

DEEPER TEACHINGS
(MEAT OF THE WORD)

#63

EXCEPT THOSE DAYS BE SHORTENED

By Sam Fife



According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:10

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Mat 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to *him* for to show him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what *shall be* the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on

the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

Our scripture text, which contains the central theme of our message, is in verse 22, where Jesus said, "Except those days be shortened, no flesh should be saved." All the years of my Christian life in Christ and in the ministry, I have read this verse of scripture many times, and had no real understanding as to the true depth of its meaning until a little less than a year ago. At that time I was high over the Atlantic Ocean, in one of our time's huge jets, winging my way to Kenya, East Africa, for a week of ministry there to some African ministers, when the Spirit of God, building upon the foundations of endtime truth, suddenly began to give me a full understanding of what Jesus really meant, when He said, "Except those days be shortened, no flesh should be saved." However, in order to share its meaning with you, I must go back to the beginning of the chapter and unveil the foundational truths which lead up to this one. Chapter 24 of the Book of Matthew has been a confused mystery to most Christians because they have not understood that every word that Jesus spoke in it has two fulfillments. One in the judgment of God and destruction of Jerusalem, of the Old Testament physical temple in 70 A.D. by the Roman Titus and his Roman legions; and the other in the judgment of God upon this world's system and world's religious system that is to be accomplished in these last days.

Therefore, many Christians and so-called Bible scholars have not understood that the destruction of the Jews temple and the Old Testament physical temple in 70 A.D. was but a type and a prophecy of the judgment of God that shall come in these last days in which God shall destroy all physical temples, including the physical temple of our physical fleshy bodies, and also the physical temple that the Jews will

rebuild in Jerusalem in these last days, in which the fundamentalists church thinks that Jesus is going to come back and reign. Also, the physical city of Jerusalem itself, in these last days in which the one-world anti-Christ beast government headed up by the Jews is going to establish its world capitol and enthrone its false messiah, who will have sold the world his master plan to bring in world peace by establishing a one-world government.

The reason God is going to do this is so that having done away with the physical fleshy temple of our physical bodies and the Jews' physical temple that they will rebuild in Jerusalem, and the old physical city of Jerusalem, is so that Christ might reign in this earth from the true temple of His many-membered spiritual body; wherein each member will have been changed into that incorruptible, glorified body and become the eternal spiritual city of Jerusalem, which will be Christ's true capitol, from which he will rule and reign in this earth. Therefore many Christians and so-called Bible scholars, not knowing that the destruction of the Jewish temple and the city of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. was only a type of God's judgment upon those things in these last days; have either relegated everything in Matthew 24 to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., or else only to things that are going to happen in these last days in the end-time judgment, and not knowing that the chapter really reveals both.

The key to understanding this is the first three verses of the chapter, which reveals that everything Jesus said in Chapter 24 was an answer to a three-fold question that His apostles had asked him.

Verse 1 reveals that Jesus had just come out of the Old Testament physical temple at Jerusalem, where He had been teaching. His disciples came to Him and pointed out to Him the beauty of the buildings of the temple.

Verse 2 reveals that Jesus answered them that the day would come when not one stone would be left upon another of the buildings of that temple, but that all should be destroyed.

Verse 3 then tells us that as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, His disciples came to Him privately and asked Him the three-fold question. When shall these things be, and what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the age. In other words, the three-fold question that they asked Jesus was, when the temple would be destroyed as He had spoken to them, and what would be the sign of His coming, and also what would be the sign of the end of this age.

The King James translation translates the end of this age to be the end of the world, but the original language of the scripture says the end of the age. Therefore, all that Jesus said in Matthew 24 was in answer to this three-fold question: as to when the temple in Jerusalem would be destroyed, and what would be the signs of His coming, and what would be the sign of the end of the age.

But since the destruction of the temple, and the old Jerusalem in 70 A.D. was only a type and a prophecy of all physical temples and the old physical Jerusalem once and for all and forever, so that Christ might reign in His true temple, and the new Jerusalem city, which new Jerusalem city we are; therefore, all that is in this chapter refers both to the judgment of God, in 70 A.D., and the judgment of God in these last days.

Since the judgment of God in 70 A.D. has already been accomplished, it is not our purpose therefore to deal with that, but to show how that in the Spirit of the Word, every aspect of that judgment was only a type of the coming judgment, and how the Spirit of the Word reveals that everything Jesus says here, is given to us to answer the three-fold question; as to when the judgment of God shall come on all physical temples, and what shall be the sign of Christ's coming, and of the end of this age. Let us quickly say here, also, that when we say the signs of Christ's coming, although we believe in His literal coming also at the close of this tribulation, we are referring primarily to His coming forth in full manifestation in His body in these last days.

Now when we study verses 4-14, we find that Jesus gave three great signs for those whose spiritual eyes were open, which would lead up to the very end of this age. The first one is revealed in verses 6, 7, and 8. Jesus said there would be wars and rumors of wars, nation rising against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and therefore famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places.

Certainly we have seen and are seeing these things come to pass. Those of us to whom God has revealed that the master plan of the master conspirators, through whom the anti-Christ spirit has been working through down through the generations, has been to work behind the scenes to cause war and strife and divisions, putting every segment of humanity against every other segment, race against race, color against color, religion against religion until the peoples of the world become so weary of war and strife, that when they then step on the scene with a master plan to bring in world peace, by forming a one world government, all the peoples of the world will buy it.

It is because Jesus knew that this was the master plan of the spirit of iniquity that He proclaimed that wars and rumors of wars, and nation rising against nation would increase in these last days, and that it would be one of the signs of the coming of the end. Within these last few years we have also seen, not only the great earthquake in Alaska, and the one in Peru that claimed over fifty thousand lives, but we will also see the big one that the Spirit of God has foretold through many of the prophets that will one day come to California. And all these earthquakes are but God's typical warnings that the day is approaching when as the scripture says, he will shake not the earth only but the heavens also, in that final great judgment which shall purify both the heavens and the earth, and bring forth His new creation.

But we must remember that verse 8 says that all these things are but the beginnings of sorrows. Therefore we must not assume that they are the full portrayal of the end, but we must look for the other signs that Jesus said also would come

forth. The second set of signs we find in verses 9-13, and they pertain to those things that have to do with God's church. There are three great signs that shall be revealed here. First, great persecution against the church. Verse 9 says, "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted and shall kill you, and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake." Then great betrayal and great apostasy in the church as Jesus said, "Then shall many be offended and shall betray one another and hate one another and many false prophets shall arise and shall deceive many." And thirdly a great coldness and falling away in the church as in verse 12, we hear Jesus say: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."

First there shall be great persecution against the true church of Jesus Christ. Already today we see the one world council of churches as she goes back into union with the old harlot Catholic mother, preparing to sell herself and her children into a whorish union with the one world beast government. Already we know that she has plans to so propagandize the mass mind of humanity with the idea that everyone who preaches the blood of Jesus and the cross of Jesus Christ is mentally and emotionally sick, therefore should either be put in a mental institution as a danger to the local community, or criminal laws passed making it a criminal offense to preach the blood of Jesus.

Therefore, Jesus says at that time, that many shall be offended, and betray one another and there shall be great betrayal, father of son, mother of daughter, and brother of brother in the church in these last days. Only those in this end time move of the Spirit of God, who have become one body and come to that manifested Sonship that Jesus walked in when He said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his brother," only they will refuse to betray one another when the pressure is on.

Jesus goes on to say that many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many. In these last days, there are going to be many men who are born again ministers of Christ, who

move in the concept of individualism and have rejected the revelation of God's divine order, in which five ministries move as one, confirming one another. These men meet great religious spirits which shall give them visions and dreams and revelations that they shall proclaim to God's people, as prophets of God, and as Jesus said, shall deceive many. Only those ministries who are moving in the context of God's divine order, who recognize that no vision, or no revelation, or no word from God can be trusted until it is confirmed in the mouth of two or three witnesses in the context of the divine order in God's body, shall be able to lead God's people forward, without getting themselves deceived.

Jesus goes on to say in verse 12, that because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. This reveals a great falling away even in the true church of Christ, so that only that remnant that are being called to be in the woman that is clothed with the sun, and the manchild that shall come out of her womb, will still be fully surrendered to Jesus Christ, the heavenly bridegroom.

The third great sign that Jesus said would reveal the coming of the end of the age was that the gospel of the kingdom would be preached in all the world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end would come. When He says the end, He means the end of the age. The third and last and foremost sign that Jesus said would bring us to the end of this age, would be the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom in every nation in the world as a witness to all nations. Now you must understand that when Jesus speaks of the gospel of the kingdom here, He is not referring to the gospel of grace that has been preached by the church from the time that Jesus ascended 2,000 years ago until now. But He is referring to the gospel of the kingdom, the good news that at last Jesus has a generation of members of His body that will be so yielded to Him that He cannot only have them born of the Spirit, and baptize them in the Spirit, but also grow them up in the Spirit to the measure of the stature of

the fulness of Christ, and change them into that incorruptible manchild. That incorruptible manchild through whom He shall reign in a new age, that shall begin within the next fifteen or twenty years, called the thousand year reign of Christ. In which Christ shall reign through that manchild in a new governmental order, that is being revealed line upon line and precept upon precept to the sons of God now, the order of Melchizedek, which is a governmental order that shall be a theocratic spirit order, wherein every member of the body of Christ shall be related to one another in an order, where there shall be no more laws, no more rules, no more governing force, but every member of that body shall be so yielded to and so led by the Spirit in that body, that he won't move until he is moved by that spirit, and yet there will be perfect order. Perfect order without laws, without rules, and without a governing force.

This is the gospel of the kingdom. Two thousand years ago when Jesus came down from the mount of temptation and went forth in His three and a half year earthly ministry to the Jews, He was not preaching the gospel of grace, but he was preaching the gospel of the kingdom. Mark 1: 14-15 tells us that after Jesus came down from the mount of temptation He came into Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God and saying the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand, repent ye and believe the gospel.

If the Jews had not rejected Him as their long awaited Messiah and King, He would have taught them the spiritual laws upon which the kingdom of God operates, and the Melchizedek spiritual order upon which God purposes to rule over His theocratic Spirit kingdom, and the kingdom of Christ on earth would have come in at that time. But the Jews rejected Him, and crucified Him. God foreknew they would and therefore He withdrew the gospel of the kingdom and through the gospel of grace, which the apostles began preaching,

after Jesus had shed His blood to cleanse a many-membered body, He called out of the Gentile world a many-membered

body in which His sons could come forth, as they grow up to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ in these last days.

Now in these last days, He is about to go forth in that manifested son company, to every nation in the world, preaching not the gospel of grace, but the gospel of the kingdom of God. I am sitting now in Mexico City in the heart of old Mexico where each evening I am teaching the gospel of the kingdom to a small group of end time saints who, as Jesus said, shall preach the gospel of the kingdom to the nation of Mexico as a witness to it. Less than a month ago, I, with other end time ministries, was in the country of Colombia, South America, teaching the gospel of the kingdom to a group of end time saints there who shall bear witness to it in the nation of Colombia. Less than two weeks before that, I was in Canada preaching the gospel of the kingdom to a group of the saints there, who shall bear witness to it in that country. In the month of October, Brother Buddy Cobb and I shall be going to Kenya, East Africa, to spend a week, eight hours a day, teaching the gospel of the kingdom, to a considerable number of African ministers who shall bear witness to the gospel of the kingdom to that nation. Other end time ministries today are carrying the gospel of the kingdom to Spain, Peru, Australia, New Zealand, and many other nations in the world, and as Jesus said, before this end time move of the Spirit of God is over, the gospel of the kingdom shall be preached to all nations as a witness unto them, and then shall the end come.

Jesus did not say that this gospel of the kingdom shall be accepted by all nations, any more than it was accepted by the Jews when Jesus preached it. But it shall be preached to them as a witness to them, to give them an opportunity here, and then when they will reject it, then the end will come and God's judgment shall come upon them. Just as when the Jews rejected Jesus preaching of the gospel of the kingdom 37 years later in 70 A.D. God's judgment came upon them.

Jesus goes on to say in verse 15, "When ye therefore shall see the abominations of desolations spoken of by Daniel the prophet stand in the Holy Place, whoso readeth, let Him understand." Actually, that which is called here the abomination of desolation in Daniel, chapter 12, verse 11, is called the abomination that maketh desolate. This refers to that hour when the one world beast government has been established and their world capitol has been established in Jerusalem, and the Jews have rebuilt their physical temple and set their false messiah in it, proclaiming him to be the saviour of the world, because he was the one to bring in world peace with his master plan for one world government.

This will be, of course, Lucifer's proclamation of himself as the god of this world. It will also be the manifestation of the mystery of iniquity come to its fulness. It will also be the manifestation of all lost mankind's fallen nature come to the perfection of iniquity, and it will also be the abomination that maketh desolate, that Daniel 12: 11 speaks of, and that verse 15 here refers to. For it will be that final abomination that will bring to an end of God's longsuffering with Satan and fallen mankind; and therefore after that God will begin to pour out His desolations upon the earth, and this world system, to bring it to complete desolation. When that happens, Jesus says, let him that hath understanding stand in the Holy Place. Only those who have responded to the revelation that has come forth in this end time move of the Spirit will be in a position to stand in the Holy Place. For they only have the true revelation of where the Holy Place is. They only know that it refers to that place in the Spirit that we have come to through our Baptism in the Spirit and our growth in the Spirit, that the second division of the tabernacle that Moses pitched in the wilderness, that is called Holy Place, is a type of.

That Holy Place in the Tabernacle that Moses pitched, which contained the candlestick and the table of shewbread, and the golden altar of incense, is a type of that place in the Spirit that we have come to, where we are eating from the

hidden manna from God's table of shewbread, and partaking of the gifts of the Spirit of which the candlestick was a type, and of coming to the golden altar of incense. Where during this great tribulation in the Holy Place just before the veil which covered the entrance to the holiest of all, we shall lay ourselves down on the golden altar of incense in full surrender to God, and the purifying fires of the great tribulation will burn out all our dross, and all our flesh, so that we may be that spiritual sons of God that will be ready to enter into the Holiest of All.

In verse 16, Jesus says, "Let him which be in Judaea flee to the mountains." In its first and primary fulfillment, this referred to the Israelites during the judgment in 70 A.D. that were in the Judaeian area outside the city of Jerusalem at the time when Titus' Roman legions besieged the city. Since they were not hemmed in the city by the legions of Rome, who were in the Judean area surrounding the city, they would flee to take refuge in the mountains which were the wilderness places surrounding Jerusalem.

But in its final spiritual fulfillment today this refers to those who are being forewarned by the Spirit of God beforehand, therefore will not be hemmed in by the one world anti-Christ spirit when it takes over, and therefore must not only get up in a high place in the Spirit, but also will be free to move into those wilderness places where the Spirit of God will lead His people that they might again sustain their life off the land completely independent of the Babylonish commercial system which at that time will be ruling the world.

Jesus goes on to say, "Let him that is on the housetops not come down to take anything out of his house." This means that those of us who have risen to a high place in the Spirit must not descend back down into the carnal realm, in order to save our material possessions, else we shall wind up like Lot's wife, who when God sent the messenger of the Lord to deliver her out of the judgment, could not refrain from looking back on her

material possessions and turning into a pillar of salt. But we must be willing to leave them all behind that we may be free to move as the Spirit of God moves us in those ways, and into those places whereby He will take us through.

In verse 18, Jesus said, "neither let him which is in the field turn back to take his clothes." This means, of course, that we must be willing to leave behind our modern worldly standards, and fashions, and be stripped down to the bare necessities in the things of the Spirit, in order to go through this great test that is coming.

In verse 19, Jesus then says, "Woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in that day." Again in its primary application this had reference in 70 A.D. to mothers that had to look upon the suffering of their little ones during the destruction of Jerusalem, and the judgment that came at that time. But in its fuller application for this last hour it refers to the woman church systems, whose children will still be babes in the Spirit, and children of the Lord, and will not have grown up to that full Sonship which will enable them of face what is coming on the earth, in the strength of the son of God, and in His supernatural wisdom and power.

In verse 20 Jesus winds up His exhortation to us saying, "Pray ye that your flight be not in the winter neither on the Sabbath day." This of course could not be referring to literal wintertime, neither the literal Sabbath day, for our flight could not be made easier or harder by a literal winter, or literal sabbath day.

In order to get the true meaning that Jesus was bringing forth here, we need to understand that in John 6, Jesus said, "The words that I speak are Spirit words and they are life." Jesus always spoke spiritually in spiritual terms. And in our earthly experience, the cold winter season where the clouds cover the sky, and the warmth departs, and sun ceases to shine, and the snow begins to fall, is a type of that hour when the great tribulation shall come to its fulness on this earth, and the clouds of tribulation cover the sky, and the anti-Christ beast government has taken over, and it becomes very

hard to get the light of the true Sun, Jesus, and the great falling away has come forth in the earth.

When that cold wintertime comes, which is designed to do away with all the life of God in the earth, even as the natural winter kills all natural life in the earth, those who have been responding to the move of the Spirit of God, and have been forewarned, will not wait until that wintertime begins, to move out, but will be led out by the Spirit of God beforehand. But many who have rejected the move of the Spirit, who are to be saved so as by fire, who have not been responding to the move of the Spirit of God, will be taken by surprise,

and will be forced to seek to flee those things that are coming against the church of Jesus Christ, after the great winter begins. Therefore, their suffering that shall break them will be far worse than those who have been forewarned and led out by the Spirit of God beforehand.

Jesus goes on to say, "Pray that your flight be not on the Sabbath day." He is not referring to the Old Testament Sabbath, old Israel, neither to the Saturday Sabbath that the Adventists teach today. But the Old Testament seventh day Sabbath, in which old Israel rested from their labors. For even the seventh day of the week in this New Testament age was only a type of the rest that we enter into when we have grown up to the stature of Christ and entered into that seventh step of overcoming which shall be our perfect rest in God. Therefore Jesus is warning us that we should have entered into that rest before the great tribulation hits. We should be resting on our Sabbath day and not having to strive and labour to flee out of the hands of the one world beast government that will at that time be ruling the world.

With this we come to the two scriptures that are the central theme of our message in this issue of "The Word," which is verses 21 and 22. Jesus says, "Then shall the great tribulation such has not been since the beginning of the world to this time, nor ever shall be. And except those days

should be shortened there should no flesh be saved, but for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened."

As I said in the beginning of this article that only last year, high over the Atlantic Ocean, the Spirit of God began to reveal to me what Jesus really meant when He said, "except those days be shortened no flesh should be saved." Jesus said this two thousand years ago, because He knew the mystery that few human beings know. That is, that since the fall it is the very nature of human flesh to destroy itself. The reason this is so is because through the fall man degenerated downward into the nature of a beast. When God first generated a created man in Adam, and placed him here on this earth, he had the nature of a man, but the nature God created him with was a spiritual nature of a spiritual being who lived and walked in the Spirit, and thereby could commune with God who is a Spirit. But through the fall man degenerated downward from the nature that God created him with into the nature of a beast.

In these last days in this move of the Spirit, God has revealed to us the truth that no human beings and few of God's people are aware of. And that is that the definition of a man according to the Bible is what Adam was before his fall. A spiritual being walking and living in the Spirit; and therefore being led by and ruled over by God's Spirit at all times. That is the true definition of man for that is what Adam, the first man was, before his fall.

Therefore today, only those who through having been born again of the Spirit of God have been recreated or regenerated in Christ, and have become the second Adam, that is recreated back in to that spiritual nature man had before the fall, and truly a man in the true definition of the word.

This reveals to us the shocking truth, that all those people out there in the world that haven't been born again or recreated or regenerated, that just because they wear pants, everyone thinks they are a man, they are not men, they are beasts. For they have been born with the fallen beast nature that Adam degenerated down into after his fall. Now the

main difference between the nature of a man, which is what Adam was before his fall, a spiritual being, and the nature of a beast, is that a true spiritual man who is a spiritual being, made in the image of God who is a Spirit; is motivated in all his actions by the reasoning powers of God Himself. But a beast who has the beast nature does not have reasoning powers, therefore all his actions are not motivated by reasoning powers, but by his bestial instincts for self-preservation. Therefore, a beast has no revulsion whatsoever against destroying his own kind, or devouring his own kind in order to preserve and sustain his own life. Therefore, the fox doesn't hesitate to destroy the rabbit, in order to devour him to sustain his own life. A larger beast doesn't hesitate to destroy the fox in order to eat him, a larger beast doesn't hesitate to destroy that beast in order to devour him and eat him and sustain his own life; and so it goes from the smallest to the greatest. This is because the beast nature does not have reasoning powers to reason that if it accepts and follows the principle of destroying his own kind and devouring his own kind to sustain his own life, it must ultimately destroy itself. Because as the fox follows the principles of destroying the rabbit, its own kind, to sustain its own life, it is moving in the acceptance of a principle that is one day bound to bring it into contact with a larger beast than itself, who also follows the same principle and brings itself to destruction.

When we understand this truth it is easy for us to see why it is that all the lost people of the world out there who have not been regenerated, back into the nature of a spiritual being that Adam was before his fall, a true man, therefore are not men, but beast, and are plunging headlong toward world destruction and self destruction.

It is because, though they imagine themselves to be men, they are not really men, but beasts having the beast nature. Therefore, in all their actions they are not motivated by reasoning powers belonging only to one who is made in the image of God, who is a Spirit. But they are motivated by

their bestial instinct for self preservation. That is why they do not hesitate to kill one another and devour one another in their wars in order to preserve their own life. It is because they do not have reasoning power to reason that if they accept the principle of destroying their own kind in order to preserve their own life, they must ultimately destroy themselves.

It was for precisely this reason that when Jesus was brought to the cross, He refused to fight back, even to defend Himself against His own kind, but was willing to lay down His own life in order to save His brother's life. The reason was because he was the first one to come into this world since Adam who was a man, who had the true nature of a man, because when he was born from the womb of the Mary, the seed by which He was conceived did not come from the natural loins of a fallen man, but He had the true nature of a man, the nature of a spiritual being, the same kind of nature Adam had before his fall.

That is why the Bible calls Him the second Adam. He had the reasoning power of a man, which is the reasoning power of God to reason that if He participated in the principle of fighting back and destroying His own kind, even to defend to save His own life, He must ultimately destroy Himself. When these truths are opened to one's understanding, then it is easy to see that all the rulers of this world who have not been born again of the Spirit of God and regenerated, or recreated back into the nature of a man, are not men, they are beasts.

It is for this reason that they fight their wars, kill, destroy, and devour one another. It is because they do not have the reasoning powers of a true man to reason that if they devour and destroy their own kind, they must ultimately destroy one another, but they are motivated by their bestial instincts for self preservation.

They may dress up in their royal robes, or business suits, and try to present themselves as men to the peoples of the world, and seek to convince the peoples of the world that

they are trying to promote peace and love in the earth, but when the pressure is on and they get pressed into a corner, then they draw out their guns and their bombs, and their beast instinct for self preservation shows up and they do not hesitate to destroy their own kind in order to preserve their own life.

Thus we see that they cannot reason that if they accept the principle of destroying their own kind for any reason whatsoever, even to preserve their own life, they must ultimately wind up destroying their own life, they must ultimately wind up destroying themselves. Just as the beast because he is in the woods, cannot reason that if they destroy their own kind, they will destroy themselves.

It was because Jesus knew this and He knew that it was the very nature of human flesh to destroy itself, that He knew that in the end of this age, because human nature followed this principle, that Lucifer the master spirit of division would be able to bring men to the point where they would all destroy one another. They would devour one another in their effort to sustain their own life by feeding off the life of their own kind.

If God had not foreknown this ultimate end of the flesh nature, and made provision through Jesus Christ at the work of Calvary to call out an elect people and regenerate them back into the nature of a man, a spiritual being like Adam was before the fall, all flesh would exterminate itself by devouring itself. Thus, God foreknew that this would be the ultimate end.

Therefore, He not only made provision in Christ, to call out of that vicious cycle an elect people but He also ordained that those days of great tribulation in which flesh shall be devouring flesh, should be shortened for the elect's sake, otherwise as Jesus said, no flesh should be saved.

The reason the lion is used for a symbol for the devil in the Bible, is because the nature of the beast and the nature of the serpent are the same. Even Lucifer is not aware that in

establishing this principle of participating in the devouring of one's own kind he is bringing himself to destruction.

As a little boy at times in my life, I have seen a snake, when great pressure was put upon him, turn and begin to bite himself, his own tail. Obviously, the serpent-nature is not aware that if he continues this process of biting his tail, he would ultimately destroy his body, and a head without a body must die.

So all human flesh, with the beast nature, because it does not have the reasoning power of God; cannot see that if those who at the higher extremities of its being, bite and devour those who are the lower extremities, the biting and devouring process must continue until it arrives at its own head, and destroys itself.

Therefore, Jesus came into the world as the second Adam, restored back into the nature of a man, to teach us exactly the opposite principle, that the head should minister its life to the lower extremities of the body, and therefore receiving life from it in return, even to the point of laying down his life for the life of his lower members.

Thus we hear the Spirit say through the Apostle Paul that God had tempered the body together so that if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it. And if one member is honored all the other members are honored with it, and our uncomely parts deserve more abundant honor.

Therefore in those days of great tribulation in this earth, when there is great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, nor ever shall be, for the elect's sake God is going to shorten those days so that He might save a people through whom He will bring forth a new heaven and a new earth, moving in the opposite principle that our Lord Jesus taught, Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his brother's life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

