

God's Plan for His Son, Pt. 2

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As we'll soon be observing Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread, and it's been a few years since we have gone through a more intense or a more broadened look at the life of Christ, last Sabbath we began a new series whereby we're doing that again.

This series is entitled *God's Plan for His Son*, and this is *Part 2*.

So, we have about three different series that we're going to be going through, and I'm pretty much out ahead on all of those, which is good, carrying me up through Days of Unleavened Bread at least.

Last week, we were going through a series of scripture in the Old Testament where God progressively revealed more and more about Joshua. And, of course, this being, again, entitled *God's Plan for His Son*, that's where it all started. He started revealing certain things at the time of Adam and Eve, and we went through that, especially in His address to or warning to Satan and what he had done there in the Garden of Eden.

So, from that point on, at different periods of time, God still continued to reveal more about a Messiah, about Christ, and we went through quite a few of those last Sabbath. And we'll pick it up today in Isaiah 7. We're just going through a few, some of those that are a little more well known, but there's really quite a lot of that which Christ quoted later on, that they're scattered throughout the Old Testament.

And to me, it's awesomely inspiring because you see a process there of over the first nearly 4,000 years where there wasn't a lot revealed in the sense of understanding that anyone was given. It was recorded, but we didn't know, or people didn't know fully what it was all about and what it meant about a coming Messiah, what God really had planned for His Kingdom and what was going to come to this earth.

And so, it makes various kinds of comments about those who looked for the one, "the city whose builder and maker was God." In other words, looking for that Kingdom to come, but not fully understanding what God had been revealing.

So, He just revealed a little bit. And then by the time Christ came, Christ began to reveal a whole lot more. There's so much written that we'll go through some of those things later on in future sermons here. But again, things we're kind of familiar with. But it's good to review them and to understand how much emphasis God placed on that particular time, the incredible things that took place at that time.

I can't help but be moved by the fact of where we are now in time and realizing now, He's coming back as the Messiah. Before, He didn't come as the Messiah; He came as the Passover. And that part is yet to be fulfilled in the sense of being King of kings, which is about God's Kingdom and all those who are going to be resurrected and come with Him. So, it's really inspiring to realize where we are in time and to begin

to grasp it even a little more fully that we only grasp a little bit, and even of who we are and what God is doing at this particular time. God's people have always fulfilled incredible things through time, and we're a part of that. God is going to and is in the process of working through us in a powerful way, and yet we don't recognize it. We come to Sabbath services, we go to Holy Days, we have unique fellowship in every area we're in, but to grasp and comprehend what God's really doing sometimes seems a little farther out. We don't really grasp it. And in time, God will reveal that to us.

Isaiah 7:14 today. **Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Emmanuel**, meaning "God is with us." So, we understand that on a spiritual plane, but back at that particular time there are things they didn't grasp, didn't comprehend, to understand what it means "God with us" and what Christ fulfilled as the Word of God made flesh, and then to understand what that means as time goes on as well. Because He can live within us, God the Father and Joshua the Christ, and we can dwell in them on a spiritual plane, is an awesome thing to understand.

But again, progressively revealed, and that portion not revealed till this period of time that we're actually in right now (to its fullest, if you will). So again, we understand these things, we comprehend these things, but to be moved by what God had given so long ago, awesome.

Isaiah 9, just a couple chapters farther over, verse 6. **Isaiah 9:6—For a Child will be born unto us; a Son will be given to us.** And to understand what that means, "A Son will be given to us." He's going to be given for us. In other words, His very life and what He was going to go through.

A Son will be given to us; and the Government will come to be upon His shoulders, proclaiming His name to be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father. That's not a really good translation, obviously. We understand that He's not the Father, but **Everlasting of the Father**, that which is being given in His Son, through His Son, that that's when His life began, and God is His Father.

...Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace, there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His Kingdom. So, there were things that they grasped, especially as we get to the portions where there were those in the time of John the Baptist and when Christ did begin to preach, that there were those who were given to see in part at least. They believed He was the son of David, because of the fact that they understood certain things by this time that was given to them. John taught a lot of this, about how a descendant of David was going to fulfill and accomplish these things.

So, anyway, it says **on the throne of David and over His Kingdom to establish it from that time forward and forever. The zeal of the Eternal of hosts will accomplish it.** So, awesome to understand where we are in time, to understand that God accomplishes His purpose and His plan, of things that when we're blessed to be able to see it we are indeed awesomely blessed. Because the world doesn't grasp it, nor the scattered Body, for that sake, for right now.

Isaiah 53, further down, and verse one. **Isaiah 53:1—Who has believed our report? And to whom is the arm** (meaning the strength) **of the Eternal revealed?** Well, it's revealed to those whom God gives it because God has to give it. God reveals certain things to us, and certain ones through time He's revealed various things. But again, progressively so. In the very beginning, the first 4,000 years, not very much. Very, very little in that respect. Much was written, but people didn't even grasp what they wrote. Of course, even John, when he wrote Revelation, didn't grasp what was there. He was given it to record, but he didn't know what it was all about.

To whom is the arm of the Eternal revealed? For He shall grow up before Him (speaking of Christ will grow up before His Father, before God) **as a tender plant and as a root out of dry ground. He has no special appearance or attraction when we see Him, having no countenance that we would desire Him.** And yet there are people that others tend to follow because of their charisma, because of their appearance. Sadly, today, that's how a lot of things are judged in the world when it comes to things like Hollywood and movie stars, and athletes, and the like. And so, it's making a clear distinction here that by His appearance, it isn't someone that you would naturally look upon in that respect as being drawn to them by physical appearance.

He is despised and rejected of men, a Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief, and we hid as it were our faces from Him. It's the way of mankind until God calls us. And even then, within the Church sometimes people have had battles because of the mind being able to see certain things, and then the pressures of everything around us that hit us all at once. Tithing, because that's a big one for people. That's a big one for families. The matter of tithing, the matter of not being able to work but six days a week, not seven as people are often times accustomed to. And on and on it goes.

And then the differences, not keeping those things that are known to be, thought to be a matter of Christ, a matter of Protestantism, if you will, or the Catholic Church, and we're so far different from all of that. And sometimes, because of that, that's too much for people to bear, to carry. And so again, sometimes He's not esteemed as He should be. People don't stand up for Him, for His way of life, for God's way of life as we should.

Surely He has carried our sickness. It's a word that means "corruption," because that's what happens to the human mind. We're selfish by nature, and there's that process then because of through Him we're able to be forgiven of that, of that which is in our minds, the corruption that's there. Because that's what leads to sin – our wrong thinking, our selfishness.

Surely He has carried our corruption and burdened down by our suffering. Yet we did devise or account (as the word is here) **Him to be stricken** (to be allowed) **to be slain of God and afflicted.**

I love the example there in Acts where Peter makes it clear to them. That there were thousands there that day, gathered. Thousands heard him as he was preaching on the day of Pentecost in 31 AD and he told the history then of what had taken place, and that he made it very clear, you, in other words, those

who were there, even though they weren't present (they had nothing to do, in that respect, of putting Him to death), but they were spiritually because of sin. That's why He died, and that's what they came to see.

What an incredible thing to be in that environment, to come to a point where you realize why He died, that we're all guilty of that because He died for our sins, for everybody. Awesome! And there were 3,000 that day that were baptized — Awesome! — because they were so moved by what Peter had said, and they came to see themselves on a spiritual plane, and their sins, and why Christ had to die as our Passover. What an incredible experience those people had all in one day.

Surely He's carried our corruption, and burdened down by our suffering. Yet we did devise or account Him to be stricken, to be allowed to be slain of God and afflicted. Thereby, He was wounded for our transgressions. So, more than just wounded, but He was beaten severely. We learn that; we come to understand that. Beaten severely. And there are some other verses here later on we'll read that are just, it's kind of mindboggling.

...crushed, broken for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him. So we read this during Passover night year after year after year because God wants us to think about it. God wants us to remember what His Son went through, and for us to be moved by that, to understand the price that was paid so that we could have part with God, to become a part of God's Family. Awesome.

Not to take it lightly. Instead, to be reminded every year to look at ourselves, to understand we still have battles, we still have things to conquer, we still have things to overcome. It's a continuing process, and we're to reflect upon our lives every year in a more intense way (which is what we should be doing as we approach Passover), and to think about these things. Because God wants us to be reminded. Not just to take things casually year by year. Not to coast, but to take them deeply, to understand what was paid, to understand the need to fight, to resist this carnality, this human nature. To work on conquering and overcoming.

I think of where we are right now. We don't have much time, and we live in a very unique time as God's people. Most in the past 2,000 years, obviously, have been able to live out their lives normally to whenever God allowed them to die. Because if someone's called to a special purpose and we're in His hands in whatever era of time it was, whether it was during the period of Ephesus on, no matter who it was they lived out their lives but were never at a point in time like we are today. We're at a time when we come to a point where we don't have any more time.

I'm reminded of when the Apostasy came and different ones that I told, "People are going to look to you to see what choices and decisions you make, and you don't have the luxury of more time to decide. This is happening now." And so, that's what happened. That's the way of life. Especially where we are right now. I think of where we are right now in God's Church. We are going through a process, if you will, a final process, of like gold and silver heated and things are to come to the surface, and we have to be able

to deal with them. That's what we're supposed to do. And so, those kinds of things happen from time to time.

I think of this past year. It's been a harder year for a lot of people. And yet those things can be good to us, good for us, because it helps us to recognize, to understand we're going through a refining process that is unique to us time wise. We don't have much time left to become fully refined. Especially the 144,000. Whoever is a part of that doesn't have much time to make certain choices. And if we want God's favor and protection through the period that's coming in front of us, we don't have much time to make certain that we are fully at one with God, fully in unity and oneness with Him, that we are actively working on ourselves and looking at what we have as weaknesses in our lives because we don't have much time.

You look at the world right now. There are people just flat out getting close to, closer and closer to all-out war. When it comes, it'll be at the time that God has purposed, God has planned. But there's a world war coming. And if we can't see that, then we're in really bad shape. You look at China and their connection with Iran right now. That's a, I guess you'd call, a very sticky wicket (an old expression). Because what do you do? You know they're sending them technology; you know they're giving them help. Possibly Russia as well. And you think you're doing that? Will there be a reaction to some of that if it continues on? Possibly so.

And what does it do to them? This matter of just of oil alone is stirring up nations right now in a strong way, where people are even growing in their ties together already but becoming stronger in those ties because they have a common purpose. And it's against the US and against Israel now. It really is. It's getting stirred up, and people are having to decide where they really stand in some of these matters. Crazy world.

And so, we live at a time that we don't have much left, and we'd better be zealous and on fire to get self ready, to be repenting before God, a willingness to look at our own lives, not to have haughty, pride-filled attitudes of fighting against acknowledging what we are. We had better cry out to God to ask Him to help us to see what we really are, to see our weaknesses, and to be very willing then to repent of them. Because we all have problems. We all have human nature. So, that's why we can say we all have problems.

Now, where we are in the process of refining, that's between us and God. But God isn't playing games, and He doesn't with His Church. We have to know, not just decide. We should have decided that a long time ago. We have to know where we are and where we stand and what hinders any of that, what fights against that that's in our minds.

Verse 5, again here, starting, **Thereby He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed or broken for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him.** I think of that, just peace, having peace, knowing what it means to be able to acquire peace. Peace comes from God. Drama comes from us.

Drama, drama, drama. Drama in people's lives. The inability to get along. The inability to solve problems, to resolve differences or problems. That's what peace is about. Peace is about being a peacemaker. You know, Christ taught that mightily so. There are things you have to do for that to become a reality in your life.

The chastisement of our peace or for our peace was upon Him. We can change. We're supposed to change. We're supposed to be peacemakers. ...**and by His stripes we are healed.** So again here, in times past, in large part this was looked upon as being primarily a physical thing. No, it's way, way, way beyond that. It's about the mind being healed. It's about our thinking. Because that's where the problems come from. That's where the selfishness comes from. That's where the conversion comes from – by our own choices.

All of us like sheep have gone astray. Well, that's the way of human nature. Even within the Church there are times that people go astray, go a little farther away from the trunk of the tree. Maybe not in full unity and oneness with what the Church teaches. Well, we can't afford to mess around like that. We've got to examine ourselves and strive to be exactly what we're supposed to be.

We have turned everyone to our own way. Someone could go through this and say, "Well, I don't do that. I don't turn to my own way." Yeah, you do. That's generally our first reaction to things, our way of resolving something, our way of seeing something. Because you know what? We all have opinions.

The world is filled with them today. You look at the news, and it's like who cares about people's opinions. Give me some news of what's really happening, what's going on. You have to search deeply sometimes to find what's really happening in different locations of the world because they're not talking about them. They build up other things to be more important or whatever. And it's hard to find things that are sometimes actually going on out there. So you have to go to news out of Europe to find anything there, or out of Asia, or wherever it might be, to find out what's really happening in some places in the world. Sick world.

So, when it says, "We have turned everyone to our own way," to go past that and say, "Well, I'm not like that," is a mistake. Because we all do. That's our battle – not to look to our way, not to look to our own opinion and ideas of how we think things should be, but of what God says they should be.

And the Eternal has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. So, meaning, what a blessing; we can repent. What an awesome thing. We can change. Our minds can be transformed. We can think differently. Not only can, but we're supposed to.

Verse 10—Yet it pleased the Eternal that He be broken. In other words, to allow it. What a mind-boggling thing. When you think about God Almighty, He had this all planned out before anything was created. And to know—not just to know but finally come to that time when You have a Son, Your only one that's been born in this fashion, the only one directly from You, the only one that was ever purposed

to be directly from Him, to have that word, that mind that was unique to Him of all human beings. Others were to grow in it and develop a process there of being a part of God's Kingdom in a different manner. Christ, unique.

And yet to know what He's going to go through. That's why when He finally started going through some of these things, He went through it all, He finally came to the point where He did ask the one thing, "Why have You forsaken Me?" Because He went through something that was horrible; it was brutal. The beating He took, the skin that was ripped off His body. We'll get to some of those in a little bit.

But it's hard for us to imagine. But it was so real in His mind, Christ's mind, that He had droplets of blood, blood come out with His perspiration in His skin. Mind-boggling. That you could see something, it would be so real in your mind because of the mind that He had that was from God, to see it as clearly as He did, as though it was happening already or that it had happened, and yet to know that was what was coming. And then to perspire like that. None of us have ever experienced anything like it. And then for His Father to watch that?

You know, we go through a lot of things, but you know what? It doesn't last long. Even our own physical life, it really doesn't last long. The battle we have, the things we go through to fight against carnality, to fight against the pulls of this world, to fight against evil that comes from us out of this world, the process of fighting this mind, and till the battle is over, meaning death, as a whole, or some change for some at the end. It's not that long.

And so, for a moment in time, God the Father watched His Son be beaten in a horrific way. And He has a love that's so far above and beyond ours we can't even begin to comprehend it. To have that kind of feeling, that kind of a mind toward your own child — He has that mind toward all with whom He works — but that was unique in time. Truly was.

So again, **It pleased the Eternal...** In other words, it wasn't pleasing to God, but it was a choice to allow it for the betterment of His entire Family because Christ wasn't going to be the only one. There were going to be thousands upon thousands, millions upon millions. Billions? I don't know.

He has put Him to grief so that when you shall make His life an offering for sin, He will see His Seed. He will prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Eternal will prosper in His hands. So again, incredible things that God had planned. Even here, it doesn't reveal what all that is. But Christ began to reveal more, the disciples began to reveal more, those who wrote scripture began to reveal more of God's plan and what was going to be accomplished by the Messiah.

Verse 12—Therefore, I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong. So, a unique way of phrasing some of these things, and things that we really can't comprehend sometimes when thinking about them. But it's about what God is going to do through Christ and all with whom God has ever worked. And yet Christ is going to be given the head of all of that, and yet He's going

to divide it with the strong. Who are the strong? Well, it's all those with whom God ever works through time that go through this entire process to become a part of God's Family.

...because He has poured out His life unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors. So again here, showing what He went through in order for this to be accomplished, in order for God's Family to have that which is going to be divided anyway. Because it's not a matter of just dividing it all up, it's an inheritance for everyone. How it's shared? Don't comprehend. How do you share the universe?

He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors. So, I think of the saddest part of all this, when I go through something like this and reading it, is that He did that and yet even those in the Church in the past 2,000 years, bore their sin, but some only to a certain point in time, and then He quit bearing their sin because they quit repenting. Because they began to turn away from what God had given to them.

I think what a horrible thing to get to a point where you've been repenting, you are baptized, you received the impregnation of God's spirit, you've been able to live this way of life, but then you begin to turn against it. Mind-boggling.

He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

Zechariah, the book of Zechariah. So again, a little bit at a time being revealed, people not fully understanding what it was all about.

Zechariah 9:9—Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Terminology that really wasn't understood then. It wasn't even understood in the early Church. But there are those who are begotten into Zion. It's about God's Kingdom. It's about holy Jerusalem. It's about Mount Zion. It's about God's government, and on and on it goes, different expressions that are used to reveal the same things to us. But this type of a phrase here, when it talks about "the daughter of Zion," it's referring to that which is not yet fully Zion. And I think of the Church, obviously.

Rejoice greatly... Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! So, it says it another way. It's talking about the exact same thing, those being begotten into Zion, those being begotten into becoming a part of Jerusalem, those being begotten in order to be born into God's Family.

Behold, your King is coming to you. So, something given to the Church as time went along that people began to see, to understand. So, about the Messiah. He's coming; He is coming. For 2,000 years, the Church has been looking for Christ's coming to fulfill the Messiah, to be the Messiah. I think of all those before who just were looking for the Messiah, not understanding what it was fully all about by any measure, that it's about God's Kingdom. And they were just looking for something to get them out of the problems that they were living in life in this world, like they were during the time of Christ, as far as the

Roman government that was there and the oppression of the Roman government that was there. So, that's all they could see was a physical deliverance. We're blessed to see a spiritual one.

He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey. So again, things that were fulfilled. A little bit here, a little bit there, talking about being born of a virgin, God would be the Father. Here, how He's going to come into Jerusalem when He does come into Jerusalem.

Zechariah 11. So, a lot of this about rejoicing is about being thankful we're the daughter of Zion, the Church. And so, a matter of rejoicing on our part because we see, we're blessed to see and grasp what's coming, we're blessed to see what's coming in this world, to this world, if you will, because we live in that particular time.

Zechariah 11:12—Then I said to them, If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain. Amazing what it's talking about here. **So, they weighed out my wages.** In other words, what is to be paid, what is the price worthy for this. ...**thirty pieces of silver.** That was it to betray Him. Incredible.

Verse 13—Then the Eternal said to me, Throw it to the potter—the pricely price they set on me. The amount, thirty pieces of silver. So again, things that were recorded God planned long before and brought it to pass. God was involved, in that respect, as to the decision that was made as to how much they were going to give (they were motivated) to receive that amount. Incredible. Just to betray where Christ was so they could take Him and kill Him. That was their aim. That was their goal. That was their desire.

And then it goes on to say, **Then the Eternal said to me, Throw it to the potter—the pricely price they set on me. So, I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw it into the house of the Eternal for the potter.** So, it's something that Judas fulfilled. He took it into the temple and threw it in there. He just threw it on the floor before them. He didn't want it. He came to a point where he felt horrible about what he did, in that respect, on a physical plane, and the betrayal there.

And it was subsequently then, in that respect, when it was thrown into the temple, they used that to buy a potters' field, which is an area where pottery that's broken, pieces that are being made, a potter works with a certain amount of clay and it doesn't work out and they throw it on the ground somewhere and after a while this is what it's talking about. It was a certain area where that's what this was known for, the potter's field. So, this is what they purchased for that amount that was given.

Let's read that over in Matthew 27:1. So, little things here and there, that God brought them all together at a point in time, showing "This is about My Son. These are things that are going to be fulfilled regarding Him, that He is My Son." So, all these different prophets through time, of things or at different areas of scripture where things were written about Him over a long period of time, over many different generations of things that came to pass that He fulfilled.

How can anyone write such a thing as that? I mean, just physically looking at something like this you would think that people would have to come to a point and say, “This is incredible that these things were done.” But people come up with different reasons and excuses, and why these things aren’t true.

Matthew 27:1—When morning came, all the chief priests of the elders, it says, the people plotted against Joshua to put Him to death. So, when they had bound Him and led Him away, and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate, the governor, says, then Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, was remorseful. So, perhaps not realizing. Someone he’d been with for so long here, had a kind of type of friendship, obvious, but was led to a point of betrayal because of his mindset and his thinking, not realizing how bad this was really going to be when it came to this point, and what it was going to lead up to. Finally, it hit him in a manner that caused him to have a remorseful feeling toward it in that regard.

So, it says, **saw that He had been condemned, was remorseful, and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders.** He realized the seriousness of part of what he had done. Not grasping it fully, nevertheless, but still.

...saying, I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. Because he knew how they were operating. He knew how they were working. He heard what Christ had taught and what Christ had said and knew the motives and so forth of the others but was willing to take the money.

Again, God Almighty determining this before anything was ever created. This wasn’t just decided at some point in time and decided, “Well, I think I’m going to give to Zechariah to write something special here. This can happen later on, something unique about My Son, a betrayal that’s going to take place. Thirty pieces of silver; that seems like a good idea.”

No, this was determined long, long ago. We so underestimate God Almighty and His purpose and His plan and things that are planned out through the time of mankind. We can’t comprehend it because we can’t even comprehend time like that. Millions and billions of years, Earth years? Who can comprehend such a thing? Spirit? We can’t comprehend it, what life is like.

So he responded, saying, I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. And they said to him, What is that to us? You saw to it! “This is what you did. This is what you received for it.” **Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple, then departed and went and hanged himself.** So, it’s a kind of remorseful spirit. Betrayal, if you will, bothered him enough that he committed suicide.

Verse 6—But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, It is not lawful for us to put this in the treasury. So, they couldn’t accept it by their self-righteous, if you will, way of judging various matters. “Well, we can’t use that because it was used in this manner.” They could see that he got the money for betrayal, but they couldn’t receive it back and put it in the treasury because then that would be wrong. Some of the hypocrisy of human beings sometimes is putrid.

...because they are the price of blood. So, they consulted together and bought with it the potter's field, to bury strangers in. So, it was a big enough area to bury those who didn't have any ability to have their own place for burial, and it says they buried strangers in it when someone had died. **Therefore, the field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.**

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, Then they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who had the price placed upon Him, whom they and the children of Israel placed the price, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Eternal directed. Now, why it says Jeremiah here? There's speculation in the world about that, but it's recorded in Zechariah so Jeremiah might have taught some of these things first, given some of these things first. It doesn't say. But anyway, it's there.

Going back in the Old Testament again, minor prophets, Micah, the book of Micah. **Micah 5:2— You, Bethlehem...** So, over and over again, incredible things that God had planned out.

You know, in the book that's being written, it goes through and talks about this blueprint, and yet these are the major things when you talk about the Holy Days, and the like, that reveal God's overall plan. But there is so much more to it. I mean, this is minute detail of things that were a part of God's plan and purpose long, long ago, of things He was going to bring to pass to show how mighty He really is, how almighty He really is, far above and beyond what we can comprehend. And to realize that we're going to be a part of that Family? We can't grasp it. All we can grasp is that which God gives us spiritually in the mind to grasp, to whatever portion that is in our thinking.

You Bethlehem... Interesting word here. It's a compound word, meaning two words in one. The first meaning "house" or "dwelling." The other is the word for "bread" or "*lehem*" in Hebrew. I'm wondering if that's kind of close to the Dutch word for food, and it's good. Maybe not. They'll tell me for sure. Probably nothing close to it.

But anyway, you think "dwelling" and "bread," the bread of life. Here is where it has its beginning. Awesome.

So, it says, **Bethlehem Ephrathah.** So, this was a place near Bethel where Rachel died and was buried. So, it has more to say about this. That's the importance of this Bethlehem Ephrathah.

Though you are small, meaning little in the sense of importance of amongst the tribe here or **among the thousands of Judah, out of/from you will come forth to Me to be Ruler over Israel, whose origins or going forth are from of old, from ancient times.** What an awesome way that God has sometimes of giving truth or giving information but doing it in a way that it's fully hidden unless He reveals what it's all about. And then He reveals it in His time, progressively given, progressively revealed.

And so, in the Church God has progressively revealed those kinds of things as well. And to understand this is a place it's to begin; it's to begin in Bethlehem. Even some of the scholars in the very beginning

there were inspired enough to know, those who were classified as scholars and we'll get to that later on. But you think in studying it, they knew that this was the place that the Messiah was to come from. So, God gave them the ability to see a portion of that anyway. And to think that this is the place where He was to be born, incredible.

So, "even though you're little within Judah, out of you is going to come forth to be Ruler over Israel." So, to understand what these things are about is mind-boggling. To be the King of kings, to be the King over Israel, of what they were looking for as well.

...whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. It's talking about God Almighty. That's where He came from. He came from God Almighty, that He was His Father. So, what an incredible way of writing that or recording that, "His origins are from of old." That which we cannot even comprehend. How old? It says He's everlasting, eternal. We can't comprehend such a thing. "From ancient times."

Therefore, He shall give them up until the time that she who begets (it's about the Church), has given birth. So, physical – spiritual. It's about that which is going to happen on a physical plane and that which is going to happen on a spiritual plane.

Then the rest of His brethren shall return unto the children of Israel. So again here, a process of time of things that God is going to accomplish, but it starts in Bethlehem. That's where His life will begin and the things He's going to fulfill. And Israel is not just about a physical nation, it's about a spiritual one. But even in the Church early on, because God hadn't given it to us yet, so many things about Israel we took as being physical, about a physical twelve tribes, and it's so much more.

Then He shall stand and feed in the strength... It's not "His flock," but it's literally saying, **Then He** (speaking of Joshua), and even before that, when it says "the rest of His brethren," speaking of Christ, "shall return unto the children of Israel." So again here, it's about a spiritual Israel.

Then He shall stand (speaking of Christ) **and feed in the strength/the might of the Eternal.** So, everything He did He made very clear as time went along, John 14, He said everything that He said, everything that He did was from God the Father. It wasn't of His own mind and thinking, it wasn't of His own will, but He made it clear it was from God the Father. So, awesome!

Something we're to learn, something we're to grow in and have more as to what we are actually living, in how we judge, how we think toward others, how we live our lives, is that it's to come from God Almighty – if it's to be done right. Because we don't have the ability to do those things, but God can give it to us. Christ had it from the very beginning.

Then He shall stand and feed in the strength/the might of the Eternal, in the majesty of the name of the Eternal His God, because now they shall abide great for He shall be great unto the ends of the earth. Again, things magnifying Joshua, things magnifying God Almighty, and showing that relationship and what was to be accomplished.

Let's read Matthew 2 now, what it has to say concerning Bethlehem. So again, just a blurb in the Old Testament, minor prophets. Who would know what this is except God given them the ability to know what it was about?

Matthew 2:1—Now after Joshua was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? So, they were given a little bit, not a lot, but here is someone from Judah.

Where is He who is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him. I think what a crazy thing in the world. They think there's this star that they were following, and it finally got over the top of a building in Bethlehem. And you think that is so nuts to believe in something like that, that that's how it happened, that you could somehow see rays of light coming down on a particular building. And all you have to do is go out and look in the sky and see stars all over the place there, and no one has ever seen anything like that. And if a particular light did come down, how is this leading you? Anyway, it's nonsensical.

It's about an angel. Stars, in that regard, used as angels sent by God, powerful beings, and even shows here a little bit more as we go along here.

But again, **For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him**, come to worship this king that was to be born in Bethlehem. **When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.** And you think, why all Jerusalem? What do you mean, "all Jerusalem?" Well, there was enough, I guess, from the sounds of it. Things are communicated. They had a different way of news being able to be moved around, and they had their own system of whatever it was that things were spread quickly. And this is evidently what happened, that these had come into Jerusalem, and they were seen as being different. You know, when you see someone who's dressed in a different way and carrying along a story like this, wanting to know who to go to to find these things out and so forth, and finally ending up before Herod was no small thing.

Then it goes on to say, **So, when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.** So, they had come there asking where. They didn't know where yet. They weren't told that part yet. They had enough to come to Jerusalem, to know that was where they needed to go. They were given that amount, and they went there to look. And then it began spreading around that there is someone, these people, these wise men from the East, they've come all the way from, whether it was Persia or wherever (because that's what it's guesstimated to be by the words that are used), that they had come there and they were seeking to find out where this Christ child, the Messiah, was to be born. That's what it's about.

And that's what began to be spread around because it was about a future King. It was about a King that was coming, and they had been looking for a Messiah for so, so long anyway, and this was just a natural

thing that fit into their beliefs, and then it began to be spread around quickly. So, something like that travelled fast, and that's what happened here.

And then Herod gathered all the chief priests and the scribes together and inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So, it was about the Messiah. It's about where is He to be born? And this began to be noised around. It raised a stir. Not one that Herod liked at all because they are ruler; there is no king of the Jews, there is no one to become king of the Jews. It's against everything they believed. But this is what the people believed, so he's going to put a stop to it.

So they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah. For out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel. Awesome! And so, we know, again, it's not just about a physical thing, it's about a spiritual thing. And they didn't grasp that, obviously.

There are numerous prophecies concerning Christ and things that Joshua would fulfill. We've covered some of those. But again, there are so many that we could go through, but these are some of the major ones that are out there. We're going to look at a few more of those in a final sermon later on here.

But let's turn over, notice here, jump over to here, Exodus 12, because here is something that happened with the Israelites that pictured something that would happen later on with Christ. So, here is where instruction was given about Passover, things that were given in Exodus 12 here, and notice what it says in verse 43. Because things have meaning, even little things like this. Not meaning little in importance, but smaller things that sometimes people don't put the importance upon them like they should, and they couldn't anyway.

Exodus 12:43—Now, the Eternal said to Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the Passover: No foreigner shall eat of it. So again, this was just for the Israelites. And we learn that in the Church, what that means for the Church then, that no one, anyone who is not baptized, is not to partake of it. Only baptized individuals can partake of the Passover within the Church.

No foreigner shall eat of it. But every man's servant who is bought for money, when they have circumcised him, then he may eat of it. A foreigner and a hired servant shall not eat of it. In one house it shall be eaten. You shall not carry any of the flesh outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones. So, this has significance in that which God was going to fulfill in Christ.

And even in that, when you look at the temple, there are so many things about the construction of the temple we have no idea what they picture yet. God hasn't revealed it. Every facet of the temple that was built has importance to it on a spiritual plane that we don't yet know that God will reveal in time. To me, that's awesome. Everything has meaning.

Then the prophecy here in **Psalms 34:20—He** (speaking of God Almighty), **guards all His bones** (speaking of Joshua); **Not one of them is broken.** He took a horrible beating, but God saw to it that not one of His

bones was to be broken. Because it was a part of a fulfillment of what He told them about keeping the Passover in the first place and how it was to be done, that no bones were to be broken. Incredible.

Then John, the book of John. **John 19:31—Therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain on the poles on the Sabbath.** So, Passover day was a preparation day. The first High Day was going to come at sundown. ...**that the bodies not remain on the poles on the Sabbath** — so, it becomes even more important, and it's showing why here — **for that Sabbath was a High Day.** You think, what a sad thing. You think of all the people who have studied into scripture, all the different religions that are out there in protestantism, if you will, and all the books that have been written and all the commentaries, and scholars who have gone into these things in detail, and something like this is not grasped is mind-boggling, some of these things on a physical plane even.

And so, not to pick up the reality that it says here that this Sabbath was a High Day? It's not about the weekly Sabbath. Can it come into the mind, could it be in the mind in any fashion or form, Passover, that it falls on different days of the week, and the High Day, and what was to be accomplished? It's mind-boggling.

So again here, **that the bodies should not remain on the poles on the Sabbath, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken.** So again, Christ had to die before this point in time. Something had to take place that His life not continue on like it did for the other two who were with Him, hung on poles, nailed to poles, if you will. So, something different had to happen. God is going to fulfill it.

Again, they might seem small but God wants to show something in a very powerful way, how almighty He is, to give things so long ago back in Exodus of something that was to be filled and told about in Psalms, "not one of His bones is to be broken," and then on this particular day that here there are two beside Him, they're going to have their bones broken. Their legs are going to be broken so that they'll die quickly because they can't push themselves up any longer. They're going to suffocate, and they're going to die quickly. But for Christ, He had to die sooner so that this would be fulfilled with Him, "not one bone would be broken," for Him, even after the beating He took, let alone this when they broke the legs of the others.

So, it says here **that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who were nailed to poles with Him. But when they came to Joshua, they saw that He was already dead, and they didn't break His legs.** No point. He's already dead.

Verse 34—For one of the soldiers had pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came forth. So, we can read that account in scripture and of what happened. He came up there with a spear, speared Him in the side, water and blood came gushing out, and He quickly died.

Now, he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true. Kind of a unique way this is written by John because it's about him. He's the one writing this, and he's saying his word is true. **Now, he who has**

seen has testified, and his witness is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you might believe or so that you may believe. For these things were done that the scripture might be fulfilled, Not one of His bones shall be broken. Then again, another scripture says, They shall look on Him whom they pierced. That's in Zechariah 12:10. So, both things done at that particular time. "They're going to look upon Him whom they had pierced."

Awesome, it really leaves you speechless, as it were, that God did these things through time, wrote different things at different times, all for a plan and a purpose of things that Christ would go through on that particular day – leading up to that day, and then that day. Awesome!

So, it shouldn't shock us, and it should inspire us, especially if we can grasp what's happened leading up to that time of Passover, the incredible things that happened in the Church when the Church began on Pentecost, and of God's purpose and design for the Church and for those whom He works.

And to look at this time we live in, you think His second coming is less important or far more important? Because finally, He fulfilled Passover, but everything that was written in the Old Testament, and that which is in the New Testament, is about Him being the Messiah, the Christ, and all that leading up to this time. It's one of the most dramatic, important times of human history. It is! After 6,000 years. And we're blessed to live at this time, things that we're going to witness. Awesome, awesome, awesome.

For me, to pick out a time in human history to live, this is the one. It really is. We are so blessed to live at this particular time because everything that God has said coming to pass, what has to happen in this world after 6,000 years of mankind's self-rule, we have such incredible opportunities before us. Awesome, what God has given to us to experience.

Psalm 22. About Christ, about His mind, about His thinking, about what would be in His mind, what He would think, what He knew He was going to fulfill because He was the Word made flesh. We can strive to appreciate that, but to fully understand it, we just don't. When He was twelve years old, to do what He did in dumbfounding the priests, those who heard Him in the temple? Incredible!

Psalm 22:14—I am poured out like water, even whole bones are out of joint. It's hard to read. **My heart is like wax that has melted within Me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and My tongue clings to My gums** (cleaves to My tongue or clings to My gums). In other words, inside the mouth. I don't know if any of you have ever experienced something like that, when there is absolutely no moisture whatsoever and it just sticks in there.

You have brought Me to the dust of death. Indeed, dogs have surrounded Me. Why? Blood, dogs, dogs of those who are there on a spiritual plane. Whether it be both, I don't know.

...have surrounded me. The congregation of the wicked have enclosed Me. For certain knowing what that's all about, those of Judaism who made the choices they did, who enjoyed seeing Him die. To grasp such minds? Mind-boggling. Such perversion of thinking, and they're supposed to be leaders?

The congregation of the wicked have enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet. I can tell of all manner of bones that I see staring at Me. So, that's the kind of beating He took, that He could see different bones that were showing in His body.

I can tell of all manner of bones that I see staring at Me. They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots. Isn't that incredible? All these things that were written here in the Psalms now, the different things that God recorded so long ago and at different stages of progressive revelation, things that people never really grasped or comprehended until the depth of what was finally given to the Church. And then finally, the Church could begin to see, God would begin to reveal to them more what Joshua went through, what it means to be called, to have the blessing and ability to be impregnated with God's holy spirit, what it means that we can be forgiven of sin.

And it just boggles my mind that anyone could ever turn from this, that anyone could walk away from this. And yet people do, people have, and it's not over with yet. It's not over with until this is finished. It's going to continue to happen. It happens every year. There are some on the skirts of that now. And that's why we should be sobered, again, as we draw closer to Passover, because we need to look at ourselves, we need to realize the time we live in.

Someone asked just before services, wonder if it could be this Pentecost. I don't believe it could be for the amount of things that have to be fulfilled. But you know, things can happen. We don't know everything. There are times when I hear certain things on the news, and it's like, man, so close. It only takes one day for one missile to be sent to start this entire mess. It could be something that happens in the Middle East. It doesn't even have to happen here because it could be another part of Israel. It doesn't say it specifically has to be this.

We know that there are going to be certain things that do happen here to this. But to destroy a certain amount of ships in one fell swoop, could still be the US in one region of the world, and a certain amount die. We don't have all the pieces of the puzzle. We have a diagram to go by; we have a certain outline we have to go by. But to realize how close we are in time because of things happening in the news, it ought to be exceedingly sobering to us to realize how the world is getting pulled into this more and more, and certain ones bent on doing certain things that are stirring up hatred and war mongering amongst others. It's a mind-boggling world we live in now; it really is. And it really ought to be very scary to us. Because we should be moved by understanding how close things could be, how your life can change overnight.

Because when it changes, you think missing out on a little oil is a problem? It's nothing. Because it comes to a point when there will be no oil transported, when it comes to a point in time where there will be no electricity, when it comes to a time that's going to make what happened when we had Covid seem like a picnic, and we would far rather have it, we would long for that day again if we could.

We're going to experience that in the Church, what it means when you don't have things. You can't go scooting down the highway anywhere, you can't turn on the lights at night, you can't hear news

anymore, you can't hear what's going on in the world as a whole around you. We have no comprehension what that's going to be like, when people don't have their cell phones anymore. Some are going to go a little crazy just over that one, just because they don't have their cell phones anymore; they won't work.

We live in an incredible time. So, we should be so sobered when we go into this particular Passover, to realize we're not to play games. We're to be sobered and realize every person has the potential to move away from God; we all have that inside of us. But then it comes down to where is our conviction and how close are we staying to God and being moved and motivated to draw closer to Him on a spiritual plane. Because that's what has to be in us, crying out and asking for help, asking for help to draw closer to Him, asking for help to see the things we can't see so that we can repent of them, so that we can get rid of them.

So, all these things should be sobering to God's Church because we're not through this. You're not through this until you're through it. And if you're not afraid of, fearful of your own human nature, then something is wrong with you. Because we should all fear the ability of this human mind, that if we're not close to God, keep close and have His strength within us, we're capable of all kinds of things as human beings.

I've seen it happen over and over again in the Church. Someone becomes weak, you begin to let down, you begin to drift. Can't afford to do that, not now of all times. We're there! Incredible.

So, this is a time to examine ourselves before Passover, to use this time between now and Passover diligently crying out to God, sobered – about our relationships, about perhaps wrong habits in one's life. Because sometimes people just continue on, and it's like, "Well, if nothing has happened to me now and I haven't been caught now or this hasn't come to... Maybe it's okay if I... And God understands my weakness." Oh, garbage! Because that's how people think sometimes. And there are so many of those who are gone because they thought that way.

Or our thinking about how we judge. Because these are weaknesses we have as human beings, judging others. We've got to be ever so careful of that and seek to conquer that. So, relationships, habits that we have that we sometimes, if we're not careful, we don't address and we allow something to continue on that shouldn't be allowed to continue on, where we know better. Judging, whatever it might be, and so forth.

And whether or not we're truly at one in unity with the teachings of God's Church. And if we're not and if we've been careless in some of those, then we need to repent of those because they're not little things. They're not small things. We're judged by those things. Because this helps us to see whether or not we're in unity with God Almighty. Because God has given us a lot within the Church. So, we have to understand those things and measure our own selves and say, "Yes, I am in unity. Yes, I am in oneness," in everything...everything that God has given to us. Awesome!

So, with that, we'll stop with this one today. I do have a little bit of time here to go through some news.

First of all, one headline here says, **'Not acceptable': Brussels slams Zelenskyy as Kyiv-Budapest tensions spiral**¹ So here, Ukraine, Ukrainians, the government there, and Hungary are not getting along. Not at all. And it's causing some problems. These kinds of things, it just shows more and more the weaknesses within the system of things in Europe.

But anyway, it says, "The European Commission has condemned Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's apparent threat to use violence against Hungarian leader Viktor Orbán, amid escalating tensions between Budapest and Kyiv over Ukraine's failure to repair a critical oil pipeline.

"Specifically in relation to the comments made by President Zelenskyy: we are very clear as the European Commission that that type of language is not acceptable," Commission deputy spokesperson Olof Gill told reporters on Friday. "There must not be threats against EU member states." [I think of this clay and the iron, such a perfect example of what's going on over there.] His comments came after Zelenskyy said yesterday that he would "give the address" of Orbán to Ukrainian soldiers, who will then "call him and speak" to the Moscow-friendly Hungarian premier "in their own language". [Some of the things that go on in politics sometimes. Mind-boggling.]

Orbán is blocking a critical €90 billion EU loan to Kyiv over Ukraine's failure to repair the Druzhba pipeline, which carries Russian oil to Hungary via Ukraine."

Another article here: **Russia Warns 'Vulnerable' Finland As It Moves To Lift Ban On Hosting NATO Nukes**² So, this just helps to magnify, week after week of different articles that come out, that show Europe is deeply concerned, and more than that, about Russia. They see a war coming. They're preparing for a war. They realize that tensions are getting worse and worse. And so, these things go on between countries in a way over there that's rather, again, mind-boggling.

It says here, "The last thing the world needs at this moment of raging war in Iran and the Persian Gulf region is another round of nuclear saber-rattling related to that other raging hotspot - the Ukraine conflict, but that's precisely what is happening again this week." So again here, it just gets worse and worse and worse. We are nudging closer and closer and closer to things far worse than what's happening in Iran.

"The Kremlin is warning that Russia could respond if Finland moves forward with plans to scrap its longstanding ban on the transit and storage of nuclear weapons, framing the proposal as a direct security threat on its border. The alleged nuclear discussions come after reports that NATO could look for alternatives to Washington providing Europe with NATO's 'nuclear shield' ..."

¹ **Thomas MollerNielsen**, "'Not acceptable': Brussels slams Zelenskyy as KyivBudapest tensions spiral," *Euractiv*, March 6, 2026, updated March 8, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.euractiv.com/news/not-acceptable-brussels-slams-zelenskyy-as-kyiv-budapest-tensions-spiral..>

² **Tyler Durden**, "Russia Warns 'Vulnerable' Finland as It Moves to Lift Ban on Hosting NATO Nukes," *ZeroHedge*, March 7, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/russia-warns-vulnerable-finland-it-moves-lift-ban-hosting-nato-nukes..>

So, this is in the news over there now more and more. And I think there was a... I don't know if I read it here earlier or not, but they're going on right now about whether nukes should be from...come out of Britain or out of France, or out of both, to be moved into various places within NATO. Mostly, to the east, obviously, to be put in other nations out there. Not just what the US has over there. And why? Well, like it says here, basically, they don't...they realize they don't want to just rely on Washington. So, they want to be able to do this themselves, so they're talking about that amidst all this as well.

"The alleged nuclear discussions come after reports that NATO could look for alternatives to Washington providing Europe with NATO's 'nuclear shield' - as has always been the case since the Cold War. Finland is a new NATO member, having only just formally joined the alliance, abandoning historic neutrality, in April of 2023. On Thursday, the Finnish government confirmed it will seek amendments to the country's Nuclear Energy Act and Criminal Code, removing legal barriers that currently prevent the import or hosting of nuclear weapons for defense purposes."

So again here, just in two weeks alone, there has been constant talk about nuclear weapons over there and how to do all this, how to build this nuclear shield over there against, basically, against Russian aggression.

Another one here: **US begins large military drill with South Korea while waging war in the Middle East**³ Now, do you understand how that is incredibly important? "US begins large military drill with South Korea while waging war in the Middle East." If you saw a buildup of ships, if you saw war games being planned, and already taken out part of Venezuela, already taken out or taking out things in Iran, talking about taking out things in Cuba, and you have military things going on just below your country, speaking of North Korea? You think if you're paranoid, especially? These people are paranoid. That leader and those leaders in the North are absolutely paranoid, and someone could just push them a little bit, someone out of China, or even Russia, push them just a little bit in their paranoia, sending them a little bit of false information if they wanted to, and they would launch nuclear weapons. That's how close this world is to a war. And at some point, something like that is going to happen.

Another article here: **Britain has just two days of gas as Middle East flow runs dry**⁴ And you think, that's nothing compared to what's coming, but it's still scary what's happening there and what people will do because of things like that.

"Shrinking reserves could spark potential crisis with UK now paying highest wholesale price in Europe." And in large part, this is pushing the thinking within Europe away from the US toward themselves. They realize they can't depend upon anybody else. They have got to do these things themselves. And they're

³ **Kim TongHyung**, "US begins large military drill with South Korea while waging war in the Middle East," *AP News*, updated March 8, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://apnews.com/article/us-korea-freedom-shield-north-korea-iran-53caaf3a57e175e8d247c9c934aa0fea..>

⁴ **Jonathan Leake**, "Britain has just two days of gas as Middle East flow runs dry," *The Telegraph*, March 8, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2026/03/08/britain-two-days-gas-middle-east-flow-runs-dry..>

just pushed more and more. And that's the only way that iron mixed with clay can be pushed to making a decision that's coming. It's all in the works.

Another one here: **Almost 700,000 displaced in Lebanon as war enters second week**⁵ Just gets worse and worse and worse. The world is a powder keg.

Another one: **Macron Says France Is Deploying Warships to Middle East, May Launch Hormuz Escort Mission**⁶

Another article. (I just had to throw this one in.) It's called the "**Legacy Of Imbeciles**": **Corpus Christi Careens Toward Water-Shortage Catastrophe**⁷ "The imminent depletion of water supplies in Corpus Christi threatens to cut off the flow of jet fuel to Texas airports and other oil exports from one of the nation's largest petroleum ports, triggering potential shockwaves through energy markets in Texas and beyond." [If Iran wasn't enough, and the Strait of Hormuz wasn't enough, now you've got something like this. Crazy!]

"Without significant rainfall, Corpus Christi is headed for a "water emergency" within months and total depletion of the system next year, according to the city's website. "The impacts are going to be felt tremendously through the state, if not internationally," said Sean Strawbridge, former CEO of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority, the nation's top port for crude oil exports, in a 40-minute interview Thursday. "This should be no surprise to anybody. We were talking about this over a decade ago." Other current and former officials, alarmed at what they call a lack of preparations, have suggested the potential for an economic crisis involving mass layoffs, disruption of fuel supplies, and billions of dollars in emergency spending to avoid an evacuation of the city."

Stupid. I like the article, the name of it. What was that again? "Legacy of Imbeciles." The planning or lack of planning by people and what it can do, the repercussions. And you think of all the problems going on anyway and here is just another one on top of that.

Another one here out of Europe: **Volkswagen slashes 50,000 jobs after profits collapse by nearly half**⁸ You think these things are big for Europe, things like that that happen. And who do they find at fault? The US.

⁵ **Ahmad Al Kerdi and Maayan Lubell**, "Almost 700,000 displaced in Lebanon as war enters second week," *Reuters*, March 9, 2026, updated March 9, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/hezbollah-reports-israeli-raid-east-lebanon-war-enters-second-week-2026-03-09..>

⁶ **Yuliia Zavadka**, "Macron Says France Is Deploying Warships to Middle East, May Launch Hormuz Escort Mission," *Kyiv Post*, March 9, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.kyivpost.com/post/71558..>

⁷ **Tyler Durden**, "'Legacy of Imbeciles': Corpus Christi Careens Toward WaterShortage Catastrophe," *ZeroHedge*, March 9, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.zerohedge.com/energy/legacy-imbeciles-corpus-christi-careens-toward-water-shortage-catastrophe..>

⁸ **Verena Schad**, "Volkswagen slashes 50,000 jobs after profits collapse by nearly half," *Euronews*, March 10, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.euronews.com/business/2026/03/10/volkswagen-slashes-50000-jobs-after-profits-collapse-by-nearly-half..>

Another one here: **South Korea Angry Over US Plan To Redeploy Critical Air Defense System To Mideast**⁹ So, they're taking them away from that region and moving them now to the Mideast.

"We previously highlighted that Zelensky's biggest current worry is that the Iran war and ongoing major US operations there will starve Ukraine of critical arms, and especially long-sought-after and expensive anti-air systems and munitions. It's not just Ukraine expressing alarm, but now South Korea too, with President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday loudly complaining about Washington's plans to redeploy Patriot air defense batteries from the Korean Peninsula to the Middle East in order to bolster regional defenses against Iran."

So, there is a reason why you're hearing a lot in the news about "Oh, we have so much! We have so much military backup, so many armaments. We're not hurting." Yeah, we are. If we had that much, we could... They wouldn't have to redeploy.

"Meanwhile, some local media indicate several Patriot missile batteries have already been moved out of Osan Air Base, potentially heading to American outposts in Saudi Arabia or the UAE, though officials in Seoul have not confirmed this. Korean media precisely lays blame on the new US operation launched against Iran: The United States, engaged in a war with Iran, has begun relocating part of its Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system deployed in South Korea to the Middle East, the Washington Post (WP) reported on the 9th (local time), citing two U.S. Department of Defense officials."

Two more articles here. Well, maybe a quick three.

US Reportedly Has Just Two Months Of Rare Earths Left¹⁰ And you think, well, that's... Why is that important? Because a lot of that goes into missiles. If you don't have it, you don't have it. So, let's just tell the whole world.

"The U.S. military's reliance on Chinese rare-earth minerals is emerging as a strategic vulnerability as Washington's conflict with Iran... [What was that one about imbeciles?] conflict with Iran unfolds and President Donald Trump prepares for a closely watched visit to Beijing later this month. US officials and analysts say the war has intensified concerns about supply chains for the specialized minerals used in advanced weapons systems, SCMP reports. According to people familiar with the issue, the U.S. may have only about two months of rare-earth inventories remaining, raising questions about how long current military operations could be sustained if access to Chinese supplies were disrupted."

⁹ Tyler Durden, "South Korea Angry Over US Plan To Redeploy Critical Air Defense System To Mideast," *ZeroHedge*, March 10, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/south-korea-angry-over-us-plan-redeploy-critical-air-defense-system-mideast..>

¹⁰ Tyler Durden, "US Reportedly Has Just Two Months Of Rare Earths Left," *ZeroHedge*, March 12, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.zerohedge.com/political/washington-reportedly-has-just-two-months-rare-earths-left..>

I tell you, this world has gone nuts. And the closer we get to what's going to happen, the nuttier it's going to get, and how things are going to backfire, too. Everything is not going to go well, as some seem to think it's going really well. Things like that just have a way of not working out, especially in this age.

Iran warns long war with US, Israel would 'destroy' world economy¹¹ Well, it's sure playing a number on it. It's sure adding to it. And how much more do they have? Nobody knows for certain.

My personal fear is that they did remove (knowing something was coming), certain canisters that only needed a little more work to prepare, to put together a nuclear weapon. They may have several nuclear weapons already, and nobody is going to know about it unless they use it. And they're the type of individuals that will definitely use it before this is over with – if they have it, or if they're in the process of putting it together.

That is a huge country. And if you think we're knocking out everything over there, you're sadly mistaken. That's why some are crying out about putting boots on the ground. Because you cannot win a war like that. You couldn't in Iraq, and you can't over there either. It's a different kind of people. And they have stuff spread all over that country, and there are mountainous regions all over that area, especially over there in some of the areas to the east and north, that are massive. And there is no way of knowing everything that's over there and what they're doing in some of those locations.

So again, the world is so close.

Another. My final article: **Private Credit's Margin Call Moment Arrives...** Talks about Morgan Stanley in another one here as well. Even the economy, I am shocked that it's still holding together as well as it is. But it has to for a purpose and for a time because everything has to go pretty much all at once. That's how God is working with it, so it all happens all at once as a whole.

This is what they say in a report: "... "we think a "run on the bank" is inevitable and would recommend all investors to get out of levered private credit while they still can. This is the story of a \$2.0+ trillion market on the precipice.'" When you have major companies like this saying things like that, and then I don't know how many of you read certain things in the news, but more and more you're seeing 2008 banded around more and more and more because of the economy and how bad things really are in the world. And then added to it, everything that's taking place in Iran, everything that's taking place in other parts of the world.

We live in a sick, sick age. You have to be close to God. Prepare for the Passover.

¹¹ FRANCE 24, "Iran warns long war with US, Israel would 'destroy' world economy," *France 24*, March 11, 2026, updated March 11, 2026. Accessed March 16, 2026. <https://www.france24.com/en/middle-east/20260311-iran-warns-long-war-with-us-israel-could-destroy-world-economy..>