Christ's Final Journey, Pt. 3

Ronald Weinland

May 9, 2026

We had a great trip to Europe, and it seemed like it went really, really fast, the schedule we were on and so forth. But anyway, before I begin the sermon, I'm going to go into some of the things that we did while we were there. I want people in Australia, New Zealand, and then all the rest of the way to hear. Of course, in Europe, I pretty much told them most of the things that I had written down here now for everybody to hear.

But I want this to be a part of the actual sermon series because this sermon series is geared toward the book in that respect, and people who may want to follow up on something like that if they read through it thoroughly and are moved to do so. So, anyway, some of these things here are, to me, exciting and interesting to go through.

So anyway, first we went to Malta, and went down there where Jeremy is at this point and spent a bit of time down there with them. Kind of interesting, everywhere you go in Europe and different places, especially along the Mediterranean, it's filled with history and going way, way back. It's absolutely incredible.

And that particular place is interesting in itself. The first thing that strikes me in the sense of talking about it is that's where the apostle Paul was shipwrecked, stayed for about three months when he was shipwrecked during the winter there. And that's where the snake bit him, and he shook it off into a fire. He had those who figured that something was wrong, he did something really bad, if that was the case. And anyway, the way people judge things. But nothing happened to him. But you think about some of the things that people have gone through in time, the journeys they've taken. I'll come back to that in a moment here.

But there is a lot of history in that particular area. The knights, especially, the interesting part about that was back in the 1500's, knights built incredible fortifications around different parts of the island, and forts, if you will, but massive fortifications and homes. And they're thick, thick stone. You think, that kind of ability to do that back in that period of time, it seemed like it would take thousands of people to do it, and probably did, I don't know. But absolutely awesome. And we build something here, and if it lasts two hundred years or whatever, that's awesome.

But from there, of course, talking about in all of this meeting with him and talking about some different things we went through, things having to do with the book, especially. And one of the things he's focusing upon or was at that moment in time that he wanted to show me and we wanted to talk about, are two different possibilities for the cover. It's really hard to come up with something sometimes that describes what's being covered, and he's come up with two very good ideas. And we're going to see

which one develops and works the best, so I'm excited about them. Because I thought it's just going to be a blank page with the title across the top. That's all I could come up with.

Anyway, from there, we went up to the area of Greece. They didn't. Audra and her family did. We went to Corinth, Athens and Corinth. We went on a tour through Corinth. It's been twenty-some years since we'd been there before. But again, awesome when you go to places where others have been, like Paul. Mars Hill there, just below the Acropolis area, and then going down there in some of those areas. Then one area we went to that has been unearthed that goes back to 1350 BC. Mind-boggling, some of the things that are built, the ability they had, and the things that they've unearthed.

But again, especially thinking about Paul and him being in Corinth, and even the port area. I learned a little bit more about that, some of the places they came in and out of there in Napoli.

And again, it struck me thinking about Joshua. That's the way it's been whenever you travel in some of those areas, and you think about whether it be an apostle or someone else who was there, and it does something to the story, or the stories you read in scripture, and the feelings you have as a result of some of that. That's why I mentioned last Sabbath, which I gave the same sermon over there that you heard here, *Part 2*. A little different, but still pretty much the same thing as far as scriptures were concerned.

But I brought up at one point about Joshua getting ready to come over from one side of the Jordan to the other. 1,400 years before, nearly, as it was. And thinking about that, another Joshua came across. To me, that's very moving, just to think about that part of scripture and what took place. It had to be exceedingly moving for Him in ways that we can't really fully grasp, but we can sure appreciate it.

But it's that same sort of thing. Thinking back in time, He's the one that's going to fulfill what it really meant to bring the children of Israel across the Jordan into the promised land, and He's actually on a journey now going down to Jerusalem to fulfill that, to make it possible. He went on that other side, coming down the Jordan on the east side, they crossed over before they got to Judea, came down that far, and then crossed over. It doesn't say anything about it, but it had to be incredibly moving to Him because all these things were a part of His mind and His thinking.

Anyway, we had the ability or opportunity to discuss some of these things, and to me, even going through some of the advertising we're going to do, we have not advertised, as a whole, in other languages. This time we're going to. And so, we're trying to gear up in our thinking about how we're going to accomplish some of that, because what you might be able to do in English in one part of the world, you can't necessarily do in another part with another language. So we're trying to look at some of those things. So, there's a lot of work to be done.

And I thought I would also mention about chapter nine, I think I mentioned last time I was here that that's it. Well, it's not it. It got so big that it had to be divided up as well. So, it happened toward the beginning of the book, and it's happening now toward the end of the book.

But I'll tell you what, I am so excited about the last chapters here because it's a little bit different approach and a way of presenting some things than we've ever done or I've ever done. And chapter nine has been broken up already. I've sent it back now to basically go through the process of the rest of the editing.

And chapter ten follows that, and chapter eleven follows ten. So, it's going to have eleven chapter, and I think that's it. I don't think we have room for more. But I'm excited about all three of those chapters because they're unique because they all tie together in a unique way as a follow-up to everything else that's been covered in the previous chapters. Going through time, all through time, and very inspiring to me to go through this.

To consider what God has given to us at the end of this age is mind-boggling. To have what we have, sometimes we don't really grasp how much we've really been given. There is no age of mankind that's been given what we have and all because we live in a particular moment in time before Joshua returns and these things now God is revealing and giving and giving to the world, as it were, in preparation for His Son to return.

And just as John the Baptist did the things he did and the disciples (became the apostles) did the things they did, exciting times, inspiring times. But we live in another one that's astounding. Because everything that's happened before leads to this time and the establishment of the Kingdom of God. And that should be exceedingly moving to every one of us, that we have part in that, that we get to share in that.

So, to me, this book is a summary of everything that we've ever gone through, everything that's brought us up to this point in time.

We're going to continue on now with this particular series, *Christ's Final Journey*. Again, more accurate than what it was before, when it was given several years back, in the sense of going through some of the story flow, because God just has given more as well. But to me, timing of events, how they happen when they happen, they're all important, and they all flow together in an incredible way.

So, we're going to begin where we left off last week, at the point where Christ was coming down to Bethany from Jericho and coming up to Lazarus after his sisters had sent for Joshua. So, let's pick up the story again and just refresh ourselves in John 11. Again, coming up to a crescendo here of all the things He had done. It needs to strike us again, I think, in a very strong way, that He had thousands of people who kept coming out to Him. When He was on the sides of the mountains at two different times, two different occasions there, and had the matter of the fish and the loaves, several thousands of people.

And it doesn't give a maximum amount because it doesn't give all the children and the women. It gives the number of men that were there, a count, as it were, 4,000, 5,000. You think, how many more?

And people were following Him constantly because of all the miracles that were taking place. Because there were miracles done from the beginning of His ministry, but on a much smaller plane, not as often. But when He started this final journey, then there was a definite uptick, and finally more being done because it was for this purpose and for the purpose of all the people who would begin coming together and would begin following Him. And so, as He was going down on the east side there, there were people following Him. When He came up to the blind man, there were people all along the way going with them, traveling along with them. And to think that this went all the way down to Bethany as well, all the way into Jerusalem?

These are the people who cried out to Him when He was coming into Jerusalem because they had already witnessed so much of the things that God was doing through Him, that Joshua was doing as far as miracles were concerned, of the healings over and over and over again. As He was leaving Jericho, two more blind men. These are incredible things. And that news, kind of news spreads fast. It truly does.

So here it is, **John 11:41—Then they took away the stone from where the dead was laid. Then Joshua lifted up His eyes and said, Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. Even I know that You always hear Me**. He's saying this for us, for all who would read this. He's saying this for those who were there at that time, who would later understand what He's saying because they didn't understand what was taking place. They didn't understand what was about to take place in Jerusalem itself.

I thank You that You heard Me. Even I know that You always hear Me. But because of the people who stand by, I am saying this, that they may believe that You have sent Me. Powerful! And to think what He's saying here in some of this. It goes on in verse 43.

And just as He said there, “I know that You'll always hear Me.” It really struck me last Sabbath, going through some of this, to think, do we have a confidence? Where is our confidence? What level is our confidence? Because it's something we should know all the time as well. Whenever you go before God, if you've been begotten of God's spirit, you should be stirred up and thankful, excited by the fact that you know that God always hears you. It doesn't matter where you are. Hopefully, we know that. It's just something we should know in our minds. Any moment in time you choose to pray, that God is there, listening, wanting to hear from you, as a parent does from their children. Awesome! And to have that confidence, “I know He hears.”

Verse 43—Then, when He had spoken this, in other words, to the Father, **He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. Then he who was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave cloth, and his face was bound about with a head cloth**. How could he see? If it's wrapped around his head partially and his body's wrapped up as it was? And yet he's able to walk. Almost like one of those old movies. And yet here he's walking toward Joshua; He'd given the ability to do this.

And Joshua told them, Unbind him and let him go. We can't imagine what that would be like, to witness something like that, to see someone come out of a grave, as it were, that had been put there four days before that. Incredible! So He said, "Let him go."

Verse 45—Then many of the Jews who came with Mary, who had seen the things which Joshua did, believed, as it is, **into** or **in Him**. So, it's not just about some Protestant kind of thing. This is the fact that this has to do with who He was. They believed in Him, that He was from God, that He was the Messiah. These are the kinds of things. Or by this time here, especially, that's what they were basically saying. In the beginning of the journey, it wasn't as common, but as you go along, more and more they were saying He was the Son of David, meaning He is the Messiah. Because that's what it's about. It's about the one who would come, who would be the Messiah of the lineage of David. But they were looking for someone to come to take away the Roman rule, to bring them out from under the Roman rule. They had no understanding of what was getting ready to take place.

Verse 46—But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees and told them about the things Joshua had done. So, not all believed. There were always those around, Pharisees, Sadducees, people going back and forth, people who were always with Him along the journey, asking questions, as it were, at different times when they had the opportunity, so they could twist and distort something and take back a message then to Jerusalem, sometimes to gain favor (human nature is sick), but sometimes to gain favor from those that were there, to twist and distort enough to tell false narratives.

To me, as I mentioned last Sabbath, it's like the news today. People put it in their own perspective. That's why you have to consider where it is that this is coming from. What station is it coming from? Because they all have bias, they all have prejudice, and they all present things in a particular narrative. They think they don't, but they do. They can't help it. Human nature.

So it is in Europe. It doesn't matter where it comes from, but you need to know where it comes from. It doesn't mean it's all false, but you have to take it with a grain of salt, part of it knowing what their purpose is. I hope that makes sense.

But some went their way to the Pharisees and told them about the things Joshua had done. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, What can we do, for this Man does many miracles? You'd think just on a physical plane, because there were plenty of people who did, they knew this had to be from God. Nobody's ever experienced this kind of thing, seeing someone do all these things. And so, they recognize that there are many miracles that have been done. You can't deny blind people who can see, people who can't walk, who can now walk. On and on it goes.

What can we do? For this Man does many miracles. If we leave Him alone in this manner, all will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation. So, they had positions that they wanted to keep. They saw things in a different perspective, and it was about them and the power that they had been given, and they were concerned about losing that. And maybe even to

the point of thinking that if enough people begin to believe He is the Messiah and this begins to go out, that He is a King, Rome is going to step in and destroy. They were already causing a lot of problems with the Jews. And so, they're going to come in and take care of us, wipe us out as a nation. And this is, basically, some of what they believed.

Then the story continues, verse 49. They wanted to decide how to deal with Joshua. **Verse 49— Then one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said to them, You know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us that one should die for the people, then**, or as it says here, **and that the whole nation not perish**. So, it's making a comparison here. Basically, it is prophetic in one respect because of what is going to follow and what they're going to do. But basically, here, that's his answer: "He needs to die. It's better that one should die than the whole nation should die, be destroyed by the Romans." That's what they believed.

This he spoke, not of himself, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Joshua should die for the nation. So again, that's what they were led to at this point in time. So they had no understanding what this really meant, but that's exactly what He was going to do. He's going to die for all mankind, not just that nation. **And not for that nation only, but that also He should gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad**. So this is prophetic in itself, but this is a summation of what's being said before this. So again, very powerful in what's being revealed here.

Verse 53. So, from this point on, they begin to plot and scheme what they're going to do and how they're going to do it. **Then from that day forward, they took counsel together, determined to put Him to death**. So, they took what the high priest said, and indeed, this is what they were going to strive to do. There were those who already wanted to do that. There were those who wanted to stone Him for blasphemy because it so went against what they believed because they believed they were right.

Joshua, therefore, no longer walked openly among the Jews. Because it wasn't His time yet. It wasn't time to be stoned. That's the volatility of what He was living around. And so, it says here that "He no longer walked openly among the Jews." So this is happening very quick toward the last period of time here, within about a week, less than a week.

But went from there, in other words, **from Bethany into the country on the edge of the wilderness of Ephraim**. Which is just to the north of Bethany, a little way into basically the hill country there, for the very purpose that others wouldn't be able to follow them or find them. It was kind of like hiding out. So, it was more than just not being in Bethany or not being in Jerusalem, but it was getting away from everyone.

…to the edge of the wilderness of Ephraim. And there He continued with His disciples. Now, the Jews' Passover was drawing near, and many went out from their country up to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. Then they looked for Joshua and spoke among themselves as they stood in the temple. What do you think…? So, this is what some of the discussion was that was going

on. **…will He not come up to the Feast?** Is He not coming? Is He going to show up or not? Because no one can find Him right now.

Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given commandment that if anyone knew where He was, they should reveal it, that they might take Him. Why? They want to kill Him. That's their purpose. That's their motive.

Then we come to where it's now within one week before Passover. It's less than that. In **John 12:1**, it says, **Then six days before the Passover**. So, the timing now becomes more important. The things that are spoken of become more important because it's leading up to that day. And especially the timing from Passover on to that following Sunday becomes extremely important, things that have been ignored by traditional Christianity, if you will.

…six days before the Passover. So, sometime on a Thursday. This is on Abib or Nisan the 8th. **Joshua went to Bethany again, where Lazarus was, who had been dead…whom He had risen from the dead. And while there**, in other words, still in Bethany, **they made Him a dinner**. This is actually Friday evening then. So, they went down there Thursday, and now this is into Friday, that Friday evening.

And Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Joshua, and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment. Now, there's something unique or important here to notice at this point in time, being that period of time, this is an important day because it sets aside the Passover lamb. This is on the tenth.

When the Sabbath began that Friday evening on through the Sabbath, this is that particular day when they were told, in essence through the Old Testament, to pick out a lamb that would be the Passover, to be used for the Passover. So again, this was a Sabbath meal on that Friday evening, beginning of the 10th day of the month, and again, what was commanded back there, back in Exodus 12, that they should do. The lamb to be set aside. What an awesome thing, the picture of all this.

Verse 4—Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him said… So, right away it reveals something about his thinking, his mind that finally comes out that hadn't been known by others before. Joshua knew, but it wasn't known. He knew exactly what was to come to pass, the things He had to live through, the betrayal and so forth.

And so Judas Iscariot does, **Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?** You look at something like that and you realize what a sick attitude of someone who's seen all that they have, all the things that have been said about Him, all the miracles that have been done, to know on a physical plane here, this is not normal, God has to be working with Him, and yet to have such carnality of the mind. Though not baptized, though not having the impregnation of God's spirit, none of

them did, they saw enough to make judgments that their judgment should have been different, his should have been different.

So again, “Why wasn't this sold and given to the poor?” The problem was that wasn't his real motive. He didn't see himself. He didn't know his own mind and where this was coming from. It goes on to say, **He said this, not because he cared for the poor**. That wasn't his motivation.

I have seen these things ever since I've been in God's Church that have happened with people who do have the impregnation of God's spirit. People who murmur and complain. One of the biggest times I've ever experienced that was during the time that Herbert Armstrong wanted to build the auditorium, a house to honor God, as it were. So many people found fault with that, large numbers of people, congregation after congregation across and around the world. It wasn't just here in the U.S.

So, again here, finding fault with God's apostle. They didn't grasp. They didn't understand. They didn't support. They had attitudes of where “their tithes” were being used. And the point is, and the point they should have learned a long time ago, it is not, never was, their tithe! That's a mind-boggling thing sometimes to think about human beings and people who have the impregnation of God's spirit because this is our past. And I'm not talking about a few people, I'm talking about large numbers of people, into the thousands, who had that kind of a mind to condemn, to find fault with God's apostle. Their judgment was better than his. That alone! That alone is preposterous, insane. To allow one's thinking to get that far, to not be able to see it anymore. It shows the weakness that had to enter into a lot of people and the thinking that had to enter into their minds to begin finding fault with what they're doing with “my tithes.” Once it's given, once it's God's, you have no control over it whatsoever. That's the way it is. Amazing. But they didn't understand that. Being led by God's spirit to do these things, who's to judge?

So, he was a thief. It shows something in the mind is missing. Something in his mind was missing because he was thinking in a certain way, and it wasn't because he was so noble and had a great desire for the poor. He just didn't like what happened. He saw waste. He saw it should have been used in a different way. He was making judgment about how it should be used in a different way, and even more than that, as it goes on to show here.

Because he was a thief and had the purse. He carried the money; he was the treasurer. So, anything that came in, he was responsible for taking care of it and for paying out and whatever. But it says he was a thief. Think Christ knew about that? You think he handled it really well the whole time, speaking of Judas? Absolutely not. And Joshua knew it.

I think of the things we've seen in God's Church through time. It's a marvel what happened during the period of time of Herbert Armstrong when the State of California tried to come in and take over basically the running of the church and put in a judge, as it were, receivership. And they brought in all these lawyers and different ones and started paying them from the funds of the church. So, Herbert Armstrong, being in Arizona, very quickly made a decision to stop money being sent to headquarters as

far as tithes were concerned, and we started sending money to Arizona, to Herbert W. Armstrong, a Corporation Sole. Because they were using the money of the Church.

And then when it started drying up, they weren't so excited about staying around anymore. It kind of melted away. But it brought to the surface evangelists who were doing things they shouldn't be doing, trying to accomplish things they shouldn't have tried to accomplish, trying to usurp God's government in the Church. Anyway.

So, there was a time then that Herbert Armstrong wanted to put someone over the treasury of the Church. And what is an amazing thing, he chose a minister out of the Houston, Texas Church, a pastor, Leroy Neff. And he chose him and had him come to headquarters because the reality was he couldn't trust any of the evangelists who were at headquarters to do that job. What a sad state of affairs. I hope we can grasp and see how far things had gone by that particular period of time, that he had to go to that extreme to bring someone in because he knew and made comment about in times past about who basically controlled the finances of the Church. But he was a very faithful individual, and Herbert Armstrong knew it.

So, anyway, why we've had to go through these things? Well, we're to learn from them. We're to learn from this, to realize these things have happened generation after generation after generation through time in God's Church, even with people who have the impregnation of God's spirit, which is far, far worse.

But Joshua said, Let her alone. She has kept this for the day of My burial. Now, they didn't understand what He was saying to them, “the day of My burial.” They had no comprehension of what was getting ready to happen.

For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always. So, He's showing here that this was right and this was just. Not what you wanted to do, and going out and using it for the poor, because they're always going to be here, but there's something more important here. And they couldn't see it. They learned later, once they were filled with God's spirit on the day of Pentecost, and a lot of things that were learned then.

But a lot of these things have been written for the Church through time because the Church should always be able to understand and see these things, and as they have happened through time as well. Just as we should be able to see our history and what happened during Philadelphia. Incredible.

So again, this is built up to the 10th day of the month, again, when the Lamb was set aside.

Let's pick it up here now in Mark 14. So it leads up to this period of time here, leads up to two accounts that are recorded in both Matthew and in Mark, and we're only going to read the one in Mark right now and jumping ahead to over a little over two days before Passover. Some of these things go back and forth, and it really makes it hard sometimes to follow, to know the timing. But we're going to go back and

forth here a little bit over two days, in other words, on the 11th day of the first month, which was Sunday. It's going to come to that point in time as we go through some of this story.

Mark 14:1—After two days will be the Passover. So we're jumping ahead to a point here where it's showing here that there are going to be two days. So, it's starting going back here to the 11th up to sundown on the 13th is what we're coming up to. That's when it's talking about Passover **…and Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might take Him by craft**… In other words, trickery, deceit, how they could work this out. **…and put Him to death. But they said, not on the Feast day**. So, already they had already decided this can't happen on the High Day. **… unless there be an uproar of the people**. So, they themselves are pushing this time period, if you will, this time frame to fit in exactly what God's purpose is in the first place. Amazing.

Because God's going to work it out. He works things out according to His timing. Obviously, that was an exceedingly important one, that everything happened exactly at a specific time, that He be put to death exactly at a specific time, that He be taken down at exactly at a specific time, put in the tomb at exactly a specific time, and on we go. All these things mapped out. Awesome.

Things that are happening at the end of this age are happening just as specifically. We just don't know what they all are yet. One day we'll know it all, we'll be able to see it all and marvel. Because there is an order to everything God does. Very specific.

Verse 3—Now, being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, he sat at dinner. So, now Mark is now going back two days to explain what led up to this point. **There came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment, of spikenard, which was very precious**. In other words, very costly, of a great price. **…and she broke the box and poured it on His head. Then there were some who had indignation in themselves**. So, again, that attitude, indignation, you know, this self-righteousness. Sometimes these things are just mind-boggling, how the human mind can be.

…and said, why was this waste of the ointment made? For it could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and have been given to the poor or **the needy. And they murmured against her**. So, that attitude can affect others, others who hear such things; people begin finding fault.

And that's happened over and over again. One person begins to be outspoken about something, finds some or a group of people that they automatically go to, who they feel will agree with them. You know, this is an awesome thing. They don't go to people who they know are going to stand up to them and tell them, "No, that isn't right." It never works out that way. It's amazing.

It's kind of like a vacuum cleaner. They go around and find others who think the same way, who are of the same spirit and attitude, and they get sucked into the same thing, and they begin finding fault and begin doing the same sort of thing as Judas Iscariot was doing, finding fault with how it was used. They agree with him. They already had the attitudes. Incredible.

I was thinking this morning, as I was looking at some of this, I could go through story after—probably drive you nuts—but I could go through story after story after story of things that happened throughout Philadelphia, things that happened throughout Laodicea even worse, and things that have happened throughout our period of time.

Mark 14:10—Now Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went into the chief priest to betray Him unto them. So, when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. Then he sought how he might conveniently betray Him. I think this is something that is in one respect on a spiritual plane probably most people have to experience within the Church, betrayal. Because there are things you learn through the process. There's knowledge we can be given, but to experience certain things is on a totally different realm. And to experience betrayal can be a healthy thing spiritually because it helps you to focus on the things that you need to focus on more, and to realize the weightier things that God has given us and the more meaningful things that God has given to us.

Because the reality is, we can only work with self. We can only change self. We can only yield to God by our own choices, not anyone else's. And those things hurt. But you know, I think about God. Ever since the beginning He's been betrayed over and over and over again. The first 4,000 years, we might be able to understand a little more, in that respect, because we can say they didn't have the Church, they didn't have the begettal of God's spirit in the same way. They were given that, certain ones were, but not through the process of the Church as it was done later in an organized manner. It was directly from God Himself. We can look at some of those things.

But when you get to the Church, and you experience some of those things, you think of Christ and going to Jerusalem, and He's betrayed by a whole nation of people, as it were, the leaders, “and sent to His own, and His own wouldn't receive Him.” But on a spiritual plane, it becomes much worse. That's why when you get into Pentecost, and it isn't too long, a year or so later, and things begin to happen within the Church very early on.

Paul speaks of when he began to go to different areas and preach, and so forth, and there were people who began to turn away from what they were given. Sometimes, well, it's hard to understand all those things. But we all have choices and we don't all choose the same things. But some of the worst sometimes is when you have, as it were, that which on a spiritual plane goes through your heart, and it hurts. We know what that kind of hurt is like, and we experience that. But then we choose as well as we hurt that which is greater and better and more meaningful to our lives. because we realize this is where the answers are. This is where the life to come is all about. A life far greater in relationships and closeness than anything you could ever experience on a physical plane. That's what God puts before us.

And so, we make those kinds of choices that no one else can make for us. It doesn't mean it's easy, but it creates something within the mind that can be very powerful that God will use. And it has to do with standing for God, putting God first. It's about what we really count to be more important in our lives. So,

we have to go through things like this that are uncomfortable, that are uneasy, that are difficult. But what is ahead is far, far greater and worth the battle and worth the fight. But that's up to each individual.

Now, we'll go to Matthew 21. Returning to the story flow on the 10th day of the first month, which was a weekly Sabbath preceding Passover, beginning on that Friday night, that Friday evening, especially after sunset, some of the things that took place into that 10th day and Mary poured out that expensive oil on Him at that point in time, having great meaning.

Matthew 21:1—Now when they drew near to Jericho, and had come to Bethphage, or it's sometimes pronounced "Bethaegee", **unto the Mount of Olives, then Joshua sent two disciples**. So now this process is beginning where He's going to begin going directly into Jerusalem. **…and said unto them, go into the next village next to you, and right away you'll find a donkey tied up and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to Me. Now if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, the Lord has need of them, and right away he will send them**. What an incredible thing, telling someone to go do something like this, "and just go get these, and if anybody asks you," because He knows they are. It's all planned out. Incredible.

All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, tell the daughter of Zion. This is interesting to note, what's being said here. It says, **tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your King comes unto you meek and sitting upon a donkey, and a colt, the foal of a donkey. So the disciples went and did as Joshua instructed them and brought the donkey and the colt, and put on them their clothes**, on the donkeys, as it were, **and set Him thereon**.

Now, when it says this prophecy here about Zion, the daughter of Zion, that's the Church. It's about the future. To think back about our Passover and how we came into Jerusalem and the attitude of humility and meekness that He had, the humility, the willingness to do whatever, to ride on a donkey like this, to be brought before the people as He was. And not on a great horse of some sort as a King, but on a donkey to become the Passover. So, it's about God's people learning and understanding that spirit and that mind and that humility, as it were, that we are to strive to emulate and have in our life.

Verse 8—Then a very great multitude spread their garments in the way. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them in the way. Now, we need to know these people, where'd they come from? Did they just come out down the streets, "Oh, we hear Him. He's coming into Jerusalem"? Yeah, they heard it all right.

But all the people who had been with Him, so many who had followed all the way down, people who were going to go to Jerusalem as it were anyway, but so many who went with Him on the way down, and all the way from Jericho, all the way through Bethany, experienced this thing of Lazarus and him being resurrected, and went on into Jerusalem. And these stories were being told, and people were believing what they were hearing. These are the people who are out there as He's coming into Jerusalem, the people who have already seen so much of what He did. That's what it says.

Even the multitudes that went before and that followed cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David. This is what they believed: He is the Son of David, which is another way of saying He is the prophesied Messiah. **…Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord**. In other words, He's come from God in the name of the Lord. That's who they're speaking of, God Almighty, and they're saying, "He's come in His name. He is the Son of David. He is the Messiah."

…Hosanna in the highest. Then, when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? So again here, this spread. It's hard to grasp. There were so many. It doesn't say the number, but undoubtedly into the thousands, just as it had been in all that had traveled with Him. And here they are lining the streets, and people are hearing this noise and this crying out as they did. And they want to know what's happening because they haven't been with Him, all the people there of Jerusalem who live there. These are people who had come in for a purpose for the Passover season, the Days of Unleavened Bread, to purify themselves before Passover and so forth.

So, then when He'd come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Joshua, the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee. So again, telling where He was from, telling who He was.

Then Mark, we just read, says basically the same thing, and then adds, **Mark 11:11—Then Joshua entered into Jerusalem, and then into the temple. Now, when He had looked**… It says, **As He had looked around at everything there, and by then the evening had come, He went forth to Bethany** or "**back to**" as the word is in the Greek here, **back to Bethany with the twelve**. So at this point here, He had made His first journey, as it were, into Jerusalem. People lined the streets, and they were crying out about the Son of David, Hosanna, and crying out, as it were, to God, excited, thankful, putting their own clothing in the streets in some cases, palms and the like throughout the street, as it were, to pave the way. And so, this is the story flow.

But now it talks about how He went back then to Bethany. He didn't go back into the hills now because He was coming up to Passover pretty quickly here.

Let's go over to Luke's account. It adds even more. Luke 19. This is the account where they were going for the donkey, as it were, donkeys**. Luke 19:33—Now, as they were untying the colt, the owners thereof said to them, why are you untying the colt?** You think, "This is a pretty awkward thing." You're told to go into town. You listen to what He says. "You're going to find these. It's going to be very obvious, the colt, the donkeys there, and you're going to untie them, and you're to bring them to Me."

In a lot of cases, people would call that stealing. But no, "My master has need of them." So if anyone asks you, tell them He has need and they'll give it to you. So, this is exactly what happens. **So they did ask him, why are you in tying these?** Because it's like, "What business do you have taking away my donkey?" you know. So, this is where we are.

Then they said, the Lord has need of it. So they did what He said. **So, they brought it to Joshua and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Joshua on it. Then, as He went, they spread their clothes in the way. And when He came near, even now at the descent of the Mount of Olives**… So what an incredible thing here.

I've been blessed to see it. Just seeing those things in your mind is an awesome thing because you see this one side of this large hill as it comes down into a valley and then comes back up to where the temple would have been. And here they are making this descent on the side of town, on the Mount of Olives.

And the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen. So, these are the people that are out there. They had been with Him at different points, if not even those who had come all the way in following Him from that time as He's coming down into Bethany itself. But many others who had come in who had already been with Him at different times and seen some of the miracles He had done, and these are the people that gathered together as He was coming into Jerusalem.

And so again, they were crying out because of all they had already seen. He is the Son of David. He is from God. **…saying, Blessed be the King**. Because that's the Messiah. That's what they believed. That's what they saw. **…who comes in the name of the Lord**. So again, now calling it out for exactly what it is, the King, the Messiah, who comes in the name of the Lord. He does it in God's name, as it were. God sent Him. **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest**.

So, they were moved, incredibly so, by this event, even, as it were, as close as they could have on a spiritual plane. Because this was deep inside of them, and God was giving that to them, a portion of an experience of something to see and know and understand to a point without being impregnated yet with God's spirit.

You know, we go through different things at different times, and we don't grasp it, and sometimes we forget if we're not careful, the process whereby God drew us out of the world. The process whereby He began to open the mind and give things that we would otherwise not know, not understand. It's something spiritual because of God's spirit. We're able to begin seeing something because of God's spirit, not because of our own ability. And we have that, then, those experiences in our lives are things that we begin to see that God is pouring out in order to draw us. Sometimes, as the word says, to drag us. Because sometimes we resist in a part of that. But God has a purpose, and He will drag us to that point and give us those opportunities, knowing our nature, knowing how we are, and knowing how we will respond.

Verse 39—Then some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said to Him, said to Christ, because of all this outroar. This is loud. This is powerful. Not talking about ten, twenty, forty, fifty people, a hundred people, talking about a few thousand who were all along the way here, and this roar, and all

saying some of the same things. That's why these verses here are powerful and incredible in what they say and what Christ has to say.

So, the Pharisees said to Him, Teacher, rebuke or **warn Your disciples**. In other words, to them, "This isn't right. This isn't proper. This isn't good that they should say, 'The King comes in the name of the Lord.'" Because they're thinking in a totally different way about themselves and so forth.

Then He answered them, saying, I tell you, that if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. Powerful. Stones. The noise, it's going to be said. Either they're going to do it, or stones are going to do it. Now, they couldn't understand any of that, but incredible what He had to say here because He said, "This is by the power of God that this is happening. God can make it come out whatever, in whatever means." That's where it's coming from. Again, they couldn't understand these things.

Then, when He came near, He looked upon the city and wept over it. I'll tell you what, it's hard for us to grasp the emotion of things He experienced.

That's why it should be easier to not understand but know that He was exceedingly moved when He came across the Jordan River. That almost, as it were, sends chills up and down my spine. Because He knew exactly what He was going to fulfill. The Joshua that had gone before Him. And you think, what a conniving, sick, perverted thing Satan did. But that's the way Satan is. But of all the world who has followed that deception and taken away that name that means so much. Because He was the Joshua to come who was going to fulfill what the first only did on a physical plane. He was coming to do it on a spiritual one. You think He was moved, incredibly so, with incredible emotion?

…saying, If you had known. So again here, it says He wept over the city now. So again, He's being moved by great emotion. He's getting ready to die. He knows this in His mind in ways, again, we can't begin to understand or grasp. We can strive to appreciate it, but to grasp what was in His mind, what He knew because of what's written in the Old Testament, because that mind is in Him? That mind is in Him, the mind of God, the Word of God. And He knows exactly what He's going to fulfill.

Just as something as simple as going into Jerusalem, finding the donkey, the colt, and then untying them and saying, "If someone asks you what you're doing, just tell them the Lord has need of them." "Your Master," or whatever, "has need of them." These things are all in His mind because God has given it to Him. Awesome. Far above and beyond what we experience in God's Church with God's impregnation of God's spirit, truly.

And so, moved with emotion looking over Jerusalem and seeing what people are like, seeing what Jerusalem has gone through through the ages, knowing what it's yet going to go through. Awesome.

…and wept over it, saying, If you had known, even you, at least in this your day… "What's taking place right now, if you just…If you just knew." There was that desire that He wished they could see, but it's not

for them yet. “If only you could see and know.” Because He's moved by all the suffering and seeing all the suffering that's going on of mankind and what mankind is like. You think of the world today…

…the things which belong unto your peace. In other words, what's going to bring you peace? Where are you going to be able to have Jerusalem? Not yet. It's in the future. City of Peace? And He's the one who's going to make the way for that. It's very moving to Him. That's why He wept like He did when He saw it, looked over it, realized what He's getting ready to do. Because He's not going in for a picnic. He's going in to do something excruciating and we have a hard time grasping the depth of that, truly.

But now they're hidden from your eyes. You can't see. So, that would be moving indeed. We experience different times of being moved by certain things that we see, certain things that we would desire that others could see and can't. We see God's purpose and God's plan that's coming, being fulfilled.

Anyway, **Luke 19:43—For the days will come upon you that our enemies will cast a rampart about you and encompass you and press you on every side**. Now, this should be really moving to us.

…and will lay you low, and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another. Pretty powerful. That's what it leads up to. **…because you did not know the time of your visitation** (of your inspection). So, a lot's said here. And truly, the Apostasy fits in this exceedingly well.

Because you think of Jerusalem, what Jerusalem is about. You think of God's work, Joshua bringing it to pass to where coming into Jerusalem to fulfill Passover and then what was going to happen after He was resurrected, 50 days later, and the ability of mankind then to have an organized system, the Church, the Body of Christ, to be impregnated with God's holy spirit, and this process, we would go through time as Jerusalem itself is being molded and fashioned, as the daughter of Zion is being molded and fashioned in a far greater way. The majority of those to become a part of the 144,000, taken out of that following 2,000 years. Awesome, awesome, awesome! And then leading up to a time that it's going to suffer in a way that it has never suffered.

Two Apostasies in all the earth through time that are heinous and hideous. In the first one, he tried to destroy the earth. And the second one, tried to destroy what God was building on a spiritual plane, the Church. Look how close it came. Look how close it came. What happened that we've lived through at this end time – an Apostasy. Few left, but for a purpose, to accomplish something that leads up to Christ's actual coming. Not meant to be large, not meant to be great in the sense of what it could accomplish with as much as it had. That was done before, a kind of witness, as it were.

But to understand that so much of this is literally being said about what would happen. They're going to come up around you. They're going to gather around you. It's going to happen one more time but not succeed. I hope you know when that is. Anyway.

But here it’s talking about this particular time when one stone wouldn't be left upon another. It's pretty descriptive. We should know what those things are. All the Temple was cast down in Jerusalem, spiritual

Jerusalem. So, to know who we are, to know what God has given to us is a marvelous thing, an exciting thing, an inspiring thing, and sometimes it's hard for us to grasp. We're small. We're puny in size. We're not the great of the world. The Church has never been the great of the world. But to have that confidence of knowing that God has called a few at the end here to do what we're able to be a part of? Mind-boggling. And it should be exciting and inspiring.

We're going to see things in front of us that are going to be so incredible, of things you get to live through, the things you get to experience. And it doesn't mean it's all going to be good either, obviously, but we're going to see awesome things be accomplished.

Think about all these things that happened just before Christ went into Jerusalem. He's not coming to be one who fulfills Passover. That's been done. This time, He's coming with power. We're going to experience some of those things that are absolutely incredible. Anyway, we'll continue on next Sabbath with the flow of this.

But I had several requests in the past here to please read some news. So, some like this and some don't. But, you know, we need to keep abreast of what's happening in the world, and it's really kind of hard to watch what's taking place. And the volatility, the changing spirit and attitude, especially in Europe, of a shift. We see a little bit at a time, and sometimes just to back up and look at all that's happened in a short space of time, in just not even a year yet, of attitudes and things that we have known are going to come to pass, should be a marvel to you because you are able to be part in the sense of watching and observing what's taking place.

Here is one: **The Royal Navy Is Forming a 'Mini-NATO' Inside NATO.**[1] It's a unique headline. But it shows something very powerful. It's pulling away from the U.S. There is a separation we're experiencing that's taking place. An attitude and a shift in attitude and thinking toward this country. It's getting pretty strong over there, Europe, through different countries, especially, right now, even more so. There comes a time when they're going to act upon what they do. It's kind of mind-boggling, but we're watching these things come to pass.

It goes on to say here: "'We know we have no time to lose, which is why by the end of this year, I want us all to have signed a formal declaration, laying the foundations for what will be a vital and enduring partnership for many years to come,' the First Sea Lord said. 'I aim to create a maritime force that trains, exercises, and prepares together. A force designed to fight immediately if required, with real capabilities, real war plans, and real integration.'"

So, it's not the fact that they're going to be able to have this, or he's going to be able to have this to the degree he wants; it's the thinking that this is what we need, this is what we should strive for. And I think

[1] Peter Suciu, "*The Royal Navy Is Forming a 'MiniNATO' Inside NATO*," **The National Interest**, May 1, 2026, https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/royal-navy-forming-mini-nato-inside-nato-ps-050126.

it's very interesting too to note that Great Britain is very much in the midst of this. They keep hanging in there in the midst of all this. And I'll just be candid with you, I would not be shocked. Just because they're a part of the scattering of Israel, today they're not much of Israel, to be real candid with you, and that's why they're having incredible problems there right now to the degree that some are talking about some revolting and it's like crazy talk. But they're in bad straits. But to see it, to not be shocked if they become part? It wouldn't shock me if they were part of the ten. I'll just be real candid with you.

Another one here: **UK unveils plan for 10-country Nordic naval alliance to counter Russian maritime threat.**[2] This is what the scare is over there. We don't live close to that. They have a history. World War I. World War II. And they see it, something else materializing in a different format this time, but a need to counteract Russia. Because they really believe with all their might that Ukraine is just the tip of the iceberg and what Russia wants in time. Whether it was real or not, it doesn't matter. It's what they believe, and they believe this.

It's like what's happening in Poland. They're finding so many undercover or spies, if you will, coming out of Russia into Poland right now it's scary to them. Why? Because they think they might be next. Belarus up there, some of the things taking place? It doesn't take a lot for the imagination to think that they might want to come into there. And then if that's NATO? Europe is concerned about these things in ways we can't grasp. And so, at some point in time, we know God is going to allow them to come together in ten nations. We see these kinds of things in their thinking. It's already there, planted in the mind.

Another one here: **Trump says US will reduce troop presence in Germany 'a lot further' than initial 5,000 withdrawal.**[3] So, 5,000 is not a big number in the sense of all that are in Europe, but it says something to Europe. It says the same thing as what they've been experiencing already: "We can't expect them to come to our rescue. Here they're taking out 5,000. They may take out more." And he keeps talking like that, so it's got them thinking in a certain way. "We've got to do it ourselves. We can't have this partnership." So, they're between a rock and a hard place as far as they're concerned.

"Trump indicated without sharing details that a substantial further reduction of US troop presence in Germany was imminent, just a day after the Pentagon announced a withdrawal of 5,000 soldiers. Trump has also threatened earlier in the week to rollback troops in Spain and Italy. … Asked on Saturday on the reason behind the reduction in troop presence in the country, Trump declined to offer an explanation, instead noting that an even bigger reduction was imminent, as the Republican president seeks to scale

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[2] Pietro Guastamacchia, "*UK Unveils Plan for 10Country Nordic Naval Alliance to Counter Russian Maritime Threat*," **Euractiv**, April 29, 2026, last updated April 30, 2026, https://www.euractiv.com/news/uk-unveils-plan-for-10-country-nordic-naval-alliance-to-counter-russian-maritime-threat.

[3] Malek Fouda, "*Trump Says US Will Reduce Troop Presence in Germany 'a Lot Further' Than Initial 5,000 Withdrawal*," **Euronews**, published May 3, 2026, updated May 4, 2026, https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2026/05/03/trump-says-us-will-reduce-troop-presence-in-germany-a-lot-further-than-initial-5000-withdr.

back US commitment to European security. 'We're going to cut way down. And we're cutting a lot further than 5,000…'"

So, it's that kind of rhetoric, one thing to another. They see it as attacking them. They see it as undermining them. They see it as selling them out. That's what they see. That's what they believe.

Another one here: **New Trump Tariffs Risk Plunging Germany into Recession – Expert.**[4] "Germany could slide into a recession in 2026 due to new US tariffs, Head of the IFO Institute for Economic Research Clemens Fuest said. The increase in tariffs will strike the German automotive industry, which is already in a precarious position. Should this lead to a renewal trade war or renewed trade war," in other words, between the EU and the US, "Germany would face the threat of a recession in 2026. US President Donald Trump previously announced his intention to impose a 25% tariff on cars and trucks from the European Union starting next week, arguing that the bloc is failing to honor its trade agreements with the United States."

You know, the perfect person for the perfect time. It's the time. It's what's supposed to happen because of what it's supposed to produce in time. And so, certain things are allowed to take place, and it's all a matter of timing, too. We ought to be able to see this. It's awesome because it's a matter of timing. And because of the timing of what's taking place right now, it's easier to see how this is ratcheting up faster and faster. It truly is. There's only so much time that certain ones have to have the effect that is needed to create what's supposed to happen in God's time and the way God says it will because it's going to happen exactly as God said.

Another one here: **Nato is 'disintegrating', Donald Tusk says in urgent call to action.**[5] So, they see it over there. They realize that this is falling apart. What do they have, meaning, what do we have to protect us from the east?

UAE reports large fire at oil port as it accuses Iran of missile and drone attacks.[6] This is kind of interesting here: they've backed out of, now, OPEC. Incredible! Things that are happening are mind-boggling in the Middle East right now. And so the UAE is backed out of OPEC, and so they're not tied to the same things that Saudi Arabia has had control over for a long, long time in the sense of their presence. Anyway, a lot of things are happening very fast, and it's hard for us sometimes to grasp because we hear little at a time. But they're big.

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[4] "*New Trump Tariffs Risk Plunging Germany into Recession — Expert*," **Sputnik**, May 3, 2026, https://sputnikglobe.com/20260503/new-trump-tariffs-risk-plunging-germany-into-recession---expert-1124076087.html.

[5] Maryam ZakirHussain, "*Nato Is 'Disintegrating', Donald Tusk Says in Urgent Call to Action*," **The Independent**, accessed May 11, 2026, https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/nato-donald-tusk-us-germany-trump-b2969506.html.

[6] "*UAE Reports Large Fire at Oil Port as It Accuses Iran of Missile and Drone Attacks*," **BBC News**, 4 May 2026, https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c1wz2ld4535t?page=3.

Question here: **Ceasefire Over? US Mum As UAE, Israel Prepare Military Response After Fresh Iranian Cross-Gulf Missile Attack.**[7]

Another one: **UAE Expels 15,000 Pakistani Shia Workers…**[8] This is also a problem over there. Shia is Iraq. Sunni, in the Muslim world, are so many of the others. They have their own history of not getting along. And now, especially if they're lobbing missiles over toward them, destroying some of their infrastructure in the sense of oil and the like, and their future economic prosperity, they're not happy campers, and they're striking out in a certain way.

The place is in absolute turmoil over there—it really is—over something seemingly so small. But it isn't small. And one day, this can change so quickly, even over there. It's a matter of the Shia and a matter of Pakistan... Anyway, I don't even want to get into that.

Here's another one: **'We can and we will strike': Iran threatens European military bases amid Hormuz escalation.**[9] Some of these things are almost comical when you read them. And yet they can create a lot of havoc. And more than that, it creates panic to think that they might be able to do certain things. Anyway.

"Iran attacked ships in Hormuz and struck the UAE again as hardliners threatened that European bases could become legitimate targets. Tehran also issued its own Strait of Hormuz navigation map, warning U.S. Navy ships and oil tankers from crossing."

You know what? The stubbornness there, I couldn't help but think today, earlier, of the Great White Throne. You think of people who are so obstinate, who are so entrenched in their own way and having their own way to the point of not even caring if they pretty much get wiped out. They're not going to change. They're not going to give in. They're going to do whatever they want to do. They're going to speak big, talk big, and try to do big if they can. And yet you think, how could you be that nuts?

And you think, how could you be that nuts in the Great White Throne after you've seen everything that God's Family and the world has done over 1,000 years? I'll tell you what, it's going to be awesome to see what has happened after a thousand years of working on this earth, rebuilding this earth, doing things with technology in ways that right now we're just scratching the surface of. There is so much more.

And yet people are going to be resurrected, and they're going to have that attitude of mind that they're going to want their way so much because they hate God's way so much that they'll hold on to it knowing

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[7] "*Ceasefire Over? Trump Downplays 'MiniWar' After US & Iranians Trade Shots, Missiles Target UAE*," **ZeroHedge**, accessed May 11, 2026, https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/iran-threatens-attack-us-navy-hormuz-pentagon-rejects-irgc-claim-american-warship-hit.

[8] "*UAE Expels 15,000 Pakistani Shia Workers, Seizes Bank Accounts and Assets*," **ABNA English**, 3 May 2026, News ID 1809159, https://en.abna24.com/news/1809159/UAE-Expels-15-000-Pakistani-Shia-Workers-Seizes-Bank-Accounts.

[9] "*'We Can and We Will Strike': Iran Threatens European Military Bases Amid Hormuz Escalation*," **Euronews**, 5 May 2026, https://www.euronews.com/2026/05/05/we-can-and-we-will-strike-iran-threatens-european-military-bases-amid-hormuz-escalation.

what they're told is going to happen when it's all said and done. “You're going to die. Choose life or death.” You think, well, if that's what you want, then that's what you'll get. That kind of carnality is kind of hard to understand because it's kind of insane, isn't it? It really is.

German Navy prepares for deployment in the Strait of Hormuz.[10] Well, about time somebody gets down there.

You know, you think of all the stupidity, and if something else is not even hardly reported on, China, and they're going to have a visit. And you think of all the things that are going on because of what's happening through the Strait of Hormuz. They need oil. And it's kind of like they’re in a bad, bad position right now. And so, what are they going to do? Well, they have all these minerals and so forth, and all the games that nations play sometimes, but it's all leading to an incredible war.

What's incredible is the world, governments know, China as well, they're going to lash out at some point in time here; their whole objective is war. That's what they want. They want power, and they're set out for war. That's what they're geared up to. Incredible.

Another one here: **Germans' military power is on the rise. This time, it must be firmly embedded in Europe.**[11] “As we mark the 81st anniversary of the end of the second world war in Europe this Friday, 8 May, it’s clear that Germany will again be the leading European military power. Already next year, its defence spending will be as much as that of France and Britain combined – and it is projected to be significantly larger by 2030. The German government’s declared goal is to have the strongest conventional army in Europe.”

Just because these things are reported doesn't mean that this is what has to come to pass, but it shows the mindset and where people are moving in their thinking. Something's going to push them together at some point when they're not ready. Because the whole point of it is they're not going to be ready for what comes.

“True, France and Britain have nuclear weapons, but that means less money to spend on the rest of defense. So the question is not, will this happen? Barring unforeseen developments, it will. The question, particularly on this solemn anniversary, is: how can we ensure that this time the growth of German military power is a positive development for all of Europe? There are two reasons Germany has made such a radical departure from the (increasingly mistaken) stance it took all the way from the hopeful 1990s to Vladimir Putin’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022. The first is precisely that Russian aggression.” In essence, that’s what it’s about. It’s why they’re doing the things they’re doing

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[10] Nina Werkhäuser, “*Germany Prepares for Mission in the Strait of Hormuz*,” **Yahoo News UK**, 5 May 2026, https://uk.news.yahoo.com/germany-prepares-mission-strait-hormuz-143700536.html.

[11] **Timothy Garton Ash, “Germany’s military power is on the rise. This time it must be firmly embedded in Europe,” *The Guardian*, 4 May 2026,** https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2026/may/04/germany-military-power-rise-embedded-europe-us-trump.

now, because they see Russia is a direct threat to them because they don't believe it's going to stop with Ukraine.

"In Berlin, there's a growing consensus that Putin won't stop at Ukraine. The second is that the US president, Donald Trump, has now put in question the entire American commitment to the defense of Europe, as manifested through Nato since 1949." What an incredible thing here to realize it's going down the toilet, and you're living over there and you're trying, you want to be protected from what you believe is getting ready to railroad over you. We don't have those worries over here. I think of what happened before World War II—we tried to stay out of everything.

"The recently announced withdrawal of 5,000 (and possibly more) US troops from Germany is just one more sign of that." And it is just one more small sign. "The announcement rather than the move itself was triggered by Trump's personal pique [irritation] at the German chancellor Friedrich Merz's criticism of his disastrous war against Iran." Everybody's getting along so well.

Türkiye unveils its first ICBM…[12] That's just what we need. I think of what is prophetic about them, still to watch in time and their betrayal, whether it be against the nation of Israel, whether it be against the U.S., whether it be both, whether it be against whatever.

Another one here: **France moves carrier into Red Sea ahead of potential Hormuz mission.**[13] So, now that the door has been opened up, some others kind of get in on a little bit. Anyway. You've got to kind of laugh at things that happen in the world, politics and the things that take place. So sick.

Here's a report that says, "Almost 1,600 vessels stuck near the Strait of Hormuz." Can you imagine? They can't get out? Wasn't there one that was a cruise ship that was inside there? Just where you want to go on a cruise. Anyway. Or get caught. Was that virus worse? Hmm. Nah. Take the virus any day. Oh, sorry.

Then it says: "First Chinese tanker attacked near Hormuz as Beijing urges waterway reopened." They're hurting.

Europeans want to break free from US – survey.[14] A survey that was done. Incredible.

U.K. election results mark "historic shift in British politics," Trump ally Farage says as big parties reel.[15] So, I'm just going to read the article. They're having a lot of problems over there and a lot of

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[12] **"Türkiye unveils its first ICBM (PHOTOS, VIDEO),"** ***RT World News*****, 5 May 2026,** https://www.rt.com/news/639492-türkiye-unveils-intercontinental-ballistic-missile.

[13] **Rudy Ruitenberg, "France moves carrier into Red Sea ahead of potential Hormuz mission,"** ***Defense News*****, 6 May 2026,** https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2026/05/06/france-moves-carrier-into-red-sea-ahead-of-potential-hormuz-mission

[14] **"Europeans want to break free from US – survey,"** ***RT World News*****, 7 May 2026,** https://www.rt.com/news/639590-european-want-us-independence

[15] **Inaya Folarin Iman, "U.K. election results mark 'historic shift in British politics,' Trump ally Farage says as big parties reel,"** ***CBS News*****, 8 May 2026,** https://www.cbsnews.com/news/uk-election-results-keir-starmer-labour-reform-nigel-farage

problems in Europe; they're all related to migration. They have a lot bigger problem than what we do because what has migrated there is different than what's migrated here, and it doesn't mix. It's caused a lot of problems throughout Europe. And basically, it's even about two religions that don't mix and they don't integrate, and it's gotten really, really, really bad.

When you have Sharia law that is allowed within your country, as Great Britain has, for them to administer their own law above your own laws, you're living in a pretty sick world. And this is a large part of the problem, especially for Great Britain. But it is for Europe as well, just as Germany is at a point they're trying to move migrants back out of their country because they realize what they have done. So there's that movement. And if the Germans start doing that, that's not a pretty sight. Because the Germans don't tend to mess around if they get to a certain point, and they can turn very warlike. The Assyrians have always been noted for that. Awesome. Anyway.

I want to read this article. "The United Kingdom's governing Labour Party and the opposition Conservative Party, which together have dominated British politics and seated every prime minister for more than 100 years, both took a gut punch in a major round of local elections on Thursday. For Labour leader and current Prime Minister Keir Starmer, the heavy losses on city councils across England, even with votes still being counted in Scotland and Wales, paint a bruising picture. Starmer took office less than two years ago after Labour won a landslide in the last national parliamentary elections. In Thursday's voting, the party lost more than half of its seats in local councils, fueling renewed calls for Starmer to resign as leader of both his party and the country."

"The biggest winners of the night appeared to be Nigel Farage and his right-wing populist party Reform UK, which made significant gains across England." That's because there are people who are swinging to this other side now because they see and are being affected by this other element of migration in Europe, in the UK, that is totally destroying their nation. It's totally destroying the country. It's really gone down the toilet, down the pot. Absolutely. Because of that, it's not England anymore, it's not Great Britain. I mean, it hasn't been Great Britain for a long time, but it's in really, really, really bad shape.

"Farage, an ideological ally of President Trump who has appeared on stage multiple times with the American leader, called the outcome 'a truly historic shift in British politics,' saying Labour was being 'wiped out' in many of its traditional strongholds. Starmer quickly acknowledged the scale of the setback, calling the results a 'tough,' clear warning to his government from voters, but rejecting calls to step down. 'I'm not going to walk away from those challenges and plunge the country into chaos,' he said."

So, all of Europe is really starting to boil, and we're going to see a whole lot more and possibly very quick.

Another one here: **Italy-US ties strained as pope and Iran war dominate talks.**[16] You think some of the things going on right now are just absolutely unheard of. And yet one day, Europe is going to turn against them as well. Hope we remember that one. In scripture it tells that they get to a point where they have had enough and they actually turn against that power once and for all – when they begin to really understand what they have done and how they have wrecked Europe as well.

"Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has met United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio in Rome as tensions grow between Italy and Washington over the U.S.-Israel War on Iran. Rubio arrived in Italy on Friday for a two-day visit to ease tensions after Italy refused to back the U.S.-Israeli War amid the backlash over President Donald Trump's attacks on Pope Leo."

Then, under **Iran War**, it goes on to say, "Tensions between Rome and Washington have sharpened in recent weeks. Trump criticized Meloni's stance on the Iran War, accusing her of lacking resolve and warning that the U.S. could reconsider its military presence in Italy." Just thinking here, what an incredible thing here to realize we have watched a lot of things take place because, first of all, with a pressure on Europe to step up to their support and the amount they're paying into NATO in the respect of something, you know, it should have been done a long time ago.

But that part of it, and then, so, things just keep happening, and you think, who could have foreseen that the next big step would be with the Strait of Hormuz and all the problems going on there with Iran. It's absolutely incredible. Because that's caused a greater separation now with Europe toward the U.S. because of what's been said to them because they won't step down and help. That's the way it's seen by some.

Again, I hope we understand that we see a little bit at a time that's pushing this faster and faster together. And at some time, it's just going to blow. So, if you think you have a lot of time, a lot of time into the future…? You know, we need to be on guard, be close to God, truly, because we live in very volatile times. You don't know what morning…

Sometimes I wake up and just wonder, what is the news? What happened last night? Because it starts over there before it ever starts here. So, that's how fast things can change.

"Italy has also resisted direct involvement in the Iran war. Last month, Rome declined to allow U.S. aircraft to use the Sigonella Air Base in Sicily for combat operations linked to the war, with officials saying the request had not been formally approved. European countries have refrained from supporting the U.S. blockade of Iranian ports as Washington seeks to pressure Iran into relinquishing its control over the crucial waterway. However, the naval blockade has kept energy prices high despite the ceasefire and

[16] **Al Jazeera Staff and Reuters, "ItalyUS ties strained as pope and Iran war dominate talks,"** ***Al Jazeera*****, 8 May 2026,** https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/5/8/italy-us-ties-strained-as-pope-and-iran-war-dominate-talks

placed many European economies, including Italy's, under severe strain." So, that's a biggie because their gas prices are going up and up and up.

They don't have what we have here. And even though their percentage may be smaller in what they're relying on from that area of the world, they're relying on it. And oil over there is a big thing because of what's happened with Russia, what's happened with their restrictions from being able to, which they still use sometimes, where they use their gas and their oil, and then this. And so who's the big bad person in all this? This country.