# **Astonishing Things to Happen**

Fred R. Coulter—August 30, 2014

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services!

In a bit we're going to watch a video, a very startling video! You may recall that many times I have said that there has to be something take place with the Muslim to tame them down so they can become part of a world-religion. How is that going to happen? When we watch this video you will see a very miraculous finding that happened to a Muslim Imam who became converted to Catholicism.

Matthew 24:24: "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and they shall present great signs and wonders..." One woman told me that some of those in a congregation of a Church of God said, 'When they see miracles they will really be convinced.' Well, I don't know what they need to be convinced about, however, miracles that do not conform to the Word of God *come from Satan* the devil.

Notice how convincing they are going to be. When we watch the video I want you to see how convincing it is. "...in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect" (v 24). If God doesn't give miracles, and Satan gives miracles, are you going to say that this can't be of God because we don't have miracles. Look at the miracles that they are doing.

Remember what happened with Moses and Aaron and Pharaoh? The first three miracles that they did—the snakes, the blood and the frogs—the magicians copied. It stopped with the lice. God had a special treat for them!

- What does it say about the things concerning the antichrist? With lying wonders of all deceivableness!
- How is that going to take place?
- Why will it be convincing?

Rev. 13—he will call fire down from heaven! That's convincing—isn't it? What could they point to in the Bible? They could point to Elijah who called fire down from heaven! Everybody is going to be convinced that these things are going to be of God.

This video was originally done in Spanish, but there is an English translation. Just a little aside: Remember the one thing that the Catholics have not really revealed, which is *the vision of Fatima*, which was two or three girls who were related to Mohammad. You're going to be astonished when you watch this.

From Changing Tracks, hosted by Cristina Casado (CC); interview Mario Joseph (MJ):

**CC:** Welcome to another episode of "Changing Tracks." Today we have yet another wonderful video conference, this time in English. We have the honor of having Mario Joseph with us.

Mario Joseph, welcome to "Changing Tracks." Thank you for being with us today.

MJ: You're welcome, and God bless.

<u>CC:</u> I guess we can start with an easy question. What was your childhood like? Where are you from? What was your family like? Tell us a little about yourself.

MJ: My great grandparents are from Turkey, but they came and settled down in India in the South Kerala; it's a location called Wayanad, beautiful hill station. We are six children at home and I am third one.

When I was in the womb of my mama, there was an infection in her womb. So, all the doctors said, "The child will die in the womb. And the doctors compelled my mother to kill the child, you know. But she is a very good Allah, God. So she did not accept anyone's advice. She prayed to Allah saying, "Allah, life belongs to you, so I know you can give life. If you give life for this baby, I will surrender this baby to you." That was her offering or her surrender.

And miraculously, I was born, or I would die in the womb. Because I have been dedicated to God, my parents did not send me to school. So, my childhood was very bad, because when my brother, sisters and neighbors all go to school, I don't have any freedom to go, because I belonged to God.

At the age of eight they sent me to an Muslim-Arabic college to make me Muslim Maulana. So, till the age, if you ask me, I don't remember all the things, but I remember between five and eight some of the things. So, my childhood was not really happy because, against my wish, they were, you know, they did not ask me, "Are you ready to go for God?" Nothing like that. They themselves offered and they said, "You are for God."

<u>CC:</u> You became an Imam before you 18, right?

MJ: Yes!

**CC:** How did that happen?

MJ: Okay, for us to become Muslim maulana you have to study philosophy and theology. So, in the philosophy you will have five years almost, and in that five years you will be studying about metaphysics, epistemology, logic, etc., and Arabic language also.

Then second term is your theology period; it's called *muktuser*. The first is *muktuser*. In the second is *motowel*. So, in the *motowel* period you will be studying theology. You know, moral theology and Koranic theology, Sharia Law and everything. Within ten years some people will be 12, but those who are very clear in studies and performance, within ten years they can finish their studies.

So, I did my ten years studies in that Arabic college. I did my studies and that situated in South Kerala. I did my studies there.

**CC:** During that time, during that formation process, during that time period, you never stopped to ask yourself, for example, if everything they were teaching you was really true?

MJ: No; one thing from childhood onward was there in me like the laws should not be forcibly compelled on human beings. You can give the freedom. If you want, you do it. This is good. If you do it you will attain good. This it's bad, if you do it, you will let in bad. You can say that, but if you did not do, you should not be punished on earth itself.

So, for an example in Islam, you know, my daddy will say, "You stay in the mosque." If I did not stay in the mosque, they will beat me. They will say, "You take Ramadan." If I'm not taking my fasting then they will not give me food. You know? And the punishment was not very happy for me in my childhood.

CC: When exactly did you start the think, for the first time, this isn't true? When did you start to turn away from Islam or... What made you begin to pursue Christianity?

**MJ:** Okay, while I was working in the Muslim *moscheet* as and imam, as a parish

priest; once I preached in my parish that Jesus Christ is not God. For me God was only Allah, and I believe that Allah never married, so no sons for Allah. So, I preach there that Jesus was not God.

Then somebody asked me, "Who is Jesus?" from the crowd. Maybe a Muslim, but he asked me, "Who is Jesus?" I was preaching He was not God, but the question was, "Who is He?" To know who is He, I read the entire Koran once again—114 chapters, 6,666 words are in the Koran.

When I read it, the name of Prophet Mohammad I found in Koran four places, but the name of Jesus I found 25 places. There, since I was a little confused. Why Koran giving more preference to Jesus?

Second thing, I could not see any women's name in Koran: Prophet Mohammad's mother's name, or wife's name or childrens' name, no. In the Koran there is only one women name: Mariam, the mother of Jesus; no other women name.

In the holy Koran, chapter three, the name of the chapter is "Family of Mariam." And the holy Koran chapter 19 the name of the chapter itself is "Mariam." One chapter is "Mariam."

So, I was really curious to know why this Koran say all these things. About Mariam, I recall the holy Koran, chapter three verses 34 onward where it is says that Mary was born without original sin, she never committed any sin in her life, she was a virgin.

Koran 50:23 says that she went to heaven with her physical body. Even the assumption is written in the holy Koran.

And then about Jesus, when I read chapter three verses 45-55 where it says there are ten points which Koran makes about Jesus:

The first thing Koran says ---- law—the Arabic word which means *Word of God*. The second thing ---- law—which means *Spirit of God*. The third is ---- which means Jesus Christ.

So, Koran gives the name for Jesus: Word of God, Spirit of God, Jesus Christ. Then Koran says that Jesus spoke when He was very small—like two days old, after His birth, He began to speak. Koran says that Jesus created a live bird with mud. He took some mud from the bird, when He breathed into it, it became a live bird.

So, I think that He can give life. He give life to a mud of clay Then Koran says that

Jesus cured a man born blind and a man with leprosy, etc. Curiously, the Koran says that Jesus gives life to dead people. Jesus went to heaven, He's still alive and He will come again.

When I saw all these things in Koran my thinking was what the Koran says about Mohammad. You know, according to Koran, Prophet Mohammad is not the Word of God, not the Spirit of God and never spoke when he was two days old, never created any bird with mud, never cured any sick people, never rise any dead people. He himself died and according to Islam he's not alive and he will not come back.

So, there is a lot of difference between these two prophets. I don't call Jesus "God," you know. My idea He's a prophet, but He's a prophet greater than Mohammad.

So, one day I went to my teacher, the one who taught me ten years in Arabic college, and I asked him, 'Teacher, how did God create the universe?' Then he said, 'God created the universe through the Word.' through *the* Word.

Then my question: Word is Creator or creation? Must clear it. My question whether the Word of God is Creator or creation. Koran says Jesus is Word of God. If my teacher says the Word of God is Creator, which means Jesus is Creator. Then the Muslims must become Christian.

Suppose he says the Word is creation he will be trapped. You know why? He said everything created through the Word. Suppose if he said the Word is creation, then how did God create the Word? So, he cannot say the Word is Creator; he cannot say that the Word is creation, so he was quite angry. He pushed me out of his room and said, "Word is not the Creator nor the creation, you get out from me," he said.

<u>CC</u>: If you see things so clearly, why don't all Muslims convert to Christianity. Why don't they accept this?

MJ: They say the Word is creation. They try to prove...they say the Word is not the Creator, not the creation, but not God. Not God! Not the Creator, not the creation, so not God. And not creation also. So, they don't equal with God, that's all their problem.

So then, when he said that I told my teacher, "Word is not the Creator, not the

creation, that is why Christians say Word is the Son of God. Then he told me if there is a Son for God, I must show him the wife of God. Without wife, no chance of having a son.

Then I showed a portion from the Koran. Koran says that God can see without eyes, God can talk without tongue, God can hear without ears. It's written in the Koran. I said if that is the case, He can have a child without a wife.

So, there we had a big argument, and you know at the end what I did? I took my Koran, put it on my chest, and I said, "Allah, tell me what I should do, because your Koran says Jesus is still alive and Mohammad is no more. You tell me whom should I accept?"

After my prayer I opened the Koran. I didn't ask anyone. I asked only my Allah. When I opened Koran, I saw chapter 10 verse 94. You know what Koran says? (quote in Arabic)

If you have any doubt in this Koran, which I give to you, go and read the Bible or ask the people, those who read the Bible. The truth is already revealing that.

So, if you ask me who made me Christian, it's not any fathers; it's not any sisters; it's not any bishops; it's not any cardinals; it's not even pope; but the holy Koran converted me to Christianity.

So, after seeing this, I decided to study Bible, and I went to a retreat center called the Divine Retreat Center, that's in India. We have seven languages retreats. Lots of people are coming there every week. You know, every week Monday thru Friday there's a residential retreat. And a lot of Hindus, Muslims and Christians and different denominations from all over the world people come there.

So, I went there to do my Bible studies. That's how I had a relationship with Christianity or with Catholic Church.

<u>CC:</u> That's when you decided to become a Christian?

MJ: Immediately after coming it was not. I attended a retreat first, and I was not very happy. I was less than 19, not yet. I finished my studies and I was working in Arabic college, sorry, I was working in a Mushid, so it was less than 19.

Then while I was doing my Bible studies, there are a lot of points which touched me

from Bible. The first day, father read John 1:1 onwards: "In the beginning, there was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God, the Word became flesh."

So, my holy Koran says Jesus is the Word of God; now the Holy Bible also says Jesus is the Word of God. So, I found this both very similar, and I was happy to know that I need Koran and I need Bible, both.

You know, I was in a mood like, one day I become Christian, one day Muslim, one day Christian, you know? I need both. While I was thinking like that, again, one more word I heard, that was John 1:12. Such a lovely word for me because its written in Bible that if anyone accepted Jesus, Jesus will give them power to become children of God.

You know, all the verses of the Koran, Allah calls the human beings *slaves* and Allah is master. Master cannot love the slaves, slave cannot love the master. I don't like to be called by someone a slave. Koran says you are my slave. But when I heard John 1:12 it says, "If you believe in Jesus, Jesus will give you power to become children of God."

So, immediately I said I need Jesus because I want to be a child of God. There I began to call my God "Daddy." Until then I never knew that I could call God "Daddy."

You know, Jesus taught the prayer in Aramaic language: (Arabic) "Our God who art in heaven." "Abbun" he called. In Arabic language, Abbun means "our Dad."

If you ask me, I cannot express my joy whenever I call my Dad, you know, whenever I call God "Dad." And whenever I think that the Creator of the universe is my Dad, I have a kind of joy which I cannot express. It's beyond my...an experience I cannot explain. Only you can understand my experience. So, I really love to call my God, *Dad*.

There I decided to accept Jesus.

**<u>CC</u>**: That's when you made a decision to become a Christian?

MJ: Yes!

**CC:** And did you tell your family?

MJ: No! That was while I stay in the Divine (Retreat Center) and so many other problems touched my life. But by the time I was missing in my home. So, my parents thought I would will be in my *mosheet*.

And the *mosheet* people thought I will be in my house. So, when they both communicated then and understood I was not in *mosheet*, not at home. So, they searched for me everywhere. They gave out the news in many newspaper, and the television, etc.

Finally, they found me in that Catholic retreat center and when finally my dad came there, it was very horrible because he beat me very badly and I was bleeding from my nose and I was unconscious, and then he took me home. I don't know how he took me, but somehow he took me home because I was unconscious.

When I came conscious I was in a small room without any clothes, I was completely naked and my hands and legs were chained very tight and I could not even speak because there was chili powder in my mouth, nose, eyes and, you know, wherever the wound was there on my skin they placed some chili there also. But for me to get burning.

They had did so much because it is written in Koran more than 18 places to fight with a non-believers. And it is written in some place to kill the one who reject Islam.

My dad disobeying the law of Koran, so he wants to do something. Within few days they did not give me food or water, and I was dried up. And when my lip broke and I was trying to lick a little blood to wet my throat, then my brother passed urine in my mouth, you know. They say that's punishment for you believing in Christ.

And then, after so many days, like, without food or water my stomach became raw and my body became wrung and my body became weak, and became like a newborn. Finally, I lost even my memory power. I can't even think because no food, no water. So, like a dead man.

I don't know how many days, more than 20 days, I was there in that room, and one day my dad came to the room and removed my chain and I was not awake. He choked my throat very deep, to know is there life in my body. So, when he choked very deep I couldn't breathe. So, when I opened my eye I could see a big knife in his hand.

My dad said, "It's your last moment. No hope." He said, "If you need Allah I will allow you to live. If you need Jesus, I will kill you."

I know that, you know, when I was in the womb itself, all said I would die. But they loved me so much and they prayed and they got life, and now they want to kill me.

So, I don't know. I know my dad well; he will kill me. So, when I know that it's my last moment of death, I thought anyway Jesus died, but He came back. If I believe in Jesus and die, I, too, may get my life, you know. A kind of joy, it is better to die in Jesus.

I decided, suddenly, a light fell on my forehead—you know, like a moonlight. Something fell on my... and there was a kind of electric shock, something passed throughout my veins. I was so energized, you know, from somewhere, energy flowing through my body. And I couldn't control myself; there was so much energy in my bones.

I pulled my dad's hand down and I cried out 'Jesus!' When I cried out, my dad fell on the ground. When he fell with the knife which he was holding there was a big wound in his chest and there was bleeding, and some kind of foam was coming from his mouth and he was screaming. And all were shocked-my brothers and mom, and sisters—they don't know what's happening. So, they thought my dad was already dead, so they took my dad out and ran to hospital. When they were running to hospital, they forgot to lock my room from outside.

And I had an energy, which I cannot tell you because I was only born; no food so many days, more than 20 days. Born, but with a lot of energy. So, I just came out and put on my dad's clothes and ran to the taxi stand to get a taxi straight away to get out.

On the way, the taxi man, he was a Christian, so he bought for me some candy, juice and everything, and he knows my struggle, and he took me to Potta. He contacts me even now. He's a very good friend of mine, the taxi driver.

So, I went and came to Potta again, and that day, really I understood my Jesus is alive even now. When I call Him for my need, He said to me, which means He is present here even when I'm talking to you. So, that is my life; everywhere I know He is present, because now, after my conversion 18 years, I never thought that the Muslims would allow me to live 18 years. And I have even preached in the Middle East, where the Arabs came, but

nothing happened. So, which means my Jesus is alive and He's protecting me.

**<u>CC:</u>** Mario, is your life in danger? Are people still trying to kill you?

MJ: Yes, even after this experience, so many times they've tried to kill me. And at the end, my parents, you know, they did a mock funeral ceremony. You what it is? It's like an "out-casting," keeping you out. You what they did? They made my statue and buried in grave and they wrote my birth date and death date. They wrote the original birth date, but the death date, they day when I became Christian, when I took the baptism. So, that is my death day for them and they buried.

So, in my hometown I have my own grave, you know. One of my friends, a Christian friend, when he passed that way he took the photo of that grave and sent it to me. That's how I know that I have a grave. So, thereafter, no contact with my sisters, whom I love so much, my mom, I really love her, but...no hope.

Humanly speaking, no hope, but God can touch them within a moment, so I'm praying. And even if they did not accept Christianity, I'm always saying, "Jesus, please take them to heaven." Where I am I need them, so that's my prayer always.

# **CC:** You're not afraid to die?

MJ: No. Nor should you be. Fear of death is actually foolishness. You know why? All those who are born should die one day; 100%, all have to die, you have to die. All have to die, whether you fear or don't fear, you have to die, it's a fact. And I will say that is the only assured thing which you will attain on earth.

Now, when I am talking to you, I am not sure whether this will be broadcasted, because anything can happen. I'm not sure I will have tonight my dinner. I'm not sure. I'm not sure whether I will go back to India. I'm not sure. I'm not sure whether my children will study very well and get their certificate. I'm not sure of anything, anything.

The only thing which is surest to me on earth is that I will die. All other things are unsurest, and you are trying: some things is happening, some things not happening. But it is unsurest; it is not sure. The only thing that is surest on earth is death.

So, never fear death. You must be sure that it is going to come one day. Then what you can do is, you can think like this: if you believe in Mohammad and die, you know what will be your situation? Prophet Mohammed died, people buried him, and afterwards we don't know where he went. If I believe in him and die, I don't know where I will go. (names of gods and goddesses)

So many gods and goddesses in my country in India. All have lived, created history, they died, people buried them and we don't know where they went. So, if I believe in all these gods and goddesses, I don't know what's my future.

But Christ, Who died, but He came back. So, I have a hope that if I die in Christ, I will come back. So, it is better be sure of death and that should be in Christ, because Jesus very clearly said, "I am going to my Father's house"... (John 14:3). "I'm going to my Father's house, there are so many rooms, and I will arrange a room for you, then I will come back to take you."

So, you know, I'm so happy to know that my Jesus is having a big bungalow for me there. Because once He finishes the work He will come back to take me. I think it is a big bungalow because last 18 years the Muslims tried to kill me; they could not kill me, which means still the construction is going on. Once it is ready, then He will come back to take me. Only then the Muslims can kill me. Until the, nobody can. So, I am not afraid of death, but that is a fact.

Only think I am thinking: after my death, what? To have eternal life, you need Jesus. And not only that, you need Catholic Church. I will specifically say that because my faith is every religion says that the block between God and man is sin. And in Islam for the sin there have offering animal. For their sin, they are sacrificing animals. I Hinduism, next birth, next birth.

But only in Christianity, Jesus Himself took my sin and my punishment and He removed sin from me, and He made me pure, and He can surrender me to God the Father saying that he's pure. "I have purified, I have taken all his transgression and his punishment and his sins. So, now you can take him to heaven." So, Jesus is my Savior.

He's a perfect man because I am man. My Savior should be a man, and He's perfect God because I need eternal life; only God can give eternal life.

It's very simple to tell you. The consequence of sin is death. So, to remove the death what you must do...to remove the darkness you must bring light. The same way, to remove the death you must bring life. Whose life?

In the Old Testament they were giving the life of animal, because they believed that life was in blood and animal blood. And Muslims are doing this even now. But to remove my death, I need eternal life. From where can I get eternal life? Only from God, and that is given by Jesus on the

So, when I partake in His body and His blood, I am partaking in His life. I am becoming part of His life. So, that is why Jesus calls me "brother." And Jesus, and we both, call God "Daddy." You know, it's a union in God, and we are obtaining eternal life. So, to receive this always, You must be a Catholic, because Jesus clearly said that, "If you eat My body, if you drink My blood, you shall never die. And even if you die, I will raise you."

So, that's how I decided to become Christian, especially a Catholic.

CC: Okay, now I have a question: Your life is in danger, you're here in Europe taking a huge risk by sharing your testimony with others. What do you think about the people here in Europe who are baptized but who don't practice their faith? What would you say to them?

MJ: That's the reason...there are two problems: one is that we are really weak in educating our children in faith. We are really weak, and that weakness originated in us when we started speaking a lot about freedom for human beings. So, when we give a lot of freedom, which is not permitted by God, this is happened.

For example: the gay marriages, or the fetus killing, or abortion, or alcohol, or drugs. Everything is legalized in all the countries now, almost everywhere. So, when it is legalized, nobody has the right to question anyone. Even the parents don't have the right to question the children. So, this human freedom is the real problem to come out of faith.

And the second thing is this freedom the parents are unable to tell children to go for catechism. But in Islam, since it is a

political religion...Islam, the beauty of Islam is that Islam is a religion and it is politics. So, it is a political religion. So, Islam tried to control the Islamic world with Sharia Law. So, it is forcibly asking the children to attend the catechism.

So, from childhood onward, they are training with the real catechism so they have a lot of fanatic faith.

I say that we must respect the human being; we must give full freedom to the human being. At the same time, from childhood we must try to educate Catholicism to our children. If it can, then definitely the European world will change.

You know, two days before, I was praying for Europe after arriving here at midnight. I was praying and asked the Lord, "What's Your message to Europe, especially for Spain?" And I received a message that was...Revelation 2:2-4. God Himself says, "I know the hard work you did for Me." God says to Spain, "Spain did a lot of work for the name of Jesus. And I know how much you suffered for Me." A lot of suffering we have gone through for Jesus. "And I know how you tolerate the false prophets." Spain has fought with false prophets for so many years. And then God says, 'But now I have a complaint against vou. You lost that first love. You lost that first love. Get back that love."

So then, Europe, God is saying only one thing: "Get the same love back. How your forefathers was here—get back." And we will all pray for that, and we will work for that. That's all my ambition, that's the reason I am here. It's not that I wish to come here, but God send me to Europe. So, there are so many prophets who are coming to Europe. And there are so many prophets in Europe, so many saints in Europe which we are not aware.

So, I will be working and praying together, definitely the changes will happen.

CC: It's a good thing you see it like that. Can you tell us a little bit about what you do now, of a postulate that you have, how you spend your time.

MJ: Okay, in the retreat center where I am staying, it's a Catholic retreat center, we have retreats in the local language: Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Konkani, Hindy and English. So, I have talks every day in all the languages. So, every day I am occupied, which means

Monday thru Friday every day I am occupied with sharing the Word of God and my witness to thousands of people.

Apart from that, when God sends me to other countries or to India, I move around. So, this is my present life. So, serving for the Lord.

CC: In the beginning you mention something about "our lady," how is your relationship with her since you became a Christian. How do you relate with her what you think about the image of "our lady"? Do you think of her as your mother, perhaps.

MJ: With Mother Mary? That's a nice question. You see, when I was very small, one day, for my toes, there was an infection, and my mama took me to a hospital. And the name of the hospital was Fatima Hospital. And Fatima is the name of Prophet Mohammed's daughter.

But there was a lot of Catholic sisters and fathers. So, I asked my mama, "Mama, Fatima is our name, no? Why do the Christians have that name?" Then my mother explained to me about Fatima; you know, Spain, Portugal Fatima how mother Mary appeared. And then she explained to me about mother Mary. So, from childhood onward I heard about mother Mary and there was a liking, you know, a love from me towards mother Mary.

And then later on when I read the Koran I understood what my mama told me was true. And later when I came to Catholic Church, then again, my faith became more deeper. And since I love mother Mary, you know, when at the time of my baptism my spiritual father asked me, "What name do you prefer?" So, my name was ---- in Islam. So, all the father said was, "You keep Solomon." Solomon is Sulaiman. I said, "No, I love mother Mary so much, so I need mother Mary's name."

Then they said it's a lady's name; you're man. And I said, "We will find out some name." Then one of the priest who was from Italy said, "Mario!" So, that's how I got the name Mario, Italian name, because I love mother Mary.

And then second name, they asked, and I said, "If Mary is there, then let it be Joseph." So, Mario Joseph. So, you know, I love, and I always ask intercession of mother Mary, and I know she is protecting me wherever I am.

When I go to Muslim world, and when I am traveling, I know that she is protecting me so much.

As our John Paul II said, you know, "Mother Mary protects her children so much." So, it's my experience.

**<u>CC</u>:** Okay, Mario Joseph, just to wrap things up, what would like to say to the people who are watching this show? What would you say to them?

MJ: Same thing I am saying while I was praying for the Spanish people: I got a message from the Bible that is from Rev. 2:2-4: "Come back to the same love which you had earlier," towards the church, towards the cross, towards heaven. So, you much come back to the same position. That's all I can say.

Now, I know that was a little hard understanding, but I think it's important to see that **Satan** is working overtime! There will come a day when these things will take place. It will sound very convincing! Remember, every counterfeit has to have enough truth to make it plausible!

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I think that that is significant for all of us to know from the point of view that in order to understand how some of the prophecies can come together that we read, we need to understand what's going on in the world in different places. This was a real eye-opener to me. I never knew anything about this fellow.

I read the Koran years and years ago—about 40 years ago—and I recognized that there were some things in there about Jesus and so forth, because they say He's a prophet. But I didn't remember any of the things that he [Mario Joseph] brought up there, which are really quite significant. I think the important thing in this, too, is when he was in such terrible straights with his family, and then all of a sudden here came this light upon him. I think that was very profound.

The first thing is going to be asked, 'What about him? Is he going to receive eternal life?' Well, he's got a lot of things all mixed up there; he has a lot of baggage that needs to be gotten rid of.

I think the closest we can come to that is if we read in Rev. 2. We have to things: the Church at Pergamos and the Church at Thyatira. The Church at Thyatira fits a little more closely. Let's pick it up concerning their works, faith and things. Mario Joseph has some works, some love, some faith, and some endurance (Rev. 2:19).

Revelation 2:20: "But I have a few things

against you, because you allow the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess..." That's obviously identifying the Catholic Church. The way we identify it is that Jezebel was the daughter of the high priest of Baal. That goes clear back to Babylon. It tells us that it is a church that is following the Babylonian mysteries.

"...to teach and to seduce My servants into committing fornication and eating things sacrificed to idols" (v 20). This gets into the Eucharist.

Here's what Jesus tells them, v 21: "And I gave her time to repent of her fornication, but she did not repent. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their works. And I will kill her children with death..." (vs 21-23)—all of those who don't repent. Someone is going to say, 'What's going to happen to Mario Joseph?'

- Who makes all the judgments concerning everyone? *God does!*
- What do you suppose is going to happen during the Tribulation? *I don't know!*
- Do you suppose there are other people out there like that who will repent at that time, with the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude?

You can't say that he's against Christ. He is on His behalf, but he is not with the saints. That puts him in a very unusual position. But remember, there has to be lying deceptions to convince people to embrace the system, and to convince them to hate us and kill us. I thought that was unique in that relationship.

Let's cover some other things concerning what's happening to churches in America. We're going to see another very important principle. A lot of people ask what's going to happen to the Protestants. There are a lot of Protestants *for* Jesus. There are many who are *against* Jesus. They've had many warning down through history to change.

Let's see another principle that we can apply to another phenomena that is taking place, as we will see right in the *Bible belt* of the good ole USA. We can take this principle and apply it; this is how we can understand some of these things.

Matthew 13:10: "And His disciples came to Him and asked, 'Why do You speak to them in parables?" Here's a principle that applies where there is a lot of inner-mix of error with Truth. Let's look at the scribes and Pharisees, did they not have an inner-mix of Truth and error, and inner-mix of the Bible teachings and tradition? Yes!

Verse 11: "And He [Jesus] answered *and* said to them, 'Because it has been given to you...

[the called, chosen and faithful] ...to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it has not been given.... [Why?] ...For whoever has understanding, to him more shall be given, and he shall have an abundance; but whoever does not have understanding, even what he has shall be taken away from him" (vs 11-12). That's likewise includes coming to part Truth and part error.

Verse 13: "For this *reason* I speak to them in parables, because seeing, they see not; and hearing, they hear not; neither do they understand." This is what we are going to see with this kind of thing.

Let me tell you what is happening in the *Bible belt*, and this started in England—atheist churches. I've mentioned those before; what that's like. This is taken:

from an online source: Looks like a church, sounds like a church, behaves like a church, but it's not a church.

## What is it?

It comes complete with music, instruments, singers, sermons and it's own pastor and speakers. It attracts a gathering of hundreds of adherence each Sunday morning.

They call it *A Sunday Assembly*. They're taking over Protestant church buildings where Protestants are going broke and cannot keep up with the building.

It has special programs: seeks to help local communities, yet, it's still not a church in the traditional sense. This is a movement that is taking over.

They do works for the community, they do good things for people, but they don't believe in God.

## Think of this:

Almost one-third of America is under 29 and now say they have no religious affiliation. These are the so-called "fuzzy faithful."

# What they do:

North Texas's church—Freethought—is an atheist church that has been in the Dallas/Fort Worth area since 1994, and growing!

What have we done with the children in school? We have taught them nothing about God! They're perfect candidates for this kind of thing. Here's what's happening in the schools: all the control, getting rid of God. Here was a student who was suspended because when someone sneezed, she said, 'Bless you.' Don't sneeze!

What does Satan do in order to attract people to sin? *He offers a benefit*—doesn't he? He even promises something that God promises, but *his* way. Remember Adam and Eve? 'If you eat of this fruit, I will give you a benefit. You will be like God. You can decide for yourself good and evil.'

So, you have in the *Bible belt* these atheist churches beginning. I've got a book called *Faitheist* by Chris Stepman; the author is a homosexual. He struggled what to do about it. Rather than follow God, he blended everything together. Now he's in the Faithesist—atheists—movement for churches. You have a blessing, a benefit. You can do the things that God says to do—help the poor, take care of the community, do good works—*but God is not in it!* 

Where will this eventually lead? Remember, when you first receive a benefit from Satan, it looks like a 'good' thing.

Satan's Black Mask Gets Green Light from U.S. City

Guess what that city is? Oklahoma City, Oklahoma! Because you must have freedom of religion, you can't outlaw it. What happens in these things? If there is no repentance Satan will take you step-by-step-by-step into more sin!

Revelation 2:22: "Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their works. And I will kill her children with death..." (vs 22-23).

That's what Satan wants; how wonderful to deceive them. Have a church without God and have everything wonderful and good, and use all the humanist teachings. Then take them down the road, set them up for 'Satanic black mask.' They're doing it right in one of the meeting halls in the City of Oklahoma's Convention Center. The Catholic Church even tried to oppose it but couldn't get anywhere.

On all of these things, how they come out with a little bit of this, a little bit of that going Satan's way, so God says:

"...and all the churches shall know that I am He Who searches *the* reins and hearts; and I will give to each of you according to your works. But to you I say, and to *the* rest who *are* in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine... [so there is a limit to where they can recover themselves] ...and who have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak..." (vs 23-24). I would assume that a black mask of Satan the devil!

"...I will not cast upon you any other burden" (v 24). That's quite a thing to contemplate. Let's tie in with this:

Remember all things concerning transhumanism? Adding genes to the human genome? Changing plants and animals? Now they have found a way they can do it very, very quickly. They have found that there is a genetic process called 'a gene driver' that if they splice a gene in to one set of the genes—like the DNA—then it has to get into the RNA in order for it to be passed on. So, they found a way to do that with the 'gene driver.'

The 'gene driver' will come to the place where the gene is inserted on the DNA, and then on the counterpart of the RNA it will cut the RNA and splice in automatically the new gene that has been added to it, so then the transmission of those genes becomes 100% in anything they can do.

All the movies with the avatars, all the things the chmuras, look for that to come about; they can make it happen. How are they going to present this so they can continue on with their research? *It must be a benefit!* You'll never guess what they chose to work on to do this as a benefit—*mosquitoes!* To change the genetics of the mosquito that carries he malaria bug so that they will exterminate themselves. Well, that's a good thing, no more malaria!

- Think what they can do with human beings!
- Think of where it will go!
- What is the end!

Remember, you have to consider what is the end result.

Why did God destroy the world with the Flood? Because they became corrupted in everything that they did! They were filled with violence and it was so corrupt that God had to select the animals as well as selecting the family of Noah to carry over after the Flood.

It's going to be the same way with us, concerning the Great Tribulation, Matthew 24:21: "For then shall there be great tribulation, such as has not been from *the* beginning of *the* world until this time, nor ever shall be *again*." We are looking at some very dramatic and tremendous times that are going to happen.

Verse 22: "And if those days were not limited... [the *KJV* says *shortened*.] ...there would no flesh be saved..." Satan is doing everything to destroy flesh—human and animal—God's creation!

"...but for the elect's sake those days shall be limited" (v 22). They have all of those genetic things that they are doing. How do we live in days like this? Look at the news and what is happening and every day you think that it can't get any worse, but it gets worse!

- What if we see the revival of Catholicism, in whatever form, and it's really captivating a lot of people?
- What if we even see some people from the Churches of God leave and go with them?

Don't know! Here's what we need to realize, and it won't do any good to get frustrated and shoot your television, you're not going to stop it.

Psalm 37:1: "Do not fret yourself because of evildoers, and do not be envious against the workers of iniquity." God is going to take care of them! Their day will come!

Verse 2: "For they shall soon be cut down like the grass; and wither as the green herb.... [here's what to do]: ... Trust in the LORD, and do good..." (vs 2-3). God's way, because Satan comes along and he has the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. There are good things that he does to entrap people into the evil. Do good God's way.

"...dwell in the land, and cherish faithfulness" (v 3). Here's how our life needs to be, because we read that God 'tries the reins and the heart.'

Verse 4: Delight yourself in the LORD... [do the things that *He* delights in] ...and He shall give you the desires of your heart." The greatest desire of our heart is... What did Jesus say we should do? *Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness!* 

Here's how you can keep from being trapped, because there are going to be a lot of things that will look very enticing, indeed!

Verse 5: "Commit your way unto the LORD; trust also in Him, and He will bring it to pass. And He shall bring forth your righteousness like the light... [at the resurrection] ...and your judgment like the noonday."

Here's what we need to do, regardless of what's going on around us, regardless of what we see that's going on in the world:

Verse 7: "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; do not fret yourself because of him who prospers in his way..." Satan is going to give benefits so they prosper. Look at all the millions that all of those who are into the satanic music—rock, rap, whatever—all of those who are into Satan's way with the movies and the way that they do things. You read about someone like Robin Williams who just died; his comments to his friends was that he had to 'fight demons' all the time.

So, that which looks good, is not good! There are going to be a lot of enticing things. Look at how much money he made. Look at how much money the rock stars make. Look at how much money the movie stars make.

- What happens to them?
- How many die young?
- How many die of drug overdoses?

Look at one of the most famous, Michael Jackson, he made billions! How did his life end?

"...do not fret yourself because of him who prospers in his way, because of him who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret yourself, it leads only to evil" (vs 7-8). If you fret yourself and get frustrated enough, you're going to start sinning. You're going to start saying, 'God, why do they have it this way, but I don't? You have promised blessings.' How do you figure blessing when you look materially around and see that you don't have blessings?

- Is understanding the Word of God a blessing?
- Is having the Spirit of God a blessing?
- Is having the protection of God a blessing?
- Yes, indeed!

Here's another Psalm to study, and again, tells us what to do, Psalm 73:1: "Truly God is good to Israel, even to those who are pure of heart.... [that's the goal] ...But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; my steps had nearly slipped, for I was envious at the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked, for there are no pangs in their death, and their strength is firm. They are not in trouble like other men; neither are they plagued like *other men*.... [he's referring to himself] ...Therefore, pride is as a chain about their neck. Violence covers them like a garment" (vs 1-6). He didn't know what to do about it.

Verse 14: "For all the day long I have been plagued and chastened every morning." Here I am on God's side and it's not working like I thought. Look at all the successful people in the world.

Verse 15: "If I say, 'I will speak thus'; behold, I would have betrayed the generation of Your children. When I thought to understand this, it was too painful for me" (vs 15-16). We're going to face a lot of problems like this!

Verse 17: "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood their end." You have to go to God and look at what *He* says! You have to understand what *God* says!

God wants us to successful in developing

character, Godliness and all the things to qualify for eternal life.

Verse 18: "Surely You set them in slippery places..." The suddenly things came upon them that they knew not, and they couldn't handle. Let's see what we are to look to:

Psalm 37:9: "For evildoers shall be cut off..." When does God trap them? Right when they think they've got it made! Remember Haman the Agagite? The one against Mordecai and Esther in the book of Esther? Right when he thought he had the favor of the king to kill all of the Jews, God intervened and revealed it to the king that Mordecai saved the king. You can read the rest of the story. God turned the whole situation upside down!

"...but those who wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. It is but a little while... [Think! God is offering us eternal life!] ...and the wicked shall be no more; yea, you shall diligently consider his place, but he shall not be there.... [here's the reward]: ...But the meek shall inherit the earth and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace" (vs 9-11). Think of the inheritance that is coming! Don't look at what people in the world have.

Look what happens to a church when they get lukewarm. They say they're rich and increased with goods, and what happens? *They risk loosing God!* 

Here's what we need to look to; and here's what's going to happen to everything in the world:

Psalm 33:10: "The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing..." That's what the whole book of Revelation is about and all the prophecies there:

- the best that man can do under Satan the devil
- the best system that they can have
- the world government that is coming
- the control of people
- the control of crime
- the control of thoughts

Yes, those Christians out there, 'we need to get rid of them.' "...He frustrates the plans of the people" (v 10).

Now, if you don't think that God is going to do that, just read Rev. 6 & 7, and then read about what God is going to do with the seven last plagues. He's going to give them one last chance to rally the world, but He's going to destroy them!

Verse 12: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD..." That's true in a physical nation, but true for us because we are a *royal priesthood*, a *Holy nation* being formed.

"...and the people He has chosen for His own inheritance.... [That is us!] ...The LORD looks down from heaven; He beholds all the sons of men. From His dwelling place He looks intently upon all the inhabitants of the earth. Together He fashions their hearts alike; He considers all their works" (vs 12-15). God looks at *our* works. Remember that He 'judges everyone according to their works.

Verse 16: "The king is not saved by a great army; a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. A horse is a vain thing for safety..." (vs 16-17). We could say today that a tank is vain thing for safety.

"...neither shall it deliver any by its great strength. Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear Him, upon those who hope in His loving kindness, to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield" (vs 17-20). That's what we need to look to with God's way.

1-John is very important because it talks an awful lot about keeping the commandments of God. God delights when we love Him, when we serve Him! We can have many different kinds of problems and troubles, but God delivers us from them all.

- He will help us!
- He will open the doors!
- He will change circumstances!

One thing that I think is going to be a help to so many, many people in the future is Church At Home (churchathome.org). When they see all these atheist churches... I don't know what it would be like to go to an atheist church, but when you go to some of these churches where God is not there, what pray-tell is the difference?

1-John 3:16 ties right in very closely with the Gospel of John 3:16. There's another very interesting 3:16; that God was manifested in the flesh (1-Tim. 3:16). It's interesting how these numbers come up this way.

1-John 3:16: "By this *very act* we have known the love *of God* because He laid down His life for us: and we ourselves are to lay down *our* lives for the brethren." How do we do that?

- in prayer
- in support
- in encouragement
- in helping
- in what we do here with
  - ✓ churchathome.org
  - ✓ cbcg.org
  - ✓ afaithfulversion.org

We have all of those things online 24/7.

Then the transcript books that we're going to have. We're going to have all of these things available.

Verse 17: "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his feelings of compassion from him, how can the love of God be dwelling in him? My little children, we should not love in word, nor with *our* tongues; rather, we should love in deed and in Truth" (vs 17-28). Our works are Truth and our sincerity. All of these things come from God and the Spirit of Truth.

Notice what happens with this, v 19: "And in this way we know that we are of the Truth..." For someone like Mario Joseph, I would hope that he would continue reading His Bible. I would hope that he would find some other Scriptures there, and that God will deal with him to open his mind. But in the meantime he's not against Christ, but the day is going to come when that very well may happen; we don't know!

"...this way we know that we are of the Truth..." (v 19).

- we *know* the Truth
- we *understand* the Truth
- we *keep* the Truth
- we *preach* the Truth

That's why we don't have any politics.

"...and shall assure our hearts before Him" (v 19). Have the confidence that comes from God, even when things don't look like they're working out very well.

I always remember the feeling it was when my little ole white Isuzu was rolling over in the air and I crashed with no seatbelt and the car landed upright. There were two lanes on each side and I landed right in the middle right side up. When I was rolling over I said, 'Oh no!' The first thing that happened when I got out, I said, 'Thank You, God, for saving me from my stupidity!' God can take care of us at the last minute. If He doesn't, well, the next moment we'll be in the resurrection.

Verse 20: "That if our hearts condemn us..." When we sin we have our hearts that condemn us. *That is so we can repent!* That's called the *conscience*.

"...God is greater than our hearts, and knows all things" (v 21). If you sin, *God knows it!* Repent! If you see you've sinned, in your mind repent right there! 'O God, forgive me!'

Verse 21: "Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, *then* we have confidence toward God." There is nothing that can shake us! There's nothing that can take us away from God!

Verse 22: "And whatever we may ask we

receive from Him because we keep His commandments and practice those things that are pleasing in His sight" We're not seeking to please men; we're not seeking to please ourselves. We're seeking to please God! In everything we do—whether individually or collectively—that what we need to do it.

Verse 23: "And this is His commandment: that we believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and that we love one another, exactly as He gave commandment to us.... [notice how all of this works]: ...And the one who keeps His commandments is dwelling in Him, and He in him... [Christ in us the hope of glory] ...and by this <u>we know</u> that He is dwelling in us: by the Spirit which He has given to us" (vs 23-24).

I think it's interesting that we look out and see what the world is doing. All of these things are frantically leading to the *new world system* and the *new world religion*.

God is working with us so that we can grow in grace, knowledge, character and love and develop the character of God, to serve Him, to preach the Truth, and to bring that to as many people as we can.

I hope that this helps you understand some of these things! All of this shows us that we can't compromise with the Truth, because whenever we compromise with the Truth, individually, then we allow sin. When we allow sin, and don't repent of it, then Satan comes along and gives us another benefit with more sin! Then another benefit with more sin!

So, we have got to really stay close to God! And in the things that we do we have got to stick with

- the Word of God
- the Truth of God
- the facts the way that they are

And take everything the way that it needs to be done.

I know all of us—and my family—has faced some very difficult times. All of us have very difficult times to come, to go through! But God delivers us from it, in His time and in His way!

That the whole point that we need to learn from this. He world is going to be an astonishing attractive place when all of these things come to fruition!

As Jesus said, 'Watch!' Not just the events, watch yourself and what you do!

# Scriptural references:

1) Matthew 24:24

- 2) Revelation 2:20-23
- 3) Matthew 13:10-13
- 4) Revelation 2:22-24
- 5) Matthew 24:21-22
- 6) Psalm 37:1-8
- 7) Psalm 73:1-6, 14-18
- 8) Psalm 37:9-11
- 9) Psalm 33:10, 12-20
- 10) 1 John 3:16-24

## Scriptures reference, not quoted:

- Revelation 13; 2:19; 6; 7
- John 3:16
- 1 Timothy 3:16

### Also referenced:

- U-Tube video: Changing Tracks
  hosted by Cristina Casado
- Book: Faitheist by Chris Stepman

### FRC:bo

Transcribed: 9/15/14

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