

THEOS LOGOS
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Session 2

Luke 18:8 – Jesus says: *Nevertheless* (and He means in spite of the power of prayer. What’s happening to the church today would not have happened if we would have prayed.) *when the Son of man cometh, shall he find (the) faith on the earth?* When He comes, shall He find the faith. Now, it says faith in the King James but in the great New Testament, the definite article “the” is there. Shall He find the faith on the earth? That’s a very frightening prophetic question? Why did He ask it?

When the Son of Man cometh, shall He find the faith on the earth? Now, this term **“the faith”** can be found in a number of places in the New Testament. And here’s what it’s in reference to: **the sum total of all that God has revealed and expects His people to know and believe.**

In other words, it is a prophetic question of an erosion if not a total loss of the true Truth of God, true theology. That’s a frightening question.

I am convinced and I have prayed and hoped for years that I am entirely wrong. That I am deceived. Because I think I’m right and I hope I’m wrong. That God in the prophesies of the Bible throughout undeniable and unquestionable warns that at the end of the age of the church there is going to be such a dread wholesale deception of the true people of God that I don’t want to believe it.

Some are claiming revival and it’s time for Jesus to come. I believe the church of Jesus Christ is in theological ruins today. I believe we can prove it and I believe the Holy Spirit will bear witness to it. I believe it’s a rational understandable thing once it’s presented and I believe it will be entirely scriptural. I’m not talking about a cult. I not talking about the modernists. I’m not talking about the liberal crowd. I’m talking about only the true born-again Bible-believing church of Jesus Christ. True, born again, Bible-believing, Evangelical, church. The real church is in ruins of deception and does not know it. But how can we call it deception if they knew it?

They are sincere. They are real Christians. They are committed but to the wrong thing.

I want to share something with you.

He draws 7 mountain peaks and deals with the last two.

In the Book of Revelation in the 1st 3 chapters, God gives us a prophetic panorama of His Church throughout its entire history from the earliest dawn of the birth of the church on the Day of Pentecost, the Apostolic Church when the apostles were the authorities of the church, which would have been this church. The very first one. That’s the apostolic church. We come down to the 6th which is Philadelphia and the last which is Laodicea. God appears to the apostle John in his exile

on the isle of Patmos and reveals to him these things which are recorded in the Book of Revelation. Scholars teach us that each of these letters and the name of the church to which they are addressed is representative of a consecutive historical period of the Church. From the beginning of the age to the end of the age.

The church of Philadelphia which is the mountain-peak condition that is mentioned in that context, God praises it and has no criticism of it. All the others, there's something He criticizes about. But the Church of Philadelphia, He praises it and does not criticize it at all. The conclusion is this: that Philadelphian period of the church was the very best period of all.

God judges the condition of His church by a singular standard. The assessment of the condition and the standard existing at each point in the history of the church are theological measurements. It relates only to the condition of God's truth in God's church. Theologically then, the next to the last historical period of the history of the church, we find the very best theological. The best knowledge and understanding of the subject of God.

Laodicea is the church that is described in the worst terms of any of the church periods throughout history. There are reasons that we make a transition from one church to the next period. Philadelphia being the very best period of the church, Laodicea being the very worst period of the church, and yet they are consecutive period.

So the question is: How could the Church of Jesus Christ come from the very best period of its history to the very worst period of its history in one quick transitional period?

There are what Arthur calls downslope events and upslope events in the history of The Church. What occurred in history from the peak of the very best theological condition of the Church down to a transitional valley between the mountain peaks. This mountain peak being the worst theological condition of the church ever. This mountain peak being the very best theological condition, there is a transitional point in the valley to come down from the best and up to the worst. The downslope, transitional valley, and the upslope, to what was called the Modernist, Fundamentalist, Controversy.

Modernism – very important in history.

The church of Philadelphia where theology was at its heyday. This is a predominant condition. This doesn't mean every Christian in the church was what he ought to have been theologically, but it's a predominant condition. The majority of Christians were theologically sound and mature. Certainly, there were some who were not.

Laodicea is a description of the majority of Christians in the church at that point in time. It may be that 99% in Philadelphia were theologically mature and one percent were theologically immature and couldn't tell good from evil. But the majority could tell good from evil and they were mature. They knew more about God than any other Christians in history. Therefore, they were harder to deceive. They could tell that good was good and they could tell that evil was evil.

I am saying to you today that we are Laodicea. That the vast majority of Christians today are of a theological immaturity to where they cannot tell what is good and what is evil. Therefore, the church today is looking at things that are in fact evil and embracing them as good. This is the predominant condition.

What conditions from the transitional valley, Evangelicalism – upslope in history probably in the 1940's. Evangelicalism overcame Modernism. The Fundamentalist in controversy with the Modernist in theology actually won their battle against Modernism. It is no longer popular in the Church to say that: I don't know if Jesus Christ was God or not. I don't know if the Bible is really true or not. The Modernist said well the stories of the Bible are myths seeking to emphasize some truth. The Modernist denied the virgin birth. They said it's biologically impossible and the great controversy raised. They lost in the Church. There was a time when that was popular. But it was a controversy. There was a conflict between Christians and Christians. Then the Modernist seemed to lose the day and that was no longer popular and Evangelicalism came to the forefront and moved upslope to the worst theological condition the church has ever been in. Historically that is so.

See what Arthur believes Laodicea is and it's tragic.

Evangelical – Charismatic. Laodicea is going to become a Great World Church. She is going to be an Evangelical Church. She is going to be a Charismatic Church. Her emphasis will be the miraculous.

Revelation 3:14: *And unto the angel (that means the messenger or the ministry, the preachers) of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would (it is My Will; I wish) thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; I want you to see The Church assessing Herself. The Church of Laodicea. The Church of the last days. The Church of the end of the age. The Church that will be The Church when Jesus returns to the plant Earth for the second time. See Her self-assessment. She looks at herself. She examines herself. And she comes to a glowing conclusion. I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing. That's what She says. And Jesus says: and knowest not. What is the nature of deception? You don't know. She's a deceived Church. She thinks that what She believes and what She's doing is entirely right. That's where the Church of Jesus Christ is today. What She is believing, what She is doing is entirely right in Her own eyes. The Church today is so theologically ignorant that it is hard to believe. No one wants to believe it. The Church is in theological ignorance and theological ruins and Christ is coming at any moment to a Church in trouble.*

Finish reading and come back to it. Her self-assessment - *I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; And Jesus says, you're deceived - and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*

There's a principle of who God rebukes and chastens. Do you know who it is? Only true sons. That's an important principle. He says: *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.* He's talking to the True Church and to no one else. Hebrews 12: *My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth....But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards (illegitimate), and not sons.* That's a principle. God says I rebuke and chasten only those who are really my people. I don't do it to people who are not my people. Some people say Laodicea is not the real church. It is. It is the church at the end of the age.

How are God's people destroyed? Who can damage or destroy truth? We're asking what destroys God's people and who can damage or destroy the truth?

Hosea 4. These are 2 principles that relate directly to what we are attempting to communicate.

Hosea 4:6 *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:* Simple enough. Christians will be destroyed by a lack of knowledge. Where there is no lack of knowledge or foreknowledge, God's people can never be destroyed. God's people cannot be deceived. It's a chain reaction. Where there is a lack of knowledge to the degree that Satan can deceive God's people, he destroys them.

Isaiah 5:13-14 – One the principle of what can destroy God's people: *Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.* Frightening statement. Note that God's ignorant people can descend into hell as a multitude with glory and pomp and rejoicing. That's interesting. That's what it says. *my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge:... Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory,*(that's God's people; the glory of God's people), *and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into that enlarged hell.* The one thing that can destroy the true people of God, singular, only one thing can destroy God's people – a lack of knowledge. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

Hosea 4:1 - *Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth,....nor knowledge of God in the land.* Only one thing will destroy the Christian – a lack of the knowledge of God. The Christian who has sufficient knowledge of God becomes invincible and cannot be destroyed. The Church of Jesus Christ is in incredible ignorance today of the True God. His Person. His Purpose. His Program. Ignorance of God is everywhere in the Church.

How are God's people destroyed? There are a multitude of scriptures we could refer you to but these are adequate. How are God's people destroyed? For lack of knowledge. There is no truth. No knowledge of God. So God's people are in ruins. That's a great principle. Just say it. Only one thing can destroy God's true people – a lack of the knowledge of God.

What can destroy the truth or damage the truth or who? I'll tell you who it is. Satan and all of the demon powers, all of the lost men, all the atheists of history and of the world today, can do no

damage to the truth of God. The truth of God cannot be destroyed by the world or by Satan but it can be destroyed on this earth. **Only the true people of God can damage or destroy the truth.**

If there is a damage or destruction to the truth at the Second Coming of Christ, we're the ones who will have done it. No one else can.

John 19. Remember Jesus' haunting question: *when the Son of man cometh, shall he find (the) faith on the earth?* Which indicates that the truth on the earth may be in an extreme damaged condition or it may have been destroyed is what He's saying. Only the true people of God can do that. Pretty exciting whenever I discovered this. I felt it and even stated it before but didn't really have the support for believing what I did believe that all the devils of hell and of the atheists and all of the world of lost men can do no damage to the truth. Never have. Never shall.

John 19. This is an interesting account of the destruction of the truth on the earth. Do y'all know who it is when it says: whose name is truth? Whose name is truth? Jesus Christ. He said I am the way, the truth and the life. He said I am the truth. Another place says He whose name is truth in the Bible.

John 19:8. First of all, let me establish. Verse 35 of chapter 18. This is Pilate. Jesus Christ is before Pilate.

John 18:35 - *Pilate answered, Am I a Jew?* (and certainly the answer is no, and he's speaking to Christ). *Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me:* Note that. Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered you unto me. That's important. Who delivered Jesus to Pilate? Thine own nation and the chief priests of Israel.

John 19:8 – Remember what we're looking for. Who can damage or destroy the truth on the earth? *When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;* (that Jesus was the Son of God). *And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou?* Where do you come from? *But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have (authority or) power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?* Now get that picture. Jesus wouldn't speak to him. Aren't you going to talk to me. Don't you know I have power to crucify you and I have power to release you? Now remember Jesus is the Truth. And in effect, Pilate is saying don't you know that I have the power to destroy Truth or to release Truth? Pilate claims he has power to damage or destroy Truth. The Epitomy – the Person of Truth – Jesus. Look at Jesus' answer: *Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above:* That's important. Let's draw a conclusion: the power against Truth comes only from God. *Thou couldest have no power at all against me, (against Truth) , except it were given thee from above:* It is a power given from God to hurt the Truth, to be against the Truth. *Therefore (on the basis that the power to hurt the Truth comes only from above) he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.* It is not the masculine personal pronoun in the Greek. It reads this way in the Greek: **the deliverers of me unto thee.** Those who delivered me unto thee have the greater sin. Why? On the basis that the power to destroy Christ comes only from above. Therefore - based on that fact, the deliverers of me unto thee have the greater sin. Here's what He's saying – God gives to His true people the power to damage or destroy His Truth.

That's important. The Church of Jesus Christ has the power to damage and destroy the Truth in whatever form the Truth is, whether it's in the person form of the Christ, or in the written form of the Bible or in the form of a systematic theology that is truly Christian. Nobody can hurt the truth but me and you who are Christians. If the truth is going to be damaged, if the truth is going to be destroyed, we shall do it. The Church. The lost people can never hurt the truth. Satan can never hurt the truth. Unless he can deceive those of us who have the power to hurt it into hurting it for him. The Church is going to destroy the truth if the truth is destroyed.

Jesus said: *when the Son of man cometh, shall he find (the) faith on the earth?* Or will they have destroyed it? Will the Church have destroyed the truth? It's a frightening prospect. It is simple to prove prophetically that God's people destroy the truth and the truth is going to be destroyed at the Second Coming of Christ in the predominant majority sense.

Laodicea has destroyed the Truth.

What can destroy God's people? A lack of knowledge. Why? Because without proper knowledge, they can be deceived into wielding the power they have from above to destroy the truth. We are destroyed when we destroy the truth in ignorance and in deception. We will destroy the truth. That's important. This needs to be proclaimed to the church across the world. No one can hurt the truth but the Church.

Prophecies say the truth will be in ruins when Christ returns to the planet Earth. The Church will have destroyed the Truth.

It's interesting to say in the context of where we just read with Pilate and Christ before him, Pilate constantly in the context says, I want to let Him go, I want to release Him, I do not want to crucify this man. He stood before Christ and said he has the power to do whatever he chose. Pilate really wanted to let Christ go but didn't. He was powerless. Pilate did not want Christ to be crucified, but He was. The world has no power over the Truth.

It was God's people who would not hear of letting Him go. And it was God's people who insisted upon Him dying on the cross. God's people didn't want to let Him go. He was not released. God's people wanted Him to die on the cross. He died on the cross.

Where was the power? With God's people and no where else. That's a great principal.

We can find in the Bible where the truth is going to be destroyed at the end of the Church age. We must understand that the Church will be instrument of its destruction not the world.

There's an abundance of scriptures that we can use but I'm going to tell about this and they are available to all who are interested.

Let these two black lines represent 2 major lines of prophesy in the Old Testament scripture. **REFER NOW TO ILLUSTRATION 1.**

The lines represent major occurring prophecies in the Old Testament that Israel, the people of God, had. There was a line of prophecy of a meek and a lowly, poor, and abused, rejected, dying Messiah. That's in the Old Testament in abundance. There was another major line of prophecy and it was a Mighty, Conquering King Messiah that would destroy the enemies, the Gentiles, of Israel and exalt them to the top of the nation. There would be a time of glory and power and plenty of prosperity such as no nation had ever known in all of history.

Those prophecies run everywhere throughout the Old Testament. Both of them are definitely there, heavy, constantly recurring. Meek, lowly, poor, abused, rejected, dying Messiah. Gambling for His garments. Prophecy in Isaiah. Lots of prophecy. In the Psalms. He was rejected and despised of men. He was poor and had nowhere to lay His head all through the scriptures.

Remember Palm Sunday, the Triumphal Entry where Jesus said go find me a little donkey and bring him? The Master has need of it. And they sat Jesus on it and rode into the City of Jerusalem and the throngs of the multitude of the people of God in that great Capital city of Israel lined the way as He came on His little donkey and they threw palm leaves in the way and lay their coats in the way, and they shouted: Hosanna, Hosanna? You remember that you Christians? Palm Sunday. The crowd was rejoicing. They were overjoyed.

Did you ever wonder why? Hooray. Hooray for Jesus. Hosanna. You know what Hosanna means? The means in Hebrew: Now salvation. Save now. What they are saying is now our salvation has come. And they were excited and they were all for it. The Bible says this: Jesus rode up to the Temple, got off of His donkey and walked into the Temple and looked round about upon all things and went out.

I want to show you what had happened. Satan had got the people of God locked in on a major line of prophecy that was full of exciting goodies for them. Their mind and their understanding was on this line of prophecy that now this Jesus of Nazareth that has worked miracles and spoke as no man had ever spoken, raised Lazarus from the dead, fed the multitudes with a few fishes, and all of those things. But they were perplexed. He was poor. And He had been rejected by the chief priests. They were jealous and envious. There were confusion. But when He finally rode in that day, the people really believed that He was their promised Messiah. And that explains their excitement. Their expectation was that now He's going to stop being a meek and lowly Nazarene, and He is finally about to manifest Himself as a mighty conquering King of Israel. And He will break the power of the Roman Empire and cast away their domination on Israel and He would exalt all of Israel to the top of the nations on the Earth.

Illustration 1

2. The meek and lowly, poor,
rejected, suffering servant

Isaiah 53; Psalm 22;
Zechariah 12:10; 13:6 etc.

1. The Messiah who is a mighty
conquering King, wonder worker

Isaiah 61:1-3; Jeremiah 30:8,9;
Psalm 45:6; 110; Zechariah 14, etc.

TWO MAJOR OLD TESTAMENT LINES OF PROPHECY

These did not find fulfilment simultaneously

The people of God saw "1" but not "2"