

Christianity Reset
Tim Moore
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Tim Moore: This has been a wonderful conference. Amen? With a lot of material, a lot of information, but if you walk out of here just full to the gills with information, we haven't done our job because we don't just want to educate you. We want to motivate you. And we want to point you toward our soon returning King, Jesus Christ.

So, through all of these different aspects of the Great Reset, whether it is understanding that term in and of itself, the technology, the culture involved, the economics reset, government, and now, as I speak about Christianity, our goal is to give you an understanding of what this Great Reset is all about. So, my task and my privilege today is to get into the Christianity Reset, a little bit about what is going on but really to step back and look at it from an eternal perspective. So I would dare say that the reset we know of as Christianity is the greatest reset, and you'll understand, I pray, what I mean by that.

Well, we've been introduced to this man several times, Klaus Schwab, and Klaus Schwab is the leader, sort of the founder, of the World Economic Forum. These are these elite people that meet in Davos, Switzerland, every year, and you've seen some of their workings behind the scenes and now, they're becoming bolder and bolder at being in our face about what they mean to do. Klaus Schwab said the pandemic, for instance, what Billy's called the plandemic, represents a rare but narrow window of opportunity to do what? To reflect, reimagine, and reset our world. Again, letting no crisis go unused, or an opportunity not seized. So, here's his agenda. He wants to create a stakeholder economy; a resilient, equitable green technology mindset; and of course, he wants to pursue what he calls the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

We're familiar to a degree with the stakeholder economy. Billy touched on that as did Brandon, and how it will distribute the wealth. Now that sounds good, in some regards. We'll help the people who are destitute, but what they really want is to keep everyone at a level of not only impoverishment but dependency to where the elite, who are doing the re-distributing, are in control. So, stakeholder economy, just realize you're not going to be a stakeholder. You're going to be a serf in this mentality or this ideology.

As far as resilient, equitable, green technology, well, again that sounds good, but it doesn't always work out quite that way. I can tell you just in recent years just the increase in efficiency in aircraft. I could go into a long discussion about how they've increased the efficiency of airplanes, your automobiles, etc., and those are good things, but they don't always happen as readily as you think.

So, this cryptocurrency that we hear about, even Bitcoin, well, Bitcoin, in order to produce this electronic currency that is make believe money, consumes more electricity every year than the Philippines, and you think, "How can that be? But that's what it takes. Many of the technologies they are touting, whether it is even the fact that they want to produce windmill technology, what they realize is that it's not efficient over time. So, we're not quite there, but that's the goal.

What about this Fourth Industrial Revolution? Well, we're familiar with the first revolution of the great industrial changes in the 1800's when steam power came online. We know about electricity that came online primarily for most cities and in parts of this world in the 1900's.

The third revolution of technology was with information technology, and so that's already been discussed: computers and connected systems of communication, which we are all able to use to this day.

But the Fourth Industrial Revolution is supposed to offer a fusion, a coming together, a culmination of all these technologies, that literally quote "blurs the line between the physical, digital, and biological spheres." What are they talking about? Well, they're talking about artificial intelligence for one thing. How many of you have seen the new television show they're producing with avatars? Yeah, pretty freaky, isn't it? These people wear these suits, and they turn their persona into a computer-generated avatar that can be any color, can fly, have wings, do all sorts of weird things, and it looks life-like. Every time I see something like that I realize, well, we are about to the point that the Antichrist could have this creature that looks real.

I saw the other day how the US Army has released a robotic dog that has incorporated into it a sniper rifle. All right, robotic dogs out there on the battlefield, but this drive toward artificial intelligence is going to take us places we cannot even imagine. There are scientists right now who are already producing chimeras. Anybody know what a chimera is? A chimera is a combination of human-animal embryo. And they've said, "Well, we don't plan to let it necessarily come to full development," but they're trying, and somebody will very soon. What used to be the stuff of horror movies, is now happening, and the revolution is taking place with increasing and breathtaking speed.

So, the World Economic Forum plainly states that this is their goal. And this is actually another demonstration of what we preach on being the birth pangs, things are start slow and then increase in frequency and intensity, as my daughter could have told you from last night, until the moment the baby arrives, but in this case it's until the moment that Jesus Christ bursts from the heavens. And we've already seen a lot of advocates.

You all saw, in our nation, people like John Kerry who for years have been promoting this globalist agenda. He tells you not to drive your car, not to eat hamburgers because cows have flatulence, but he flies his private jet back and forth to be a part of the international community and Europe constantly. And he's our Green Czar, whatever that means.

You've also seen people like this man, George Soros, who is spreading his wealth around to radically change this country. I think Billy showed a picture, or maybe it was actually Brandon, of

the father whose daughter had been raped in a bathroom by a transgender individual. The local prosecutor has personally shown up at his trial to personally prosecute him, and she was funded in her campaign by George Soros. And even the other attorney said, "We've never seen somebody prosecuted in a case like this." I mean the father was at a school board meeting for heaven's sake, advocating for his daughter, but he will be put down by this particular prosecutor. Well, these people talk unashamedly about "a brave new world" and a new social contract even as they would claim they know better than us, unwashed masses.

Well, you've also seen Joe Biden's Build Back Better campaign, which is essentially the socialist agenda of Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and they are on the ascend even in the Democratic party that was already tilting far to the left, it's now completely controlled by this radical left group of people in Washington and elsewhere. And not just here in the United States, you can go to places like Great Britain with Boris Johnson. You can go to, at the top-right there France with Emmanuel Macron-- Emmanuel--Can you imagine? God With Us-- Macron. In Canada, Justin Trudeau, and of course down in Australia, which for a season had been a land of sanity, which has now pitched over into insanity, you have Scott Morrison, somebody you may not be familiar with but driving Australia to an absolute police state right now.

And so, many others have used this new age dogma and are now using every lever of power, whether it's social restrictions or mandates to lock in this new social contract. And so the progressive behind this ideology of a global citizenship are determined to strip nations and individuals of their sovereignty. That's what you heard about all weekend and it's true. And its push for unchecked human autonomy expressed an atheistic humanism and coupled with a compulsion to reach Godlike aspirations harkens back to another time in human history when men built the Tower of Babel.

Now let me be clear. These rich and powerful elites touting this so-called Great Reset believe it will lead to a New Age of Enlightenment and World Peace. There are actually people who thought that back at the turn of the 20th century and what resulted was the Great War, at the time it was the greatest war in the late nineteen-teens, and of course that led to another war. This Utopia will never exist until Jesus Christ reigns on the Earth. But believing they can drive society, either willingly or unwillingly, toward this Utopia, they're going to use every bit of technology, financial policy tweaks.

You all saw Janet Yellen the other day, our Secretary of the Treasury, that committed the United States to a global minimum of corporate tax. You think, "Well, that's fine. Let them pay the tax." Folks, who do you think pays corporate tax? It's not some board somewhere, it's us. I mean, they just pass it on to their consumers, but they're all on board to make this globalist mentally, and, of course, an eventual unified government control.

Sounds kind of like a society from 1984, or one that we've seen in places like China or Hong Kong or North Korea. And the dangers of these trends have been made clear by the previous speaker, so I won't go on and on other than to say that the true religion of this movement is humanism. None of these people affiliated with anything that you've seen would claim to be

Christian. They reject Christianity because they reject any God that would be sovereign over the affairs of man. And they have a willful rejection of the Divine in favor of unfettered human autonomy. But as I said yesterday, we know God is not impressed, and he certainly is not thwarted by their human schemes. Why? Because as Psalm 2 verses 2 and 4 talk about, the Lord sits in the heavens and laughs. The Lord scoffs at them, especially as the kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His anointed.

Well, what about the Church? Let's get to my focus. What about Christianity? I've seen, as I began my research, a number of churches are embracing this common terminology of having a reset, having a Church reset. A Church reset in computer code or just a reset. Now let's be frank. That's not necessarily a bad idea if you've already gone down the wrong path. Turn around, all right, and get back on the right path, but the idea that we should reset the core principles of the faith are false. And actually, what it is leading to more often than not is bringing people in where they think they're coming to a Christian setting, and really they're falling off into oblivion after they get there.

I'll address a couple questions this afternoon but even as we talk about young people, there's a great book out by Ken Ham. He's the fellow who runs the Creation Museum in the promised land of Kentucky-- Northern Kentucky. Where's my Kentucky brother? Right there. Go up and visit you all, the Creation Museum and the Ark experience. It's a wonderful place to demonstrate the truth of God's Word. But Ken wrote a book called, *Already Gone*, where he documented that young people, it's not just that they get to college and they abandon the faith, they were already gone before they left home. As a matter of fact, statistically he demonstrated, and this is hard to believe but it's true, that a young person who grew up in the church and attended Sunday school every week was less likely to be a believer in their late 20's than someone who never went to church. You think, "What? But I thought I was bringing my child to church to introduce them to the faith." No, too often they've been inoculated against the faith because they got just enough without any real overriding understanding to where when they're presented with the true faith, they think, "Ah, I've already been there and done that, and it didn't work for me."

So, we can talk about that more but the point I will make is, as we look around today, too many churches have been abandoning the doctrines of the faith, and so you have to ask, "Are they influencing the world, or is the world influencing the church?" The ones that are embracing the sexual revolution with its gender confusion, the abomination of sexual practices, and even a dismissal of marriage itself. And they actually feed the divisions that are stoked by various critical theories and deny not only the power of God but the reality of a living God all together.

You can see this and examples like this. Twenty years ago, Keith and Kristyn Getty released a wonderful praise song called "In Christ Alone." And as they released that song, it became very popular in Christian circles. And one denomination, the PCUSA, wanted to put this song in their new hymnal, but they wanted to change it. They didn't like these words that Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, the other songwriter, penned. "'Til on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied." Oh, we don't want to talk about wrath. That's not very touchy-feely. That's

not very seeker sensitive. So, they wanted to change it to say “‘til on that cross, as Jesus died, the love of God was magnified.” Well, it was, but the wrath of God was satisfied, and thankfully Keith said, “No, we’re not changing the words to the song.” And so, it’s not in the hymnal. They’ll find something else to sing about because they certainly don’t want to sing about a God who would ever exact wrath or pour out judgment upon the Earth.

This has been true for 2,000 years, because already in the New Testament, Jude was writing this, “Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.” (Jude 1:3) In other words, even then people were beginning to stray, and he had to encourage people to stand firm.

What do we stand on? Well, as Keith and Kristyn’s song indicates, we stand on Christ. He is the solid rock, and as the waves churn about us, if we build our lives and our faith on Him, we will not be moved or shaken. There’s another beautiful aspect of this picture, which is why I chose this one, if we are standing on Christ in a very dark and stormy period of time in human history, my goodness, we should be shining light to those who are caught in the storm and don’t know where to land. And if we’re too busy screaming against the wind, so to speak, and not standing and sharing the light, then we’re not doing our job as believers. I’ll come back to that later.

So, I do want to turn my attention to the greatest reset because one of the challenges is, Jesus asked, “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the Earth?” (Luke 18:8) Looking around today you almost have to wonder. I’ve talked to several people here who said, “I come from here....” “I come from there....”--various churches-- “it’s hard to find a good church.” We are a part of the remnant in this location, and we are a dwindling number even in this formerly Christian country. Anybody think we’re Christian country anymore? Anybody offended when Barack Obama said this is no longer Christian country? You’re offended? How much more offensive is it to a holy God that we would claim that we are. We’re a Christian country that tolerates 60 million murders of unborn children. We’re a Christian country that legalizes paganism and abomination, not only tolerating it, but celebrating it. We’re a Christian country? I dare say Almighty God would be offended if we claim to be today. Be careful what you claim, brothers and sisters.

So again, let’s turn to the salvation reset. I don’t want to focus too much on the Church. I want to end on a very positive note and kind of recenter our, we call it resetting your attitude indicator in an airplane, making sure the horizon indicator is true so that even when you’re in the midst of a storm, you know which way is up and which way is down. Because if your attitude indicator gets tumbled or twisted, you’re in a world of hurt, and you’re eventually going to crash. Well, the moment you were saved, you became a new creation in Christ. Scripture says the old has passed away and the new has come (II Cor. 5:17), fresh and unblemished, and speaking of the former unrighteous world, Paul listed fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, homosexuals, thieves, coveters, drunkards, revilers, and swindlers, (I Cor. 6: 8 & 10) and lest I be accused of adding text to the Scripture, let me just say, I think Paul could have gone on with a much longer list because you might say, “Well, I don’t do any of those at least.” Well, guess what? He just

didn't get to you, maybe, but maybe he did, because Paul said "you all" did some of this. He said, "Such were some of you" in First Corinthians 6:11 "but you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of God. Amen and amen. We all fall short of the glory of God. It's not a matter of which sin I committed. "Oh, at least I didn't commit those because those are the worst ones, right?" No. We all fall short of the glory of God, but we are all washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of Christ.

So, what does that actually mean? Here's the salvation reset as outlined by Paul. Washed, which means to be made clean by what? By the blood of Christ. Sanctified, set apart and made holy how? In and for Christ. "Hey, you know what? I'm holy." No. Wrong attitude. I'm set apart for Christ but only in Christ, as I'll touch on it just a moment.

And then justified, declared righteous in the sight of God. How again? Through Christ. What do I mean by this? You might say, well, how can that be? I know how sinful I was, and I still struggle with sin. Join, not just the club, join humanity. The Apostle Paul said, "I still struggle with my sin nature" as I'll touch on in a moment. That doesn't define who we are now, so how can I be washed in the blood of Christ and made truly clean? That kind of question reminds me of this man. Who am I talking about? Naaman. Naaman. Desperate to be healed of his leprosy, this Gentile warrior sought the wisdom of Elisha the prophet. So Naaman balked when Elijah instructed him to wash seven times in the Jordan River. As a matter of fact, in 2 Kings 5:11, he was furious, exclaiming essentially "I thought Elisha would come and pray over me! I could have washed in bigger and better rivers in Syria instead of coming all this way to dip in that muddy little creek, the Jordan." And sure enough, the Jordan is a muddy, small creek. It's small and Naaman was just furious. Fortunately, even as he turned away in a rage, somebody interceded.

Let me ask you this. How many people do you know that said, "Be washed in the blood of Christ? What kind of formula is that? Surely there's another means of salvation? Maybe I got to do some ritual, climb a mountain, do all these other things. That's too easy." That's the providence of God, and you either believe it and obey it, or you're not clean. So fortunately, Naaman's servant convinced him to just try Elisha's unconventional solution. So reluctantly, and I daresay begrudgingly, Naaman dipped himself seven times and when he emerged the seventh time, Scripture says that his flesh was like the flesh of a little child. Now some of us realize it takes more than one time to get through the thick noggin, right? So this message has been driven home time and time again.

In his second letter to the church at Corinth, Paul had to address this issue again. He wrote, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature. The old things have passed away, behold new things have come." (II Cor. 5:17) In other words, your old self is washed away, and like Naaman, you were given the flesh of a little child. But there's a keyword in this verse. What's the keyword? What? "In." It's a little two-letter word. You see, that is the key to being a new creature. You have to be in Christ. That's also how we're sanctified. Paul also wrote, "He made him (Christ) who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God." (II Cor. 5:21) How? In him. Truly that's exactly how we become.

Let me put it this way. I've been an Air Force and commercial pilot now for over 34 years. I think I've got 6,000 or 8,000 hours of flying time, but here's the truth, I cannot fly. I can't even get much airtime, Don, I'm vertically challenged. I was impressed when he said, "you know, 6 foot." I thought "I'm only about 5'11", but I can't get off the ground", and yet, if I get in a plane, I can soar at 30,000 feet and travel from Kentucky to Nevada in a matter of hours. Likewise, in Christ, I live anew. I don't have the power on my own. I can't do it but in Him, I can do all things, and He gets the credit.

Well, I think there's a reason we don't recognize the miraculous nature of our salvation reset even as we become a new creature in Christ. I touched on it yesterday. We just don't feel sanctified as if feelings are really what it's all about. You know, "Feelings, nothing more than feelings." That I would feel perfect, and I would feel just special. Well, don't trust your own feelings. In other words, I believe that our spiritual senses oftentimes are dulled, and we don't recognize the dramatic and radical transformation we have experienced because our physical senses are so constant. And there's another Old Testament example of this.

You remember 2 Kings 6 describes the time the king of Aram arose to come up against Israel. Elisha had warned the king of Israel, inciting the Aramean king to send a great army including horses and chariots to surround Dothan, the city where Elisha lived. The next morning Elisha's servant arose and observed the enemy "Oh, my goodness, surrounding the city" and he cried, "alas, my master, what should we do?" Which means "Shazam, Boss, what we gonna do?" And Elisha was unfazed. He said, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Elisha prayed for his servant's eyes to be open to what? To spiritual things. Only then did the man see the multitude of the host of God with horses and chariots of fire surrounding the Aramean army. To drive the point home, Elisha prayed again, and even the physical site or discernment of that army was taken away.

Now, if we could see with spiritual eyes, we would realize that we have been washed in the blood of Christ and that has changed us dramatically. It cleanses us and causes us to be set aside for the Master's use, which is what Paul wrote about to the church at Thessalonica. It is the will of God for us to be set aside.

It's a lot to me like the humble little colt or donkey that Jesus rode in Luke chapter 19. This is also prophetically spoken of in Zechariah 9:9. The king will make use of it in a special way. Let me tell you what. That donkey didn't smell any different than the other donkeys. His little legs didn't float above the ground. Jesus didn't say, "Listen, when you get to the city, look for the one that's glowing." He's just going to have a big aura about him. He's going to be perfectly clean. He's going to be festooned with kingly garb. No. He was a normal donkey, and yet no donkey has been set aside for such a privilege and an honor, including the one that opened his mouth in Balaam's day to say, "Why are you beating me?" When the angel of the Lord appeared, the donkey in Luke got to carry the King, but he was just a donkey. You have been set apart for a special use, sanctified by the Lord, and it's not dependent on how you smell, how you look, or how you feel.

There's an even more important perspective we cannot fully appreciate in our own humanity. As soon as we are saved, God sees us differently. Did you know that? He doesn't just look at you as you. When I look in the mirror, I'm not very impressed. No reason to be. I told my children, what would happen if I was disfigured, cut off my arms, legs, I get burned or something? Is it still me? "Well, yeah, Dad." There's something about us that's more than our physical appearance. When God sees us, He doesn't just see us for who we are.

How can I know that? Back in Genesis chapter 27 there's a beautiful story about Jacob dressing in sheep's wool to come before Isaac. The hairy garb and the gamey odor fooled the old patriarch. Now don't get me wrong here. I'm not saying the Lord God is a doddering old man. "Oh, who is that? I can't tell." But it's a picture of how we are covered over, and the Lord God doesn't see us. He sees Christ, and, therefore, we get the blessing meant for him. Paul says this in Roman 13:14, "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts." He doesn't look at our frailty or our grappling with sin and our falling short day by day. He sees his son Jesus Christ and is eager to bestow blessing on us. So credited with His righteousness, then we become co-heirs with Christ.

You know, again, I said yesterday some of us look back on our own conversion with kind of a ho-hum attitude, you know, I don't know, it's kind of boring. But that is far more dangerous than we realize because it minimizes the offensiveness of our sin, no matter how apparently minor it was, in the eyes of a holy God. Because as I said, if there'd been nobody else in this universe in need of salvation, Jesus Christ would have come for you, for you, for you, and for me. He would've died on the cross and suffered all of the horrors that He endured just for one of us. There is no sin that is minor in the eyes of our holy God, and such an attitude also undermines the incredible grace, the unmerited favor that has been poured out for us. So, having said that, and just to show you how this radical transformation can take place, Paul also said, "I know nothing good dwells in me that is in my flesh for the willing is present in me but the doing of good is not." Paul also said, "For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice very evil that I do not want. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?" And then he answers his own question: "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ Our Lord! (Rom. 7: 18, 19, 24 & 25) I am set free, and I'm declared justified in the eyes of God.

Well, this brings us to this flow if you will, a formula. Basically, we're washed, we're justified, we're sanctified, and we are credited with Jesus Christ's own righteousness. I can't even imagine, but that's what God bestows upon us. And that's why we are co-heirs with Jesus. Paul wrote to the Romans: "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ." (Rom. 8: 16-17) You have asked, "Is such radical transformation possible? I mean, is this ever demonstrated in nature?" Anybody know what that is? What kind of caterpillar? A monarch butterfly. So, over time that thing is going to seem to die, and then it's going to come forth as a beautiful butterfly. The Lord has demonstrated all about us his grace and his provision for us. It becomes a sight picture. You know how children like picture books? Well, God knows we all like some degree of demonstration, and he's provided it for us.

But we also look at living testimonies, people like this man John Newton, a reprobate slave trader who was overwhelmed by God's what? Amazing grace. He wrote that hymn and committed himself to being an abolitionist in England, not just for the sake of humanity, but for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Also, this man right here. Anybody remember Chuck Colson? He was Richard Nixon's hatchet man, so dedicated and ruthless that it was said he'd run over his own mother for Richard Nixon until he gave his life to Christ and spent the rest of the years serving the Lord faithfully, one of my favorite authors of the late 20th century. How about this man?

Rebel with a cause, Franklin Graham, who actually rebelled against the faith of his father until the Lord got a hold of his heart and made him a powerful, prophetic voice in his own right.

This man, right here. Anybody familiar with Ramin Parsa? He's a former Shiite Muslim from Iran whose life was radically transformed when he prayed, and Jesus intervened miraculously in his life. Many Arab and Muslim people in the Middle East are having visions of Christ just like Paul and coming to faith. Well, Ramin Parsa came to the United States. He's standing in front of the Mall of America because a few years ago, as he described to our own board at a meeting, he went to the Mall of America, and he went to the food court and over lunch was sharing his testimony in a private conversation with one other individual. Some people a couple of tables away were offended by him sharing his testimony in a public place, so they called the mall cop, who arrested Raman, took him to the mall jail, you all didn't know they had such a thing, did you? Handcuffed him to a desk, and left him for a number of hours. No bathroom break for him. No water, and eventually the actual police came and took him to jail. For doing what? For sharing his testimony in the Mall of America. That's where we are in this land of the free.

Well, what about this man? Reuven Doron. Reuven came to the United States from Israel after serving a time in the IDF. Reuven was a special forces operator for Israel, a very tough man. To this day he's stout as can be, and he's probably around sixty years old now. But he came to America to sow his wild oats and make his fortune. He quickly ran out of money, so he got a job. He got a job at a company where a man had been praying every day for 20 years, "Lord, send me a Jew, any Jew I can share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with." He met Reuven, and his prayer changed. "Lord, send me any other Jew, not this one because this one is just too arrogant, he's too cocky, he's not going to." "Nah, nah," the Lord said, "That's your Jew." The man shared Jesus Christ, and Reuben's life was radically transformed. He's now an evangelist for Yeshua the Messiah, and he has a powerful testimony in and of his own right. What are you praying for everyday? Have you prayed every day for 20 years for anything? Are you praying, "Lord, send me a Jew. Lord, send me that family member, that neighbor?" Who are you praying for every day for twenty years?

Well, is anyone beyond the love of God? I ask a question again, "Is such radical transformation possible?" And the answer is "Yes!" It is possible because He transformed me, and He transformed you. You don't know how bad I would be. You don't know how bad I am. I would be reprobate beyond belief but for the love of Christ. Is anyone beyond the love of God, the

authority of the Gospel, the power of Christ to transform a heart? The answer is “No!”, it’s not. So imagine this. The Lord answered this question in Genesis 18:14. “Is anything too difficult for the Lord?” That was a rhetorical question, but the obvious answer is no. I could give you example after example.

How about this? Imagine a young woman given over to gender confusion to the point that she mutilates her own body out of a desire to become a man, but then realizes that the love of God is more powerful than any of that confusion, so she changes her whole life to believe in Jesus Christ. That story is told in a beautiful movie put out by the American Family Association called *In His Image*.

How about an urban thug so wicked that even his own mother said, “He’s got to be possessed by a demon.” That actually describes Nicky Cruz who was converted when David Wilkerson came to New York City and shared Christ.

How about a drunken bum so washed up he’d been declared insane in multiple states including Kentucky? Becoming a powerful singing evangelist, that was Jack Hollingsworth, a close friend of our ministry. Jack became so excited talking about Jesus and singing his praise that he’d jump up and down the stage. Today Jumping Jack is jumping and praising before the Lord in heaven.

Well, imagine a man like these guys, grown up in a Muslim world. Hamoud Saleh Al-Amri from Saudi Arabia. Nabeel Qureshi now given over, or well, they had given their lives to Christ-- both of them sadly have passed away but they went to be with the Lord.

How about this guy right here? I’ll describe him for you. You know the kind of person I’m talking about. A man filled with hate for infidels, despite of his smiling face there, especially Christians. He hates them the worst, tearing them out of their homes, persecuting and beating them, insisting on their execution and rejoicing when they are killed. Well, actually I just described the Apostle Paul, didn’t I? Do you think the Lord could get ahold of a member of the Taliban and turn them into another Apostle Paul to the Middle East? Yes, he could, and yes, he is because the fastest growing Church in the world, y’all, was in Afghanistan until the debacle of the American pull out several weeks ago. Second fastest growing Church in the world is in Iran. Our Church is contracting in the United States, but in parts of the world it is growing.

Let’s turn our attention now to what Paul calls the first fruits. This is the eternal reset to come. Our salvation itself represents what Paul calls the first fruits, the fore-taste of an even greater bounty that awaits us. When we put our faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit takes up dwelling within us and our bodies are called living temples of the most high God, but a higher and greater reset will come when we have, in the words of Hamlet, shuffled off this mortal coil.

Now Shakespeare wrote, “What dreams of death may come when we have shuffled off this mortal coil.” “Ah, there’s the rub,” he said, and you can demonstrate his lack of faith when he said, “that makes calamity for so long a life.” In other words, Shakespeare thought this would be

a catastrophe because we don't know what awaits any of us on the other side. At least his character Hamlet thought that way, but we do know what awaits us on the other side. If we put our faith in Christ, to die is actually to gain because we will not sleep or dream. We will be ushered immediately into the presence of the Lord to dwell with Him forever.

So, if He stays His coming, if He stays His coming, what's going to happen to every person in this room? We're eventually going to make that transition, some sooner, and some later. Death is even more certain than taxes, or at least until the Biden administration gets done helping us from Washington. But we believe that soon and very soon Jesus Christ will come for the Church in a glorious event we call the Rapture, and when that occurs, every follower of Christ will be caught up with Him in the air to meet Him in an instant. We will be snatched away in the blink of an eye, what the Latin Vulgate calls 'rapture' or 'rapiemur' and we will join Him when He appears in the heavens.

You know, I've quoted Paul's letters several times today to the churches. The church in Corinth is pretty telling because even in that day and age, Corinth was an infamous city. It was known for its wickedness, even in the Roman world. As a matter of fact, the Greek word for 'fornication' is a derivative of the name Corinth. The city itself came to stand for fornication. Yet, that's where Paul planted a church and directed his encouragement and his mentoring with a heart of a pastor. And toward the end of his first letter, he restates very plainly the core message of the Gospel: "That Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. That He was buried and was raised again on the third day according to the Scriptures." (I Cor. 15:4) And Paul takes great pains to cite multiple witnesses of Jesus' resurrection, including himself last of all.

His point was to establish the fact of Jesus' death and resurrection and to point to the resurrection that awaits all of us who passed from this life but have placed our trust in Him. He emphasized, "For if there is no resurrection from the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also was vain.... If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless, and you are still in your sins." (I Cor. 15: 13-14, & 17) Thanks be to God that is not the case. Christ is raised from the dead, and all of us who have put our faith in him are assured of our eternal destiny.

And, so Paul's exuberance reaches a crescendo when he touches on the great reset that awaits us as followers of Jesus. This is what he said, "Now I say this brethren, (I'll add in 'sistren' for you ladies present) that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in Victory. Oh, death, where is your Victory? Oh, Death, where is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God who gives us victory through the Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 15: 50-57)

Paul recited this same promise of God when he wrote to the church at Thessalonica, a church he founded during his second missionary journey, and by the way, I so appreciate Billy's heart for sharing God's prophetic truth. I've had pastors who said, "Oh, Tim, we can't get to Bible prophecy until I've laid a long foundation of other biblical truths because that's just real advanced stuff."

And I answer them, "Really? Well, Paul was in Thessalonica for a few weeks, and he was already telling them about the Rapture and the coming of Christ. How long is it going to take?" "Well, probably several years." Hmm. That's not a biblical model, folks.

We need to hear about the prophetic Word because it is what gives us resurrection hope, the certainty of things hoped for as Hebrews spoke about. Paul actually said, "We do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep (by which he meant dead), so that you do not grieve as others do. The rest who have no hope. The "they" we keep referring to over this weekend. They have no hope. The wrath of God abides on them. Not on us, and we will be delivered and rescued from the wrath to come. Paul goes on, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up" --There's that word, 'raptured' we call it, but in Latin it was 'rapiemur', so that's where we come with the word "rapture". It is in the Bible, just not in our English translation--"together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words." (I Thes. 4:13-18)

I can't imagine comforting anybody with other words. It's kind of like a funeral. I always asked when somebody passes, "Did they know the Lord? Yes? Well, then, I'll mourn with you, but I'll rejoice with them." They're with the Lord. They would not come back if given the option. Would you? No. And I only mourn with you because you're separated for a season. But in the morning comes joy. But if a person says no, they had rejected Lord outright, I have no words of hope. I have no real words of comfort, other than to say you have the ability to choose differently. Let me tell you about the Lord because that person's fate is sealed.

No, it is not only for us to be encouraged by Paul's words and the glorious promise that awaits us. Paul actually wrote, "For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God." (Rom. 8:19) That's us when we are revealed in our glorified bodies, meaning when the Lord comes back. "And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body." (Rom. 8:23) So while the creation is groaning and suffering, we're supposed to be eagerly awaiting the redemption that we have of our own body. Are you eager?

You know, creation is groaning. In other words, it was condemned to a fallen state in the curse. Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote of it this way. "Nature red in tooth and claw that shrieked against his creed." What caused nature to shriek in pain? Cursedness has been ongoing as a groan for redemption and restoration. That is why the high priest every year would sprinkle the blood on the mercy seat of the Ark and on the ground in front of the Ark, symbolizing that in the fullness of time, God would come and redeem all of creation. The entire creation has been looking forward to that. As Isaiah describes in chapter 11, verse 6, "The wolf will lie down with the lamb" --not the lion, by the way--"and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together." And he goes on with other descriptive terms of how nature itself will return to a harmonious state or even these poisonous animals, even these predator and prey will once again live in perfect harmony as was intended at the beginning. So, if all of nature is groaning for the Lord to return, are you? Is your spirit groaning within you, or are you eager to be set free from your body's slavery to corruption? If you don't think you're a slave to corruption, look in the mirror, and then pull out a picture from--How old are you, Nathan? 29. Pull out a picture from when you're 21, and you'll realize, "I'm a slave to corruption." Are you eager to be set free from that, into the freedom of the glory of the children of God? Or have the cares of this world stifled your hunger for what is to come?

So, to sum up, what are you looking for? What are you eager to receive? Let me just sum up. Here's what the world is going to receive. The scoffing world will receive judgment and destruction. You talk about a great reset. Oh, they're going to have a great reset. One that is horrible beyond words. The groaning creation will be restored, returning to the harmonic state that existed in the Garden of Eden. The Jews, those persecuted, persevering Jews, will finally re-ascend receiving final sanctification, honor, and preeminence in the world. And, we could touch on many passages that point to that reality, which is why the Abrahamic Covenant still exists. God is blessing those who bless Israel and cursing those who curse Israel. What about individual Christians?

Well, brothers and sisters, when Jesus comes for us, we will receive our glorified bodies. We will be 29 years old I think. I think it's about the perfect age, but we'll receive glorified bodies and even more important, eternal communion with God. And for those who have loved Jesus' appearing as Paul talks about in 2 Timothy 4:8, we will receive a crown of righteousness. Do you love Jesus' appearing? Do you look forward to it so much that you wake up every morning practicing your Rapture exercise? What was that? The Rapture drill? "I'm ready. I'm ready." All right. Or are you just, "Maybe someday. I don't know." Are you ho-hum about that?

So once again the pagan world is expecting a great reset, but reset is going to occur when the King of Kings and Lord of Lords emerges from the heavens. When He returns and glory. He will separate the sheep, those who have heard His voice and followed Him, even in the midst of Tribulation from the goats, in other words those who remain ornery and reject Him at every turn. The sheep will go into the Millennial Kingdom, that I've already described, while the goats, the unbelievers, will be sent away into eternal punishment.

Have you put your trust in Jesus? You know the culmination of this whole conference that we have to focus on is this most important question, not what's happening in the world. Somebody

asked today, "How can I make a difference in what's happening in the world?" There's a degree to where none of us individually can impact what's happening in the world, but this message is not just about what's happening in the world. This message is to ask you what's happening in your heart. Are you already a child of God? Have you put your trust in Jesus Christ? Because if you haven't, what's happening in the world doesn't really matter in the eternal scheme of things to you. But if you have put your trust in Christ, then no matter what comes, you will have the ability to endure.

There was a television show a few years ago that was called *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*, and at the end they would say, "Is that your final answer?" And they would lock it in. Let me just say the wrath of God abides on all those right now who have not received His Son. John 3:36 says that and it will be poured out to full measure. Hell will be your final answer, and you won't be able to phone a friend, or ask the audience, or reduce your options. Too many people today might as well be carrying a sign "My eternal destiny, my choice." And it really is. As the songwriter/philosopher for the Rush band once wrote, "If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice." Too many people today think, "I'll get around to deciding." You made your choice. You're not promised another day. You're not promised another hour. As you leave here today, a tragic accident could usher you into eternity.

The Lord God made it very clear again in Matthew 10:28. You're afraid of what's going on in the world? How many people are a little bit anxious about what's going on in the world? Don't raise your hands because we'll talk about how we shouldn't be, but if you don't know Christ you better be. And yet, all the fear in the world pales in comparison because Jesus said don't fear the one who can harm your body, but fear Him, the Lord God Almighty, who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matt. 10:28)

Returning to one of my favorite passages in Genesis 18:12-14 from earlier, "Is anything too difficult for the Lord?" No, because as he said then in a Messianic foreshadowing, "at the appointed time, I, Jesus Christ will return to you" and indeed he will. God gave this choice of life and death even to the Jewish people, the children of Israel in the desert, and Deuteronomy says, "I call Heaven and Earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death the blessing in the curse so choose life in order that you may live." (Deut. 30:19) And if you have chosen to follow Him and live, then as written in Psalm 46 (v. 2), stand on this rock of truth. "We will not fear though the earth should change and though the mountain slip into the heart of the sea." No matter how the storm rages about us, we will not fear. I'm going to answer a question that was asked about how we engage with our children on some of these questions during the question-and-answer period. But lock in on that truth.

And finally, I'll ask you this. What are you looking forward to?

Abraham is a great exemplar for us. In Hebrews chapter 11:10, it said that throughout his sojourn, his wandering in Canaan, Abraham was looking for the city which has foundations whose architect and builder is God for this Eternal City-- that Jesus even described in John 14:3 when He said, "I go to prepare a place for you, and I will come again and receive you to Myself." Did you ever think about the fact that Abraham never saw the city? Abraham was promised to

be the father of a great nation. How many children did he have, children of promise? One. He had to look at that one little boy and say, "I don't see how it's going to happen," but he believed God and God credited it to him as righteousness. I don't know how long the Lord will tarry. If he tarries another 5, 10, or 25 years, are you going to trust Him and believe Him? Are you going to grow impatient and say, "Ah, I guess it's not going to happen." No, it's going to happen. The question is, do you believe God?

What's Jesus looking forward to? I believe as our bridegroom-- that's a beautiful series called *The Chosen*-- I believe as our bridegroom Jesus is looking forward to the Father saying, "Go and get your bride." Are you eager for Him to come? Are you eager to be a part of this Wedding Feast of the Lamb talked about in Revelation? Are you eager for the Rapture to take place and until then, you're going to keep focusing on Jesus Christ. Not all the things going on. Yeah, we understand the drama and the trauma in our world today, but we're not looking around. We're looking up for Jesus Christ. How do you avoid the anxiety, the fear, the frustration? Keep your eyes on Jesus. When Peter looked around, y'all, he began to sink into the waves. The only time he stayed on top of them was when he kept his eyes on Christ.

I'm looking forward to the reign of Jesus Christ which is why I wrote the booklet out there. I hope you have gotten a copy because Jesus promised three different times Revelation 22. "I am coming quickly." "I am coming quickly." "Yes, I am coming quickly." And John in exuberance answered, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus." One of the bylines for our ministry is to close every presentation with the word "maranatha" which simply means "come, Lord Jesus". I shorthand it, if you will, in English to say "Godspeed" which means "God speed your Son's coming" until that day to wish you brothers and sisters God's blessing on your journey. Godspeed.