that I loved her with everything I had. What about your other grand?

[12 : 19] The other five? Honey, they already know that I love them. I asked little Allie Mae, Allie, can you read my mind today? She said, yes, Papaw, can. I said, all right, what am I thinking? She said, you're thinking, have I told you I love you today?

That's exactly right. Amen. Have I told you I love you today? Listen, if God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If he had a wallet, hallelujah, your picture would be in it. He sends you flowers every spring. He gives you sunrises every morning. Wherever you want, whenever you want to talk, he'll listen. And he can live anywhere in the universe, but he chose your heart.

What about the Christian? Well, what about the Christmas gift? I'm sorry, my mom, didn't read it right. He sent you in Bethlehem, not to mention that Friday at Calvary. Face it, he's crazy about you. Isn't that great? You know, we, when we're young, we receive love from our natural parents.

[13 : 19] When we get older, then we give love to our children. Amen. But, just because you're older does not mean that you don't need to receive love. I try to train my grandchildren when they see me, what they're supposed to do, they don't always do it, is run to me and grab me and hug me around the neck because I want to receive that love from them.

Amen. And my greatest joy right now is when little Molly's at church and she sees her papo up on the platform, she's going, she's just a year old, but buddy, she sees her papo, she recognizes me. He said, that's the guy that always picks me up and loves me and kisses me and tells me he loves me. Amen. Hallelujah. All right, let me hurry along here because I, and what I want to do today is I want to slow down.

Last week, I taught on this. I want to slow down today and in case you got any questions, you just raise up your hand. We'll stop right there and we'll answer your questions. Amen. Hallelujah. I don't really know where to start, but in Philippians, the third chapter and, and, and, and I don't want to go through this whole thing and if you got the notes last week, you already know what, what this says. Uh, but, but Paul says words like this. He says, I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God which is in Christ Jesus.

[14 : 45] Forgetting those things which are behind. I don't know how big a sinner you was. I was just as big a sinner as I could be. Thank God, I wasn't as big a sinner as the apostle Paul though.

He was the chief of sinners. Out of his own mouth, he said it. Amen. He stood there and he said, it's all right, go ahead and kill Stephen. Amen. And don't you know that tormented him for a long time? It could have been his thorn in the flesh every time God gave him a spiritual revelation the devil would come by and say, yeah, but you killed my, my children. You killed my saints. Don't you know that the devil was telling him that?

And that was a thing he said, he said, nevertheless, he said, forgetting those things which are behind and looking to those things which lie before. I press toward the mark. Let me get that mark down there. I press toward the mark of the prize.

Anybody, anybody ever go out with a bow and arrow or with a gun and set up a target and try to hit the target?

[15 : 53] Where do you aim at? Do you aim out here on the, you know, lower right hand side? Is this where you're aiming at? Are you aiming maybe a little bit closer or are you trying to hit the bullseye? Amen?

That's right. You're pressing toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God which is Christ Jesus. Now, like I said last week, you know, we get to thinking, well, I don't have a high school education. My mama dropped out of school at the third grade because she had all them other kids and back then didn't nobody make any money.

Anyway, my papaw made about a dollar a day working in the coal mines. Didn't have anything. My mamaw had all them other kids so at third grade my mama had to quit school and stay home and she worked like a dog trying to wash in diapers.

They didn't have pampers. You just get them dirty. You wipe, take all that up and throw them out, you know, and tuck them in the trash and the trash man comes by. Didn't happen like that. They didn't have running water. They didn't have indoor facilities.

Well, they did too. They had an old slop jar. Boy, if you was the third or fourth one to get that baby. You might have been asleep when you got on it but you was wide awake when you got off. When the baby filled up his diapers, you had to go wash them out.

[16 : 58] And if they piled up, you talk about rank smell. That old ammonia coming out of them would knock your socks off. But anyway, and I just said that because because God does not measure your spiritual stature by your carnal education.

But God measures your spiritual stature by your degree of desire to press toward the mark of the prize. don't matter if you don't have an education at all.

It doesn't mean if you can't read or write it, it doesn't matter. If your desire is to press toward the mark of the prize, then you can be in the bride. But if you're saying, well, I don't want to do that, I don't want to go that far, then honey, you're not going to make the bride.

And you may not even make the rapture. If you don't shoot for the center of the bullseye, you may even miss the whole target. Can somebody say amen? So, let me go on from there. And I got so many scriptures scribbled down on this little page here, I can't hardly read it.

He that cometh to the Lord must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. God wants to reward us if we diligently seek him. Amen? And we all want rewards.

Amen? Now, the Bible says in Hebrews 11, 24 through 27, it says, by faith, when Moses came of age, he refused to become the sons of Pharaoh's daughter, esteeming the reproaches of Christ, greater riches than all the riches of Egypt.

[18 : 21] Because he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. The recompense, the payback of the reward. Amen? In other words, what does it profit us if we serve God?

What if we don't serve God? If we serve God, we are going to have a payday. You got a job and if you stay home in bed all week long, payday, you run down there to pick up your check, what do they tell you?

Sorry, you didn't work, no pay. All right? The same thing, the Bible said the kingdom of heaven is likened to the master that owns a vineyard or he's going away to a fire country and before he goes away, he calls his servants and he gives one of them 10, one of them 5, and one of them one talent. The one that had 10 took it and multiplied it and had the 20 when he came back. The other that took it back, you know, and it came to him that had the 5 and he said, yeah, I said, what did you do with your 5? He said, well, I took it, I put it to use and I've doubled and you got 100% profit on your 5 and then he came to the 1 and I'm preaching to the 1 today.

I want to talk to the 1, the people that said, it's no reason for me to press toward the mark of the price. I can't make it. I'm too ignorant. I don't have any education. You know, whatever excuse you want to use, the devil will supply you from church.

[19 : 36] You'll stay away. He's got all the excuses in the book. Amen? To the one that said, I only had one talent, that's all you trusted me with, and I took it and I hid it in the ground because I knew that you were an unjust man.

You'd be surprised how many people accuse God of being unjust. He's not just. You're not fair. Remember the story about the vineyards, men who went to work in the vineyards. Some went to work at the first hour and some at the sixth hour and some at the eleventh hour.

Amen? The ones who went to work at the first hour and so forth, they said, God, you're not fair. Master, you're not fair. You paid them the same thing you did us and we bore the heat of the day. We worked all day long. And what did the master say?

I mean, and how many of us would have jumped on that same bandwagon? Said, God, you ain't fair. I've been living this thing. I mean, you know, let me just say it again. If I said, you was walking down the street and you needed a job.

Hey, you need a job? Well, you might come on me. Hey, mister, you got any work to do? Well, yeah, I've got to. If you want to do it, well, what's it pay? Well, I'll pay you a penny. I'll just say \$100.

[20 : 36] That makes a little bit more sense in our day and time. I'll give you \$100 if you'll work for me from 6 this morning until 6 this afternoon. 12 hours.

Amen? All right. The man gets out there and he goes to work. Well, later on, if I walk outside there and I got a big, you know, big job to be done and there's men standing around, I say, you know, why are y'all standing around?

Well, no man's hired us. Well, I'll hire you. Well, what do you pay us? Because it's 9 o'clock now. That guy started at 6. Started at 9. Well, how about I give you \$100?

You give us \$100, we start now and work to 6. Okay. And they go to work in the vineyard. And so forth, some people standing around at 12 o'clock noon now, some people still standing around out there and ain't got a job.

How come you ain't working? Well, no man's hired me. You want a job? Yeah. I need a job bad.

Hey, I got bills, I got everything. I don't know what I'm going to do if I don't get a job. Well, I'll give you a job if you want a job.

[21 : 34] Okay. By the way, what's it going to pay? How about if I give you \$100 to finish out the day? Boy, that sounds good to me. Amen. Then he goes on, plumb on over to the 11th hour. You got one hour left from five to six.

And still, there's a man that's standing out there and nobody's hired him. And he goes out there and he says, Sir, how come you aren't working? Well, no man's hired me, Lord. You need a job? Oh, I need one bad. Well, I've got a job for you. If you want a job, what's it pay? At that later day, you really couldn't ask.

He said, I'm going to give you \$100. You finish out the day here. Kind of ridiculous, isn't it? People that started at six get \$100. People that started at 11 get \$100. So the people that started at six said, let's strike.

\$100 a day when everybody else making \$50 a day all the way around them, you know. But still, it's not the fact that I'm making twice as much as everybody else around me. It's the fact that you're giving them more for less work. And you know what the good master said?

[22 : 35] This was a type of Jesus Christ. He said, did we not agree for such and such a price? Six o'clock this morning? Yes, we agree.

Then is it wrong for me to do good to somebody that's in need? Is that the money mine to give it out as I want to?

Look at it like this. Sister Flo and Sister Alma and some of the older folks who have been in church for, you know, ever. 50, 60, 70 years. Amen? And when they started out, what was you trying to get to when you started out, Mama?

Heaven? You want to go to heaven. Amen? Don't want to go to hell. I want to go to heaven. And here it is, 50, 60 years later, Jesse comes along. And the Lord told them, said, all right, if you'll serve me, walk up right before me, do what's right, I'll take you to heaven.

I'll come back and get you. I'll rapt you out of here, this whole sin-cursed world. Then Jesse comes along here at the 11th hour right before he's ready to come back and the Lord looks around and said, what are you standing around for?

[23 : 37] Well, no man's hired me. Do you want to go to work? Jesse said, yes, I need a job back. He said, well, what are you going to pay? He said, you going to work for me today? He said, when I come, I'll take you with me just like the mothers have been working for me 50 years.

Is it fair? Is it fair? Is it fair? You know, let me tell you something that really seems unfair to me. The Bible said that if a man is a sinner all of his life and at the end of his life he repents and turns to God that all of everything he's done wrong all of his life is going to be forgotten and forgiven forever and he's going to go to heaven.

And if me and you live right all of our life and we fast and we pray and we seek God and we do everything we can to live right and at the end of our days we turn from God and turn back to the world, the flesh, and the devil, then the Bible said that all of our righteousness will be forgotten and what that sinner had laid up for him we're going to reap that and what we had laid up for us he's going to reap what we laid up.

Does that seem right? And the bottom line is this. God said I'll save who I will. I'll redeem who I will. You ain't got nothing to do with it.

Just be glad that I even hired you to work for me. There's an old song that says my house is full but my fields are empty. Who will go to work for me today?

[25 : 01] All of my children want to sit around the table. No one wants to work in the field. Does that not sound like the church today? We all want to come to church but we don't want to do anything when we go back out of the church.

Let me get off of it. Let me get on down through here where I want to go to. Amen? Hallelujah. By faith Moses when he came of age refused to become the son of Pharaoh's daughter because he esteemed the reproaches of Christ greater riches and all the treasures of Egypt because he had he had recompense unto the reward.

Recompense. He looked at the reward he was going to get at the end and he said I want that reward. Can you say amen? You folks come back. Glad to have you with us this morning. Okay. Praise the Lord. God bless y'all. I'm coming back. Y'all do it on Saturday night, right? Yes, sir. All right.

You're welcome anytime. I knew I recognized her but I couldn't put a name on her. Yeah, that's Timmy and Josh's mom, isn't it? Praise God.

[26 : 09] Then we went to the parable of the sower. Now, for eons of time, everybody's been taught that we get saved, we live for God, and we're all going to heaven.

Amen? And, and, and there won't be any, you know, no difference between everybody and heaven. And that's a really good idea but it's just not a biblical idea.

Now, the Bible said in Matthew 13, Matthew 3, I think it is. Now, Matthew 13, 3 through 9, it's a parable of the sower. Amen?

And when he, he talks about the seed that fell by the wayside and among the thorns and thistles and, and all these different places and, and we're not worried about none of those because we're worried about down the end and he said, and some seed fell in good ground and brought forth some a hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

Amen? And, and they said, Lord declare unto us the parable of the, of the, of the, the sower and the seeds. And he said, well, it's like this. He said, the seed is the word of God and he that sows the seed is the son of man.

[27 : 14] And, and, and, and, and the, the good seed are the children of the kingdom. Amen? And the children that are in the kingdom, which is you and I, we're, we're the seeds of God.

Amen? We're, we're, we're out of the lawns of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Spiritually, we are a spiritual Israel. Can everybody understand me today? We are the seeds of the children of God. Matter of fact, when we get the seed of the word of God inside of him, when we first get saved, the word of God comes inside of us and you man, as a seed stage.

And then it's got to grow. Let me just give you a little picture of this. You've seen it a thousand times if you've been around very long. When we get saved, that little dot right there is a seed in the word of God that God has placed in our hearts.

Now, Paul, John said, I must decrease, but he must increase. All this is darkness in our hearts. For out of the hearts of men proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornication, murders, envies, lust, and all these other things.

So what has to happen? The Bible said, and Peter, I think it is, that as newborn babies desire the sincere milk of the word of God that you may grow thereby. What happens when you begin to read the Bible?

[28 : 20] Now you can watch that little baby right there. How old is that baby? Eight months old. Stand there and watch him all day long. See if you can see it grow. Boy or girl. Girl. See if you can watch her and see her grow. You can watch her all day long.

You can go home with her and you're not going to see her grow. Amen? But if you're not around them, then you come back, say, come back six months from now. She's eight months old. Come back six months from now and then look at her then and see if you can't tell the difference.

Why does it happen? You ever notice that most growing, if you know anything about corn, I live out in the country. And if you go out in a cornfield at daytime, that corn's out there and it's soaking up the sun and it's just, you know, when the wind whips it back and forth and it's just praising the Lord. But at nighttime, you go out there and even if the wind's not blowing, you hear a snap, crackle, and pop. You know what's happening? The thing that they received in the daytime, at nighttime, that thing that they received in their daytime experience in the nighttime is causing them to grow.

You can't see where we're growing at because we're right now in the daytime experience. But God has a valley picked out for you. Valley of the shadow of death and in that valley, you're going to find out how much spiritual growth you've got.

[29 : 33] Do you have enough spiritual growth to get out of the valley? Or are you going to die in the valley? Can you say amen? Hallelujah. You should grow because you grow in the night season.

What is the night season? That's a hard time in your life. That's a time when the doctor said, man, you just had a heart attack. Oh, we've got to hurry and get you to the hospital. And you've got to say, well, I don't guess it did me any good to serve God.

Or you can say, God, I'm yours, Lord. If I'm living, I'm yours, God. And if I die, I'm still yours and I don't want to change anything, God, hallelujah. Like what I always say right now, there's nothing majorly wrong with me and God is my God.

But if I die of a cancer and my body is ate up, Job said, though the skin worms eat my flesh, I know that in my spirit I shall see the Lord. Amen? Because I'm yours, Lord, whether I'm sick or whether I'm well.

It's just a whole lot easier to claim it when you're well than it is when you're sick. I know a gentleman that's got some kind of disease kind of like what Mary Rivera had and it's eating him up.

[30 : 36] He has diabetes real bad and you get these sores come out on him. He's a preacher and he's cutting off his toes, he's cutting off his fingers and all this stuff because this stuff just kicks in. It's like some kind of flesh-eating virus and it just won't quit.

You know what his testimony is every time he comes to church? Hey, whether I live or whether I die, I belong to Christ. Amen? My salvation didn't end whether he heals me or whether he don't heal me. That ain't got nothing to do with my salvation.

Amen? Because I'm saved and I love God and if this is the cross he wants me to bear then I'll be willing to bear it. Can you say amen? It takes a whole lot. It takes somebody with spiritual growth that can thank God when you're going through the valley and you don't have that mountaintop to lean on.

Can you say amen? Hallelujah. Hallelujah. And then they brought forth well how did it say they brought forth? They said some brought forth a hundredfold some brought forth sixtyfold and some brought forth thirtyfold.

Can you say amen? And it all goes back to the Old Testament tabernacle because whether you like it or not the Word of God is laid out in the form of a cross and the Old Testament tabernacle is a picture of the cross that Jesus Christ bore and it's also a picture of how we are to grow up into the fullness of the measure of the stature of Jesus Christ.

[31 : 52] Amen? And wherever we have attained in our spiritual journey we get there because of spiritual growth. spiritual growth.

Spiritual growth. You know take a little baby there what if she don't grow what if you come back six months later and she's still you know a year later five years later and she's still a little baby still wetting her pants and pooping in her pants and everything and you got to carry her around you know that's sad.

That is sad. Honey if God could open your eyes spiritually and let you see how some of us are still running around in our diapers messing in our pants and we've been saved for five, ten, fifteen, twenty years that is really really sad.

Amen? Because we have we have everything that we need to grow. Amen? Hallelujah. I'm talking about making decisions with your eye on the prize.

Whatever you do now determines your spiritual growth that you're going to attain and the reward that you're going to get into eternity. Let me just give you a few scriptures here real quick. Matthew 5, 11, and 12 said Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you for great is your reward.

[33 : 05] Blessed are you when people shall revile you and persecute you. I didn't know I was blessed when they was doing that. I thought I was cursed when men are talking about me putting me down and calling me all kind of names. Hey they're cursing you but the curses that they're giving you will come back on them.

Can you say amen? The curses that they're cursing you with will come back on them. And then if you really got spiritual growth you do like Stephen did. What did Stephen do when they were casting stones at him?

He looked up into heaven. He said Father forgive them for they know not what they do. What did Jesus say? If you love them that love you you're no different than the world.

But if you love them who hate you and despitefully use you you love them that's spiritual growth. When Jesus Christ was hanging on the cross of Calvary and they done beat him they done smote him they done blindfolded him and said prophesy to us you know you're some kind of prophet you know and you know the Lord could have said well you stupid maggots and cursed them all.

The Bible said he could have called 10,000 angels. That's what he wanted to do. You know what he said? The Bible said he gazed up into heaven and he said Father forgive them for they know not what they do. Can you say amen? Hallelujah.

[34 : 24] So and I said that to say this is that when you're going through something that people are talking about you it says don't worry when people talk about you and say all manner of things about you because great is your reward if you can keep your mouth shut.

Now if you blow your mouth when they talk about you and you jump back on them well let me just tell you something buddy. Well you done lost your reward. You getting your reward right there and

you getting to tell them off.

Amen and that's all you're going to get out of it. Going on down here Matthew 10 41 and 42 he that received a prophet in the name of a prophet received a prophet's reward.

Now prophet you got prophets and apostles and evangelists and pastors and teachers listen buddy he goes on down here in the same scripture there and he said he that received a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

He that received a disciple. what is a disciple can anybody tell me? What's the definition of a disciple? A disciple is somebody that sits at the feet of a teacher and learns.

[35 : 27] The apostle Paul was a disciple of Gamaliel. Amen. and the apostles were disciples of Jesus Christ and if you're in this church and I'm your pastor then you're my disciples when you go out of here you carry the message of whatever I've tried to teach you and you go out and tell the world about that message.

When you go out of here when you're in here you're a disciple. When you go out of here you're an apostle because you got a message. Let me tell you what my preacher said this morning. Let me show you where he preached that in the word of God that there is a reward if we live right.

Not only that and I'm not going that way but there's a reward if you don't live right. Inhale. Can you say amen? Hallelujah. All right. Listen.

Can I show you something that you know Philippians the second chapter. This won't take me just a minute. It's kind of deviating off my course but I just won't throw this in here. Philippians the second chapter it says and the ninth verse ninth, tenth and eleventh verses it says wherefore God hath highly exalted him and given him a name that is above every name.

The reason why I won't do it now because I may never come this way again and so I just won't throw it down while I'm here. Wherefore God hath highly exalted him and given him a name that's above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow. Of things in heaven and things on earth and things under the earth where's the knees going to bow out?

[36 : 59] Philippians 2.9 page 216 if you got your date Bible. Amen. Things in heaven things in earth and things under the earth and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is king of kings to the glory of God the Father.

You know what that means? That means everybody that's gone to hell one day they're going to bow their knee and they're going to say Jesus Christ is king of kings and the Lord of lords. Let me give you a scripture that goes with that. Revelation 5.13 and see if this doesn't really just kind of shock you because even though you've read the word of God a lot of times we read over things and we don't see it in there.

Ephesians 5.13 says page 289 Revelation 5.13 Revelation 5.13 I want to read 5.12 verse saying well let me just read 5.11 and I heard a great voice in heaven as the sound of many angels round about the throne and the beast and the elders and the number of them was 10,000 times 10,000 and thousands of thousands saying with a loud voice worthy is the Lamb worthy is the Lamb he is holy amen to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessings and listen now and every creature which is in heaven and every creature on the earth and every creature under the earth and such as are in the sea that's the bottomless pit in case you don't know and all that are in them here's what I heard them saying blessings and honor and glory and power be unto him that's set up upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever and ever blessings and honor who's going to be saying that than people that mock Jesus now and take his name in vain one day they're going to be in hell tormented saying blessings and honor and glory and praise and salvation be to him that's set up on the throne forever and ever amen hallelujah so you're going to praise God either on this side or on the other side either in heaven or in hell it doesn't matter you're going to praise God you're going to give God the glory nobody in hell has to wonder if hell real or not they know it's real here when we're still here we kind of well is hell real or not is heaven real or not let me hurry along here

Matthew 9 41 says whosoever shall give you a cup of water in my name shall not lose his reward how many like to get a reward then when you do something for somebody say I do this for you in the name of Jesus don't give me any glory for it give God the glory for it because I do that in the name of Jesus and then God sees that and he writes there's a book being written and when you get to heaven you'll get a reward for it amen what's the Bible say about when you do your alms when you do your alms don't do your alms before men that people might see you amen you know don't go around with your long face hanging down they say what's wrong you boy I ain't had nothing since 6

o'clock this morning it's already 7:30 last hour and a half I've been fasting they had their old long faces because they wanted to peer unto men as they want everybody to know they're fasting yeah I've been going three hours now can't hardly make it don't know if I can make it all day you know we can go a long time without food until we call it fasting and then we can't go you know 15 minutes I don't know how I got way out there if you want to be in the bride of Jesus Christ because you can be everybody on the sound of my voice can be in the bride the church is not the bride well there's a church but there's a church in a church the church that's in the church is in the bride but the general church in general is not in the bride because like I used that little thing you know with little Jessica Jessica you want me and you get married honey she's five and I'm 57 no I don't think I'd look too good you know then Jesus Christ is not going to marry somebody that don't know the word that's not grown up spiritually he wants a spiritual mature bride that's grown up amen to the fullness of the measure of the stature he wants a bride that's equal to him where did God take the bone out of Adam at he took it out of his side because he wanted somebody to be equal with him to stand by his side amen

[41 : 35] Jesus Christ our heavenly bridegroom wants somebody to stand by his oh my lord but it's already after one o'clock huh I don't know where the time I don't know where the time went I had a heart attack then how can you know if you love God or not I said last night you'd be the judge you'd be the judge whether you're hot or cold or you're lukewarm here's how you tell 1 John 2 15-17 love not the world neither of the things that are in the world if any man loves the world the love of the Father is not in him for all that is in the world is of the lust of the flesh the lust of the eyes and the pride of life these things are not of God but they're of the world amen how do we know how much spiritual growth we have how much do we love the world and how much do we love the word of God we're just like a child we fill up on everything before we have to come eat we'd rather have

McDonald's greasy burger and fries than we had to go sit down to meat and potatoes and a big fat old fat pork chop I don't know give me a white castle and a big red and we fill up on things of the world so that when it comes time to eat we don't have any room for the spiritual word amen because we're filled up on everything else but if we would get just like a little bird you ever seen a little bird when a mama bird comes to get she's got that worm and little birds you know they're sitting there quiet but when they hear the wings flapping they look up and they all open their mouth you know what they're waiting for that mama bird to come there and she'll tear that little worm in two and she'll poke it down their mouth and that's the way God wants us to be hungry for the word of God can you say amen hallelujah the degree of our surrender to the will of God or in order to do the will of God determines the level of spiritual growth that we can attain let me erase this off here real quick we got some folks here that wasn't here last week so let me just give you a little thing here if I didn't get carried away on something else it wouldn't take me very long to preach all this but I always get carried away it seems like all right we got thirtyfold that's that little statue over on the side we got sixtyfold we got a hundredfold can you say amen now if you go to first Corinthians fifteen forty one you found out that there are some bodies celestial and their bodies terrestrial which means there's heavenly bodies and there's earthly bodies and he said the glory of the celestial is one and the glory of the terrestrial is another he said then he said as one star different from another star in glory so also is the resurrection of the dead that's very important as one star differs from another star in glory so also is the resurrection of the dead when you come out of that grave on resurrection morning do you want to come out of that with star glory or do you want to come out of that with moon glory or you want to come out of that with sun glory he said there's one glory of the sun one glory of the moon one glory of the stars as one star differs from another star in glory so also is the resurrection of the dead matter of fact in Daniel 3

Daniel I think it's 12 and 3 said and they that turn the souls to righteousness shall shine as the stars of God forever and ever they that turn many souls to righteousness shall shine as the stars of heaven forever and ever amen I went out the other night and I looked I had to look twice I said there can't be a star because you know there's some fake stars out there call them satellites it's probably somebody's dish network and it shines real bright but you can know that a normal star doesn't shine like that the devil's always trying to outshine God but you go out there on a dim on a light night when the moon's not out and the heavens are full of stars I remember when I was a kid looking at the big dipper and the little dipper that's the only ones I could really hard you know and that's exactly the way it's going to be when we come out of the grave write it down there 1 Corinthians 15 41 42 and 43 now do you want to come out of the grave with star glory and the choice is yours

there's one star different from another star in glory wait a minute there's another star can't write one star different from another star in glory some stars shine brighter than others then there's one glory of the moon you know what happened to the moon the moon used to have its own light but the moon lost its glory amen the moon one time was a ball of fire but it lost its glory but you know what the moon got mad and said I ain't never gonna rise again

I'm not never gonna shine again so that's why we don't have a moon today no that's not right is it you know what the moon did even though the moon lost its light it said I'm gonna come up and I'm gonna reflect the light of the sun amen you might not have any light of your own but if you'll be faithful to a rise up you will reflect the light of the sun amen hey you know what they always said at the moon at the cusp of the moon is like this at the cusp of the moon is like this won't be any water won't be any rain anybody ever heard that because it's emptied out but at the cusp of the moon it's like this gonna be wait a minute if it's like this there's gonna be rain if it's like this it won't be rain because the moon's holding the rain back isn't that amazing you know what they claim if you plant your garden in the light of the moon at the right season if you plant it in the dark of the moon all your plants gonna go to root and no fruit if you plant it in the right season in the light of the moon then the roots gonna be normal but the fruit's gonna be abundant amen how many knows that we gotta plant there's a time to plant there's a time to sow amen and this is our plant time to plant because we're gonna reap in due season if we faint not don't get tired of watching your garden grow anybody ever grow a garden you go out there and you put corn in the ground today but you know you're growing out there tomorrow hmm can't even tell

I went anywhere it ain't done nothing you go out there the next day it ain't done nothing go out there it ain't done nothing let it rain and you don't get back for about a week and you come back there and that crust has already gone over and that little corn is sticking its head out of the ground about that far you know what now you don't you don't plant a seed of corn expecting to get one seed back but the average corn stalk has three plants on it three ears on it and the average ear has like 300 kernels of corn on it so how much are you gonna reap back of a one seed that you sow that's the same way it is in the kingdom of God we might just sow one little seed but we're not gonna reap one little seed back we're gonna reap bountifully amen because when the Lord sees our determination and our desire and our eyes on the prize then we're going to grow up and we're gonna begin to grow amen there's one glory of the moon and then there's one glory of the sun 34, 64, and 100 the Bible says if one star different from another star in glory so also is the resurrection of the dead then Matthew 13, 43 which is right after where he's telling you about the things there 100 fold, 64, and 34 that's in Matthew 13, 23 somewhere down through there

[49 : 43] Matthew 13, 23 and 24, 25 over there he begins to tell you that in Matthew 13, 43 that the righteous shall shine forth as the sun who's gonna shine forth as the sun the righteous amen the righteous shall shine forth the sun in the kingdom of their father how many wants to shine like the sun let me tell you this in the book of Revelation it talks about people who are who are before the before the altar and then before the throne I'm sorry under the altar forgive me there's people in the book of Revelation 6 chapter 9 verse and he said I saw them they were under the altar wish I could write plainer than I saw them that were before the altar before the throne and then I saw them that were in the throne 34, 64, and 100 fold you say how do you know that?

because of the clothes they had on those that were under the altar the Bible said they cried out with a loud voice how long will the Lord hold in truth that thou not avenge our blood upon them that dwell upon the earth they were mumbling and complaining how long?

how long? do you have anybody here grumbling and complaining? it shows our spiritual stature how long you know we're complaining the Bible said and yet a little while till your brothers who are gonna die like you are gonna die and be killed and white robes were given unto them so they gave them the white robes right there and I didn't make this so if you think I made this up he said around the throne were four beasts and four and twenty elders and these four beasts and twenty and four elders had on white raiment now they're before the throne and around the throne amen that's in Revelation fourth chapter and then he said let me it's uh to him that overcometh will I grant to sit down with me in my throne it's in Revelation 321 to him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne even as I also am overcome and I sit down with my father in his throne they're not under the altar they're not before the throne they're in the throne where do you think they are they're hundredfold how are you gonna get in the throne that's the one that's joined to Jesus Christ and they're part of the bride of Christ can you say amen if I hadn't lost you yet amen hallelujah there's

uh and I'm just giving you pictures of spiritual growth how we grow spiritually and it's all different things there's a new heaven somebody shout new heaven a new heaven yeah
John said I saw a new heaven and a new earth coming down from about out of heaven Revelation 21 for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away and a new heaven and a new earth and then he said and I saw the new city coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband can you say amen amen I left off up here I got the white robes and the white raiment I left off the white linen Revelation 19 7 and 8 said let us be glad and rejoice for the marriage of the lamb is come and to her was granted that she should be raimed in white linen clean and white for white linen is the righteousness of saints can somebody say amen and it all goes back to this little stature 34, 64, 100 fold the 30 the stars the under the altar the white robes the new heaven is all right out here in the 34 the 64 the moon before the throne around and before the before the altar around and before the throne and the new earth all comes right up here the 64 can somebody say amen you understand me yet now like I said you can stop me anytime you got a question where's that at huh four

I didn't tell you about the fourth one yeah not only that let me tell you about this robe here white robes is salvation so if you got saved you get a white robe all right if you grow up and become a 64 Christian you don't lose your white robe you get your white robe plus you get your white raiment in the Middle East if you ever watch them the emirs the rulers over there in the Middle East they got all kind of robes on because in the Middle East the more robes you got is a sign of your stature and your authority and your wealth and everything so the word raiment actually means to have on and enter in and out of robe and then if you go up and get in the bride you get on the white linen you have the white robe and you have the white raiment and you got the white linen all right what's the opposite of somebody having all these garments on is somebody being naked and you get the picture right there in Revelation 3 where it says now here's what I've got wrong with this Laodicea in church age you say that you're rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing but God says

[55 : 22] I say that you're that you're wicked and you're wretched and you're naked and you're miserable and you're not ashamed what happened to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden when they lost their covering of glory there's one glory of the moon one glory of the sun another glory of the stars they had God's glory covering they were 100% they were 104 Adam and Eve were but they lost their covering of glory and what did they find out what's the very next thing they say they saw that they were naked and ashamed amen where's the church at the world at today the Laodicea in church is they're naked and they're not ashamed how many wants to put on the white robe of salvation that's why we're here today amen how many wants to put on the white linen of spiritual growth and say man I'm growing up I'm going to be before the throne or around the throne and it's all going to be heaven you're not going to no matter where you get you're not going to know that there's a greater reward the Bible said and the angel of the Lord are going to be around them and God's going to be there and God's going to wipe all tears from their eyes and they won't cry because they're missing anything because they won't know they're missing anything because they're not going to miss anything except you've got the Bible when it talks about the new earth it talks about how the kings and the priests of the earth bring their honor and glory into the new city the kings and priests of the earth live on the new earth they bring their honor and glory into the new city and who's in the new city

God and the lamb and the lamb and his bride are one you won't be able to tell God from his lamb because they all have the same name that's right God's not going to show you in heaven that you didn't get to go up there would that be heaven if you thought somebody got a better deal than you did no God's not going to show you that there's a new heaven there's a new earth and a new city and way down here in the bottom there's a lake of fire where the damned are going to burn forever and ever amen Revelation 20 and 14 12 through 14 he said and I saw a great white throne and one set up upon the throne and in his books he had books and then he had a book and the dead were judged by the things that were written in the books and he don't talk anything more about the book Revelation 13 and 8 said and the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world and the people who were see there's a thing that people think that when I get saved I get my name in the book and I don't really think that's right I think that everybody his name has always been in the book and unless you accept Jesus Christ they blot your name out that's why Moses said Lord said blot my name out if you ain't gonna forgive Israel God wasn't gonna blot

Moses' name out of the book just think about it we're all born we've all been given life and what's John 1 and 3 says and in him was life and the life was the light of men in him was life and the life was the light of men God gave us that light God gave us that life and we have that from God and that's that's one of our benefits but and that's just by gift then after you get the gift then you have to grow when we first get saved God gives us a taste of the bridegroom love man when we first get saved we're on fire for God and if we stay on fire for God you will grow you will grow you can't help but grow all you gotta do is still you will grow about what

I have to do pray what are we supposed to be doing what's everybody supposed to be doing praying studying the word of God reading your Bible amen trying trying to lay off the old man see I'm not trying to I'm not trying to show you something I said I said there's not a person under the sound of my voice that if you had the desire to make the bride you will make it because God looks at your desire he don't look at your mental intellect like Ecclesiastes said the battle is not to the strong nor the race to the swift but time and chance come at every man Paul said in the book of Romans he says not many wise men are called he's not looking for smart people if it was he wouldn't call none of us he said not many mighty men but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the mighty that's where we come in we were ignorant unlearned most of us high school drops outs what chance do we have of being in the by the Lord Jesus Christ God don't look at your natural education he looks at your spiritual education he don't look at what you did before he looks at what you've done since you got saved and if you've got a desire in your heart

Jesse did you graduate high school went back I did too went back and got you GED amen and then you went and studied computers now if somebody's computer comes down they come looking for Jesse to straighten this thing out for me well how can no high school dropout straighten out a stinking computer don't you know how ignorant you got to be you didn't finish high school that's the devil talking to you devil's not going to tell you anything positive the devil ain't going to say now Jesse you dropped out of high school so ain't no way you're going to be in a bride now he's not going to say Jesse you quit high school but if you really put your shoulder to the wheel do your duty with a heart full of love you get a hunger for it you get like that little bird I don't care if you quit go all the way amen let me tell you this the devil will try to get you to reject everything I'm telling you this morning all you got to do is reject one thing and if he can talk you out of one thing that I'm teaching you this morning then tomorrow he's going to talk you out of something else amen and pretty soon he'll talk you out of everything you had all you got to do is listen to the devil if I can't back up what I've told you here this morning with scripture after scripture after scripture then don't you believe it but if I can take you to that scripture and point it out to you and show it to you you may not have the spiritual understanding of it but at least you can understand where it says and they that had on the white robes were under the altar they that had on the white raiment were around and before the throne they that had on the white linen and they don't say white linen but he said he that overcometh will I grant to sit down with me in my throne as I also overcame and I sat down with my mind for you to understand it

[61 : 52] I can stand up here and talk until I'm dead and you won't ever understand it so that's why you gotta pray God give me a spiritual understanding that I can see your word like brother van does or even greater like somebody that's a whole lot smarter than I am so I can read it and I can understand it that it's not a dead letter on a dead page just like you know some old rag magazine but man this is life this is life this is you know you know you hear a lot of people they use this phrase well God said to me let me tell you what let me tell you how I really feel about that God has spoke to every one of us but he did it through his word this is God's word when he got through he said don't add to it don't take away from it if you do your part is going to be taken out of the book of life amen so you know I'm not really impressed when somebody says well now God said to me this if it ain't in the word of God I'm not really impressed with it but if this thing says it it don't matter whether I agree with it or not I'm going to believe it I'm going to agree with it because the word says it now if you come to me with one doctrine and you only got one little scripture to back it up you know you could say and just let me you know a young man here a while back and he came up to me and he said all we got to do to make it in is just keep the

Sabbath day and you know keep the Sabbath day to keep it holy you know you don't have any arguing about the first commandment you know my hero is with the Lord our God is one Lord one God thou shalt have no other gods before me thou shalt not make it to the end of graven images thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain don't have a problem with any of those do

they but you get on down there you know and all these things wait a minute what happened to remember the Sabbath day keep it holy I got this revelation that if we just keep the Sabbath day holy and that's where we're all missing that because we're not keeping the Sabbath day holy and if that's all you read that's all you know but if you get over to the New Testament you find out so that God don't regard days if you're everything is holy he you know in the Old Testament he said don't eat anything that's got a split hoof or maybe you could only eat anything with the split hoof and the cloven tongue or cloven hoof and choose the could I get it all twisted around here in a minute but in the New Testament Paul said don't judge any man according to what he eats there's people today that won't eat pork because that's a swine and a unclean animal and you don't have to be very smart to know that pork has a lot of salt in it a lot of salt raise your blood pressure up and especially if you got gout you don't eat rich food you got enough sense to know that but Paul said here's what he said he said if you are in Rome do like the Romans he said if me eating pork offends you I'm not going to eat pork you know this is my liberty and all things are good and cleansed to me by the word of God and by the prayer that I prayed but if it offends you I won't do it amen got some more questions there

Bruce and I know you do I know you will have I've only been studying this for 30 plus years this isn't something that I just whipped out and pulled out of my little bag I've been studying this ever since I've been saved and when I first got saved I didn't understand it I even the bride the bride groom is going to rule over the bride that's just the way it is in the new earth you're not going to like this the Bible says God's going to resurrect King David and David going you say brother Van I never read that see me after church since Flo came to me last week I got all kind!

He got the cedars of leaven and he got everything to build God a tabernacle but God said uh honey you done shed too much innocent blood he said but I'm going to let your son build it do you know what happened when Solomon built the temple with the things that David had supplied when they got ready to dedicate the temple the Bible said that the glory of the Lord imagine that did you know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost but you have a God and you're not your own but you're bought with a price therefore glorify God in your spirit and in your body which are Christ amen we don't belong to ourselves I'll do what I want to do you will!

[67 : 06] so long and when God said no you're not going they lose their heritage they lose their money they were going to get you know sometimes you got to be I remember this real silly show this guy had to spend so many million dollars in a short period of time and get married all at the same time and had two or three days to do it and every time he spent!

people wind up giving money back because he said I'm trying to get rid of him way to everybody you see oh you're going to get it coming in heaped up shaken down pressed together and running over some men give to your bosom amen because you're giving Jesus giving Jesus amen on the new earth they're going to be ruled over by King David he said he's going to raise and you know why King David because when King David when he instituted anything he when he went into Jerusalem he danced before God with all of his heart his soul his mind and his strength he wasn't ashamed he took off his royal robes he did everything that showed him a king and he got out there and he said now boys y'all follow me and you do like I do and he went marching out well actually when it came from from the house of Obed eat them listen you don't know how big a fanatic he was six paces one two three four five six set the ark down put an altar up we're going to sacrifice to God and they would sacrifice to God and you know what he did he would dance around the sacrifice you know what happened they picked it up again walked six paces more all the way that's crazy yeah side of the cities of Jerusalem amen all the city was lined up because everybody knew that the ark of the covenant the presence of the Lord was coming back to the city and it large night every time you shout every time you jump every time you holler every time you abase yourself God lifts you up and magnifies you and he writes it down and there's a book being written how many ever heard that story about when you stand before the Lord of the day of judgment that they're going to read the book and everything you've done in your life is going to be brought out to pass.

Amen? And the devil, you know, the devil's going to tell you, but man, you done messed up. I like the part about the story that tells, oh, yeah, but on a certain, certain date you did this. And then Jesus says, but wait a minute.

[70 : 17] He repented of his sins, and now it's all covered in blood. It's wiped out in red, no longer old. Amen? Hallelujah. When we stand before the Lord, we can stand there with a clean slate, or

we can stand there with a stature of our sins that we haven't repented over.

Ah, they're going to be king, run over King David. And then in the new city, they're going to rule with God and the Lamb.

They're going to rule with him. Not only that, don't you know the saints shall judge the earth? So when we set up on the 12 tribes, set up on the thrones, 12 thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel, if, if, when they came out of Egypt, if they had 6 million people, then, then, here we are, 3,500 years later, how many millions of people you think is going to be multiplied to that are part of the 12 tribes?

Matter of fact, you may not know, but you may even be part of the 12 tribes. Can somebody say amen? Let's stand up and let's thank the Lord for his word today.

Amen. Like I said, if I preach something you didn't understand, come to me after church. I'll give you the scriptures for it. You can study it at yourself. Hallelujah. Lord Jesus, we thank you today. Lord God, for your love and for your mercy and for your word.

[71 : 39] Lord God, Lord, for showing us, Lord God, that there is a goal to attain. There is a mark to press toward. Lord God, let us bear your mark, Lord God, that we're your seed, your children.

Lord God, you said when we shall make your soul an offering for sin, then shall he see his seed and he shall prolong his days. Hallelujah. Lord Jesus, help us, Lord God, to grow up into the fullness of the measure of the stature of Christ and to a perfect man, in Jesus Christ's name.

And everybody said amen and amen and amen. Praise God. Thank you.