

Love Waxing Cold

Overview

This is one of the times when Jesus did something unusual. He gave a contrasting parable. Most of his parables were comparative. The kingdom of God is like this. The kingdom of heaven is like this. But he says this about this judge. An unjust judge would not look after the needs of a lady who came to him. He said, I don't fear God and I don't fear man and I don't care what happened, but this woman is bothering me, so therefore I will avenge her from her adversary. Then he said this. Verse 8, Nevertheless, when the son of man, cometh, shall he find faith on the earth. That has always challenged me. What did he mean by that? We know all the references to faith.

It's easy to preach on faith. There's so many verses in the Bible. Without faith we can't even please God. So what did Jesus mean after giving a contrasting parable? What did he mean by saying, nevertheless, when the son of man referring to himself returns, will I find faith on the earth? I've looked at it. I've tried to read it. I've come up with this answer, I may be wrong, but I think I'm right. What he was saying is this, will he find a faith that believes that God is a good God? That is being under attack, our next generation. They say, well, we don't know if you can trust God. That goes right back to the garden. Right back, the first renouncing of God's goodness. Did God say that? Can we trust God? God didn't mean that even if he did say it.

I'm here to tell you, let us reinforce our confidence that God is a good God. Would you say it with me? God is a good God. How about my God is a good God? Say it with me. My God is a good God. Hallelujah. Remember years ago we used to say, we would go back and forth. God is good all the time. All the time. Remember God a little silly after a while, but there's a lot of truth there. All the time God is good and God is good all the time. We don't understand the things that happen. I went to give a list of some of the scriptures that we believe. Jesus Christ, our healer. He signs shall follow them that believe in my name, they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

Trust in the Lord, you will heal God as a healer. On and on. But so often we have found answered prayer that was not being answered. We were not getting the answers. We were struggling with the answer. Sometimes it went on and on. Hope deferred or postponed causes the heart to go sad. Now I'm glad that we started and were able to talk about Bob and that answer to prayer because we are seeing prayers answered as a powerful prayer meeting that goes on here on Tuesday morning at 10 30 or 10 10 o'clock, 10 o'clock. And a lot of prayers have been answered. Thank God for that.

But I'm concerned that people are discouraged because of the lack of answers to prayer. Matthew 24 is, you know that scripture, I've been asking you to read that over and over and over and many as many translations that you combine. It is the best documentation of the end times

and it is the words of Jesus. And here's what we find. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. We hear about the revival that's coming at the end time and I believe it. I believe it. I say, I feel it happening. We're talking about the Philippines. We're talking about Iran. We're talking about places in America. I just saw something. The asbury revival is not over. It still continues in many of the campuses.

Good things are happening. But the love of many shall wax cold. I have a sister in England raised in the church, raised in the Christian home. But she has just lost any sense of what we've been. I said to her, "Shan, both your brothers have given their lives for this truth. And she says that. I can't see it anymore. I just can't see it anymore." I put sides to something here. I'm not sure if I have it or not about atheists. The countries that have the most atheists in them. The most atheists. Do you know Israel has 62% atheists? You would think Israel, Israel, God's people. Some of them no longer believe in him. In his. Canada, we're at 65%. Don't. Just don't believe in God. China is 98%. I think it is. Russia of course is up there too. But they're calling this the post-Christian generation. Post ... after. We've had the revivals.

We've had great times. We've had good times. This is now post-Christian. And I'm concerned about that. Let's go to the next verse there. And I'm going to read from up here. For then shall be great tribulations, such as what not seen since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be. Except those days should be shortened. There should no flesh be saved. But for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened. We've seen the promises there and we know what is going on. I don't know if you've said that lately.

I don't know if you listen to the news. I don't know if you heard some of the reports. People are saying, I just don't know what's going on. What is happening? What is happening in the world? A world leader recently said this week, he said, I knew it was coming, but I didn't think it would come with this rapidity. He said, it's falling apart. Ones are falling apart. Countries are just losing it. And right in the middle of all this, God is called a people to be faithful. God expects the people. I don't agree with the theory and they're good friends of ours, but we didn't try to change their mind. But I wish you would all do your own study, your own listening, your own news capturing as to what is happening in the world today. It's happening and it's scary. It really is. It is scary what is happening. But then that should also cause us to rise up in faith and say, it's happening.

God needs me. God needs me to be part of the church. What is happening today in the church? In 1 Chronicles chapter 12 and verse 32. Do we have that one? Lucas, 1 Chronicles 12, 22. And of the children of Isaacar, which were men that had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do, that needs to be preached more and more and the church put in there. To the men, women of God, to the children of God's people, men that had understanding of the times, women too, of course, men and women who have understanding of the times to know what the church ought to do. Are you a part of pursuing an understanding where your role is in this end time desperate church that a desperate world needs? Have you been seeking to get answers from God, to be filled with the Spirit, to be excited about the things of God? And in that, you pursue it and have our part in that place. What is the world coming to? Our world is becoming unrecognizable. It seems to be growing insane.

I don't know if you've watched some news lately, but it shakes your head. Even when the commentators, the anchor people under some of these television stations, say, what is going on? How can this be happening? It looks like our nations are being ruined. One person said this past week, " you don't have to worry about lack of food. You have to worry about no food at all because we are setting into that time", if we go into Matthew 24, Luke 21, Mark 13. It's there for us. I believe tough times are coming, but I also believe there's promises like in the last days I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh. If there's a parable that you want to look at over the next few days, I would encourage you to look at the parable of the wheat and the tares. No, that's not parable, farmers planted good seeds. While he slept, the enemy came and planted wheat's tares among them. And the worker said, shall we pull up the tares then? He said, no, no, you'll ruin the wheat. Let them both grow together.

There's coming a harvest. I don't understand that. God said it's that way. God says that there will be good times and bad times, the weak and the strong. There will be people growing together. The church will grow with the world. Hop with this one. I think Pastor Dave quoted this morning as what I'm thinking. They'll prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Why do they have to be there? Why is it so difficult to just receive something from God without it being challenged? The challenge that we are seeing today is a challenge of ungodliness like never before. I'm going to try to find some scriptures in here or at least some truth. I received this magazine this week. And it's filled with different writers saying the same thing. And I'm struggling with which ones to share with you just to let you know that we need to be on our toes.

We need to be listening. We need to be reading. We need to be studying. We need to be keeping our ears open to what is happening out there in the world. It's happening, folks. This article here is called The Unseen God of this Age. The reality is we are seeing things that defies physical understanding. The only way to begin to truly understand is to realize we are dealing with a different reality, a spiritual reality. God's Word reveals a source of the evil so prevalent in our world. The source is so powerful. It's a powerful spirit, a kind of super angel which once served God, but rebelled and now hates God in everything he stands for.

The Bible refers to this being as Satan, the devil words that mean enemy or adversary, slander. The apostle Peter calls him the arm, your enemy, the devil. I'm going to try to find the ones that speak mostly to this and give an understanding of what this means. A world embracing evil, if you haven't been listening to world news, you haven't got a clue what I'm saying or what I'm actually trying to explain today. A world embracing evil, our voice, our world, sorry, is changing before our eyes in frightening ways. What's behind the bizarre things we are seeing and what can we do about them? And he goes on and says, the scene looked like a nightmarish vision straight from the book of Revelation. A fiery structure appeared clearly modeled after common depictions of the Tower of Babel.

Several young women then submissively approached the glowing beasts, followed soon by the formal, formerly enslaved women. And then he explains what this is, what I'm explaining to you here is the commonwealth games of last year in Birmingham, England. Then there was a half-time show in the Super Bowl. Again, then there was the granny, Grammys. Remember the

awards there with evil, evil. Huge, one was a great big animal like an ox, fire in his eyes and the people were bowing down to them and worshipping them. I would like to ignore it, but I can't ignore it. And I don't think the church should ignore what is happening. Keep your eyes and ears open. I'll try. I can't give all that, sir, because I want to get to what I believe God put on my heart for you today.

Most people are aware that the music industry is a cesspool of perversion, but this year's widely televised annual Grammy Awards, supposedly celebrating the best in the years of music, managed to plunge to new depths, to exactly what is hard to describe. I saw this and I could not believe it. One last weekend, the city of Boston, was billed, having a convention, built the largest satanic gathering in history. Right in Boston. Meanwhile, after school, Satan clubs are springing up in schools across the United States. What is going on? I wrote out, I actually followed up to see if that biggest, largest gathering of Satanists actually happened, and it did. I'll read what I read on Google.

The largest satanic gathering is history. Last weekend in Boston, the event which was sold out, was held at the Boston Marriott Copley Plaza and included satanic rituals, satanic entertainment, decision, discussion panels, a satanic marketplace, and a satanic wedding chapel in Boston. Do you think sensible people live? What is going on? I don't know if you were a fan of Jonathan Khan. Remember his book, *The Harbinger*? He wrote something here. I'm going to be quoting this. Dr. Wilson's article was in part motivated by a recent book by Jonathan Khan, whose writing usually serves interest in the contact current events in Bible prophecies. His latest book, *The Return of the Gods*, I haven't read. I saw him being interviewed with one of the world leaders, and he's right on. These were gods that the gods people had to fight in the Old Testament, had to cast them out in the land.

He said they haven't really gone anywhere. They were just hiding, but they're back. You know why they're back? Because God is being removed. God is being removed from the schools. He's being removed from society. He just listened to this. In 1962, the US Supreme Court banned prayer in public schools. It then banned Bible reading in public schools the following year. In 1973, it stopped restrictions on abortion, legalizing the murder of the unborn throughout the nation. In 2005, it banned the display of the 10 Commandments in the court houses. In 2015, especially, we've been admonished for legalizing marriage between the same sex. This has been there. It's being welcomed. We don't hear a lot of news of this in Canada. I know things are happening that I don't think most of us have realized.

Our Prime Minister is on the board of the world economic councilor forum. The world economic forum. He's on the board. Glenn Beck, I don't know if you follow him, he says, America's dollar is going to fail. You can't spend your way out of \$32 trillion, which they want to do this week again. It's serious. It really is serious. There is a verse in Jeremiah 33. I don't know if you've got it there. Thank you. This was the promise that when the children of Israel repented and came back to God, God would bless and you would hear these voices and celebrations. But in there, he brings out a truth that I believe we need to apply.

The voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, who is the bridegroom,

that's Jesus, and the voice of the bride, that's the church. The voice of them that shall say, praise the Lord of hosts for the Lord is good. Hallelujah. The Lord is good. That's what I've been trying to say. The Lord is good. But it's the voice of the bride. The voice of the bride, the church, must wake up. I said, some of the past of the day, yesterday on the phone, and he started laughing. I said, it used to be said that the church in Canada is like the St. Lawrence River frozen at the mouth for most of the year. I don't think we want to take that as our expression. Do you agree? Am I talking to people here who disagree with me that we are in a perilous time?

We need to wake up. The things I could not read here offer this magazine this morning because we are on the air. And we would be accused of hate. What the Word is? Hate words, hateful words, hate speaking. Yeah, hateful speech. So I left a lot of them on. But we need the bride to wake up. And here's the thing I've been struggling with. I said earlier that we know the promises of healing. We know the promises of miracles. You know them all. If we started having a testimony time there, every one of you would have a favorite testimony of God is going to proclaim.

God is going to look after it. God is going to heal. God is going to deliver. He's going to set free. And then as I speak to you now, I've got a pain. It's not too bad right now. But all last night, all this morning early, it was back in the neck here. Severe pain has been put up with for two or three months. Last Thursday, Dr. Ola sent me to get some x-rays and a pain clinic called and I'm going to go to the pain clinic this coming Thursday to find out what it is. It's so severe. It was anointed with oil a few times here. A lot of people are praying for me. Maybe you're praying for me now. And if you see me going like this, pray a little harder. Why are we not seeing what God has promised?

That makes me concerned because I believe that God is a good God. And I believe he was not a promise so many if he was not going to fulfill them. So as I prayed about this, I got a word and I'm going to try to put it in time this morning and I see the big clock up there. Thank you, Father. Thank you for your strength and wisdom. Thank you, Lord. Thank you. Many years ago, Bible school days, I worked my way through Bible school with law laws and I became when I graduated I was assistant pastor. And then he wanted to make me or that did make me the manager of the produce departments. I said, okay, I wanted me to learn about produce and I think I had a future in loblaws maybe. So they sent me to one store and it would be set up and then the big guy over all the produce would come and show me things that needed to be done. And so it was set up pretty nicely. If you know anything about produce, there's a lot of stuff you can do with color and we used a lot of ice back in those days.

So he came in, he said, hi, Peter, how are you doing? I said, fine. He said, well, this looks okay, but I want you to change it. I want you to put this over here. I was taking notes, his sis. I said, it was good. What he was saying? He knew his projects and his display. He said, so that's good. I said, that's good, sir. Thank you very much. About 10 o'clock in the morning. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I was in the back working and I heard we've had those big doors covered in tin. So the buckies can hit them and it doesn't hurt the door and you can see a glass through them. And he said, boom. Oh my goodness, who is out there? And he comes around and says, where is he? Where is he? Where is he? And I said, are you looking for me, sir? Yes, I'm looking for you. And he

was jumping about that high. He says, what are you doing? Didn't I tell you to change that out there? I said, well, yes, sir. I'm planning on changing it tomorrow morning. I'll have it. You take the counter off and keep it in the cooler and you bring it out and you refresh it. It looks great first thing in the morning.

He said, if I wanted you to change it tomorrow morning, I would have told you. I wanted you to change it this morning, this morning when I left I expected it to be changed and I came in here this afternoon and it's the very same thing. And I said, sir, I thought, I thought you met the new setup for tomorrow morning. He said, no, I don't want you to think anymore, Peter. I want you to do what I tell you to do. So it was the lesson I learned. I learned that sometimes what I thought was not necessarily the right thing. And I wonder sometimes if in our zeal for serving God, we get a hold of a promise, something that we can hang on to because it says what we want, it provides what we want, it's there for us. And we sit back and say, I thought, I think this is what God wants for me. I remember one Sunday morning in a place that I went to a few years ago. Now some of you probably were there. And I made the statement, I said, how many believe that we should have revival or we need revival?

And of course, if I said that, no, I think every one of us would say, amen, we need revival. Amen, we need revival. And then I stopped and I said, but do you know what it looks like? Maybe you've read a lot of books on revival and you're thinking, well, it will look like one of those stories. I've got the feeling that the revival that we're expecting is going to be so different. We may miss it if we are not wise. If we are not wise, we may miss it. So if you allow me, I'm sorry, my glasses are not working this morning.

Second Kings chapter five. Now the main name and captain of the host of the King of Syria, he was a top man in the army to the king. He was the king's right hand man. Was a great man with his master and honorable because by him, now this is an unusual statement because by him, by this man, the top of the captain of the army, by him, the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria. I didn't know the Lord did that. I didn't think that the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria. He was also a mighty man and valor. And here's the biggest but in the Old Testament, but he was a leper. This great man, he was a leper. I couldn't understand how the leper could be in a house, how the leper could have a wife and a child. You'll see that in a minute. And then I realized something. Syria did not have the books, the four books, the Pentateuch, Ecclesiastes and all the explanations of sickness and how they didn't have that.

So this man was in his home. What was his future going to be? Nobody knows. And the Syrians had gone out by companies and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid who had not given her age, who had not given her name. I like to think she's nine or ten years of age. And she waited on Naaman's wife. And she said unto her mistress, little girl speaks to her mistress, would God, my Lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria, for he would recover him of his leprosy. And one went in, somebody went and told his Lord, saying, thus and thus set the maid that is of the land of Israel. Boy, they must have really had a respect for this little girl. She spoke a word and things started happening.

This little girl probably had her parents murdered, was taken captive away from everything that

she knew and loved and saved in this year. She is now serving as a slave in a foreign country. And yet you don't see there's no bitterness. You know, the old saying, she didn't curse it. She didn't nurse it. She didn't rehearse it. She just dispersed it and the Lord reversed it. A miracle right here, my little girl speaking. And so he went in and said, thus and thus the maid that is the land of Israel. And the king of Syria said, go to go, go. And I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed and took with him ten talents of silver, that's a lot, and six thousand pieces of gold, that's a lot, and ten changes of Raiment. I mean, they had to take a lot of soldiers along, a lot of horses and chariots and all that.

A lot of people take this to be healed. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, now, when this letter is coming to you, behold, I have there with sent name and my servant to thee. That you may recover him from his leprosy. You see how misunderstanding it's come, misunderstanding. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, now, when this letter is coming to you, okay, may we recover. Verse seven, and it came to pass when the king of Israel had read the letter that he rent his clothes. That means he was so, he just couldn't handle it anymore. And he said, am I God to kill and make a lie that this man to send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy, wherefore consider I pray you, and see how he seeks a quarrel with me. He just was in our land before and ruined it. Now he wants to come back. And it was so many lies, the prophet, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes.

That was meaningful, that was very important to the people. Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes, he said, let him come now to me. And he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel. So Naaman, Naaman came with his horses, with his chariot, and he stood at the door of the house of Elisha. Now it was either a big, big house or just a really big front yard because there were a lot of people. I'm trying to get probably 50, 60 people in that enteronage that came. Do you see, they run their mules, their horses, their servants, their soldiers to protect this stuff, protect this man. So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. I'm tempted to ask her how big that house was. He was a, I don't know if he was on TV, but if he was, he would have been a very big house. Elisha sent a messenger unto him saying, go and wash in Jordan seven times and thy flesh shall come again to thee. And thou shalt be clean.

But Naaman was wrathful. He was angry. He was angry. He went away. Now picture him. He comes, he's probably in his chariot. He's got his soldiers lined up here, more here, servants behind him. He's got somewhere where he can display all these gifts that he's going to give to this prophet. He said, he's angry and he says, behold, that means everybody, listen, behold, listen up. Look here, look up here, behold, I thought. You got it? Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and be impressed with everything that you see. You'd understand that I'm a very important person in Syria. And he would stand before everyone. He would call on the name of the Lord, his God, and strike his hand over in my place and recover the leper.

Are not the two rivers mentioned in Damascus better than all the rivers in Israel? I'm going to wash in them and be clean so he turned and went away in a rage. That is how close he was to America. But because he thought he had it planned in his mind just how it would happen. May the Holy Spirit take these simple words here and answer the question. And maybe we're not getting the miracles in our lives individually and our families and our church and our name

because we may have a different thought than what God has. And his servants came there. They were good servants. He was a good man. They went after him and they said to him, my father. That's the kind of guy he went to.

If the prophet had bid you do some great thing, would you not have done it how much rather than when he said to flee, wash, and be clean? They don't know how long it took to get the anger out of him and convince him that he should maybe obey the prophet. It then says the next verse 14, then he went down and dipped himself seven times in Jordan according to the saying of the man of God. And his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child and he was clean. And he returned to the man of God. He and all his company came and stood before him again. Come up to this front door. Everybody came. Behold, now I know that there's no God in all the earth. But in Israel now, therefore I pray they take the blessing of thy servant.

This was the man of God really. It would have been so easy to say, when I'm running a school of the prophets, they all have needs. I'll take some of it. Here's what he said. As the Lord lived with before whom I stand, I will receive none. None. They would urge him to take it, but he refused. A name and said, shall there not? Then I prayed thee. Then did I serve a two mules burden of earth. It's a strange request. Two mules and all the stuff they can carry with topsoil from Israel. Something about this, it's so true. God wanted a preaching camp in Syria. He wanted to put down a church eventually, a believer's. And this man says, can I take back two mules, Lord of dirt? For thy servant will hereafter, neither burnt offerings nor sacrifice unto the gods, but unto the Lord. In this thing, the Lord pardoned my servant. He's asking now for an excuse here, a release. He says that when my master, that would be the king, goes into the house of Rimmon, the God of Rimmon to worship. He leans on my hand, and that was his custom and leaning on the army man. I bow myself in the house of Rimmon. When I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, the Lord pardoned thy servant in this thing. Very interesting.

I thought that Elisha would have said, no, no, no, you can't do that. Elisha says, go in peace. And so he departed from him a little ways. Now, I'm going to cut that off there. Can I encourage you to read this this afternoon? Just read the whole story, the whole chapter. It's filled with such wonderful truths. Jahizah goes and gets, tries to get some of the stuff, and it doesn't work out too good for him. But let's go back to that, to this here. This is what I believe for weeks though. I believe I needed to say this to you. Is something not happening in your life? Because maybe you thought it would happen this way. If you were to ask me what I think is the revival verse in the Old Testament, I think you all know that. Second Chronicles 7:14. If my people, say it with me. If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then, if then, then will I hear from heaven, I will forgive their sins, I will heal their land.

For a long, long time this verse bothered me. I cannot understand how you can humble yourselves before you pray. How would you even want to humble yourself if you were not praying? I worked at this, I studied it, I read a lot of commentaries on it. It wasn't maybe two or three or four years ago that I was reading a Hebrew scholar in the Hebrew language of course. And he said that word there, humble yourself, really is a translation that should say, see through God's eyes. If you, God's people, call by your name, we are Christians, we fit that verse even

though it's New Old Testament.

If me, a Christian, call by his name will see things the way he sees them. Can you back out a little bit and back up and say, am I seeing things God's way? Am I allowing the Holy Spirit to put truth in my eyesight? If I could see things God's way, would there be a different expectation? Am I allowing bitterness over situations not changing? Am I allowing bitterness to fill my heart? Because I haven't got things the way I expected them. I throw that out for me for you this morning. Is it possible that pride wells up? And there it was. Why was he so upset? Because he was proud. He was a leper, but he was proud. If God was going to set up a preaching point of something in Syria, he needed to get this man free of something that was more dangerous than leprosy. And that was pride.

A broken and a contrite heart, I will not despise, say the Lord. Brokenness. We sang about that this morning. Some beautiful songs out. But it brings us to this place. And why God, I was looking at this and I said, Lord, it must be something. I wasn't allowed to share it until now. I believe I'm sharing it at the right time to the right people. Are you allowing pride and your way of thinking to hurt God's will and purpose in your life? You said, well, how do you do that? Well, do we have some of those up there? I'll see if we can just reaffirm every day that God is good. Amen? Every day. That's where he was being attacked. It must break God's heart when these people get together and say, well, you can't trust God. I want you to know something. You can trust God. You can trust God.

This is silly, okay? But I'm going to tell you anyway.

When we get to heaven, we're going to see the first maybe five or six hundred years, which is probably four days. Time in heaven doesn't work, right? It doesn't work. But as we walk around heaven, we see men with headaches. Men with headaches in heaven. And we said to one of them, what's your problem? What happened? He went, why couldn't I see it? That's a sermon in a nutshell right there. Why couldn't we see it?

Okay, the next one. Recognize that sometimes God seems to be failing us in order to test us. It is his right to test us. He tested the children of Israel in the wilderness. He tests us.

Number three, recognize, realize that what seems to be a setback may be a setup. I think it was Joyce Meyer who foresaw that. It could be a setup. It's just that you're in a different place. Praying and our thinking, our determination that I thought, I thought. Isn't that amazing that when I read this verse, I said, Lord, give me something to say, go back. Well, how many years ago that would have been 67, 60, that would have been about 70, 1970. And that man's word. He says, you don't do anything around here. Around here is mine. You may be the project manager in this story, but I am over it all and I am responsible. You do it my way. In a way, God wants us to do it his way. Why would I ever think of that? Why would I ever think of that?

Number four, rebuke pride and stubbornness on a daily basis.