

God Knows the End from the Beginning

Roy Assanti—December 22, 2014

Greetings, everyone! How can God know what is going to happen before it actually happens? Has anybody contemplated that question?

We know that Satan and the demons can predict what will happen, as well. If they can, so can the righteous angels. Scripture also supports this fact.

God has given us free will, a mind to decide right from wrong, to think like He does. So, seemingly we can't be controlled to make events turn out in a certain way.

Certain questions arise, for example: we know the end of the story. If Satan is going to be put away, why does he try so hard? Why doesn't he just 'hang the gloves up'? Why is he trying?

I just want to reiterate an example of something that I have said before. In my past occupation in the motel business, I met someone who had the uncanny knack... He was a magician, and he looked just like anybody else. He asked me to think of a number and don't tell him. I did, and he told me what I was thinking. He didn't ask me any trick questions. He didn't try and get some clues as to what I was thinking. He just knew what I was going to say. Even if I changed the words, the numbers in my mind, it was uncanny. He was able to tell me what number was in my mind every single time. I had to be honest and say he was right. I couldn't work it out.

What is the answer to this, and most importantly, is there a lesson in it? Are we going to be able to take something away with this to encourage us and to spur us on to draw closer to God the Father and Jesus Christ?

We're looking at God being able to predict what is going to happen and how it happens. How can we explain it?

Cyrus is mentioned by name as the leader who will facilitate the return of the remnant of Judah to build the temple.

Isaiah 44:28: "Who says of Cyrus, '*He is* My shepherd, and shall do all My pleasure; even saying to Jerusalem, 'You shall be built'; and to the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"

The book of Isaiah was written between 701-681_{B.C.} Cyrus existed from 585-529_{B.C.} and Cyrus made that proclamation in his first year, 538_{B.C.} It was foretold way in advance. Cyrus was mentioned by name and what he was going to do was actually foretold very specifically.

Another little more focused example about Judas Iscariot; Psalm 109:5: "And they have rewarded me evil for good and hatred for my love. Set a wicked man over him, and let an adversary stand at his right hand, when he is judged, let him be condemned; and let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few; let another take his office. Let his children be fatherless and his wife a widow" (vs 5-9).

Acts 1:20: "For it is written in *the* book of Psalms, 'Let his habitation become desolate, and let there not be *anyone* dwelling in it'; and, 'Let another take his overseership.'" Predicted in the Psalms, corroborated by Peter.

Zechariah 11:11: "And it was annulled in that day; and so the poor of the flock who were watching me knew that it *was* the Word of the LORD." As we read this, think about how it could be that Judas would behave in exactly this way, that he would betray God. Was he led? Was he born for that purpose? He had to have had free will. How does this work out?

Verse 12: "And I said to them, 'If *it is* good, give me my price; and if not, let it go.' So, they weighed my price—thirty *pieces* of silver. And the LORD said to me, 'Throw it to the potter'—the princely price at which I was valued by them. And I took the thirty *pieces* of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the LORD" (vs 12-13).

This is corroborated in Matthew 27:3: "Now, when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He was condemned, he changed his mind *and* returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, 'I have sinned and have betrayed innocent blood.' But they said, 'What *is that* to us? You see *to it* yourself.' And after throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he went out and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the pieces of silver *and* said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is *the* price of blood.' And after taking counsel, they bought a potter's field with the *pieces of silver*, for a burial ground for strangers" (vs 3-7).

How is it that everything works out so precisely as predicted and foretold? Yet, the factor remains that Judas would have had to have free will, and have to exercise his own decisions. How can that work out?

While I was thinking about these things, I was thinking about them for a little while. It just so happened that I sat down to watch a movie. It's interesting how things come out of Hollywood. It

was called Déjà Vu. I don't sit down and watch movies, but that sort of caught my attention and I sat through about a quarter of the movie. Just a little bit of the story line:

Produced in 2006, Denzel Washington and Jim Caviezel was staring. A ferry filled with crewman of the USS Nimitz and their families were blown up in New Orleans on Mardi Gras and over 550 people died. And ATF agent (Washington) is brought into assist in the massive investigation. He gets attached to an experimental FBI surveillance unit; one that uses space-folding technology to directly look back a little over four days into the past. While tracking down the bomber, to see who the perpetrator of this crime was. Washington gets an idea in his head: could they use the device to actually travel back in time, and not only prevent the bombing, but also the murder of a local woman whose truck was used in the bombing.

In the process he gives the scientists an idea how to send back a note in time to be on his desk. That works, and he eventually is sent back in time. They view everything that happens on a screen, and the actual event that happened. In one of the screens they saw all these magnetic letters on a board in the woman's home—she was washed up dead and was a clue to the murderer—that read "You can save her."

Washington was able to save the woman's life and prevent the bombing of the ferry, because he went back, and kill the would be bomber—a crazed terrorist (Caviezel). Interestingly, both believed in an ultimate destiny—the terrorist and the FBI agent—and there was a struggle going on. They both manipulated time to determine the ultimate outcome of destiny.

Isaiah 46:5—God says, and bear in mind He went back in time: "To whom will you liken Me, and make *Me* equal, and compare Me, that we may be alike?"

Verse 9: "Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none else, I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning..." (vs 9-10). 'I know how it's going to end from the start.' Bear in mind, there has to be free will, independent will of the people, of us, if character is going to be developed.

"...and from ancient times the things which were not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure'" (v 10).

Let's consider how great God really is. To get the real picture, we need to expand a little bit on our *limited thinking*.

Isaiah 55:8: "'For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor your ways My ways,' says the LORD. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are

My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts'" (vs 8-9).

That goes right into outer space. Let's think about how light travels. Light travels at 186,000 miles per second. How far would it travel in a day? A year? ***That is a light year, a long way away!*** Think about what He's saying, "...My thoughts than your thoughts" as high as the heavens are.

- this is My mind
- this is how I think
- this is how I function

Think about one light year, and now think about a million light years, and think about the expanse of the universe. We've got to start thinking about millions and millions of light years, at the rate of 186,000 mps. At a certain point numbers lose their meaning, so we have to try and relate and understand numbers a different way.

Isaiah 40:25: "'To whom then will you compare Me, or who is My equal?' says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold, who has created these *things*, who brings out their host by number? He calls them all by names by the greatness of His might, for He is strong in power; not one fails" (vs 25-26). He controls it all! 'Not only do I name them, but I control them, as well.'

Verse 27: "Why do you say, O Jacob, and O Israel you speak, 'My way is hidden from the LORD and my cause is disregarded by my God?' Have you not known? Have you not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not grow weak nor weary? And His understanding no one can fathom" (vs 27-28). *No one can understand!*

Here's an interesting extrapolation. To extrapolate means that you know so many facts, you put together what you know and the conclusion is what you don't know. You put a lot of facts that you do know and you come across something that you do not understand or know.

I found an interesting extrapolation or comparison to give us an idea of numbers. God says, 'I've named all the stars.' Think about a one-million character alphabet. We've got a 26-letter alphabet and we have numbers. Just imagine a one-million character alphabet.

Next imagine an average of 40 characters per name and imagine these names typed on an average sheet of paper with 12 pt. font. Now imagine these sheets of paper covering a flat surface area that would cover the whole continental U.S.A. How many names is that? *A lot of names!* When we talk about numbers 'to the power of' it loses meaning. We have to understand what God is really

telling us. That should give you an idea of the numbers involved, but we need to take it a little further.

Just imagine layer upon layer of these sheets of paper piled high. How high? *To the moon!* How many names is that? This gives you a clearer concept of the number of stars that God has named by name. This gives you an idea of the Great Mind that says, 'I have no equal.'

That represents the stars, but God could not possible mean that He's named the orbiting planets, moons and stars, as well. Or could it also include the planets and the moons around the planets? You understand, numbers loose their meaning.

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Verse 28: "...And He's understanding and no one can fathom."

How does gravity work? If you're not sure how gravity works you can go a little crazy. If you jump off a cliff you'll find out that gravity does work. it's real!

How does electricity work? How does it really work? It does! Just turn the lights on or the ignition to your car; it works! Can you understand it? To us, it's as real as a rock. We know it works!

What about nuclear power? Can you understand nuclear power? How do atoms behave? We see the effects; we understand the effects.

Back to the subject of time, looking back in time. How does God predict? I'll just explain the essence of Einstein's theory of time. You may have heard it. He sat down and he looks at a clock and he imagined that clock was a great, great distance away.

Light travels at 186,000 mps and the light from that clock comes to him at 186,00 mps. While I'm watching the hand of the clock going around, what if I traveled toward that clock at half that speed. What would happen? *The logical thing is that clock would go half the speed;* the hands would slow down halfway.

What about if I traveled at the exact speed that that light is coming to me? *The clock would be still!* What about if I traveled faster than light? What would happen? *The clock would go backward! Move back in time!* What happened to prove this theory? In 1971 scientists took off on a jet and it went

around the world and they had atomic clocks. One was left on the ground and one was on the aircraft. When they came back they compared them. Although the differences were very slight, a couple hundred-billionths of a second slower, the one on the aircraft was, in fact, slower. It proves the theory.

When there's motion, time slows down. It's the same as the atomic theory. Also gravity effects time. I just want to tell you that it's the same as a rock. Gravity effects time.

Theoretically, around a black hole—which has tremendous gravity—would equal 60 years of life here. If a person was in an imaginary spaceship in a black hole only a couple of hours would have passed. But if they come back to earth, 60 years would have passed. That's another interesting concept.

They also go into the wormholes that they understand exists. They go back in time. In case you're interested, you can take one of these sources:

The Illusion of Time on Utube will give you more information. It proves that there's really no past, no present, no future; it's all there, nothing is gone. It can be proven that you can go back in time. Very interesting facts that science in the infancy of learning.

If God has a mind so great, don't you think He would have it all worked out, understand time and the whole human experience? The bottom line is that these facts are as real as a rock.

Romans 1:20: "For the invisible things of Him are perceived from *the creation of the world*, being understood by the things that were made—both His eternal power and Godhead—..." He made these laws, and He made us, and He understands time. He's able to move back and forth in time.

Let's get another idea of what we're talking about. There's an electrical genius Nikola Tesla who he lived from July 10, 1856 to Jan. 7, 1943. What this man would do—he's a genius—is assemble an electric motor in his mind. He'd run it and see the faults and go back and re-create it and fix the fault in his mind. He'd go back and forward until he could go into a workshop and absolutely produce a perfectly running motor the first time—this was all in his mind.

Do we think that God is not able to do such a thing with such a project of reproducing His own self? *Imagine that!*

2-Peter 3:9: "The Lord is not delaying the promise of *His coming*, as some in their own minds reckon delay; rather, He is long-suffering toward us, **not desiring that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance."

Could it be that His great unsearchable wisdom and understanding that God would not run the whole program of recreating Himself through mankind, and go over it again and again until He's got it just right with the aim of bringing as many of His children to salvation as possible. When He knows exactly the way it's going to work out, in the same way as Nikola Tesla, then He actually starts creation. He knows how everything is going to work out at every stage.

Just as Denzel Washington's character in Déjà Vu strove against an enemy and tweaked history to save over 550 people, and key woman suspect from being killed, could God in His greatness also have tweaked His plan throughout history to make sure that He brings the maximum of His children into salvation?

Could God also have left not one, but many '*proverbial messages on the frig'* for us like:

- you can make it
- watch yourself
- I can save you

in the process through His Word?

There was a fellow who was climbing a haystack and it was about 20 feet high, and he lost his footing and he would have fallen on this tractor. What happened was that he felt a force pushing back and he would have been dead, but he was alive.

There was another situation where a child was run over the shoulder by a reversing car. The tire mark was there and everything was there, yet, the child had no injury.

Could these be times where disaster was not to happen, where God acted and sent His angels to act to reverse the situation. Think about it!

One of my sons when he was two and a half should have died. He should have drowned. Even to this day, he said that he felt someone's hands holding him. A two and a half year old child does not lie. He remembers, and he said, 'the man.' When I dived into the water I didn't see anybody. I don't have an explanation for it. Could this be another time? That's a first-hand experience that I've had.

Apparently there was a member in one of the Twin Towers on '9/11' and was accosted by a stranger who told her to come quick this way and led her out in advance; took her down and showed her out and hurried her along. As she turned around to thank him, she didn't see him. She asked some people where the man went that was with her. The answer was that she came out alone.

Are these times when God has actually tweaked the plan just like in the movie to make

things work out the way that He had planned, because he has a control of time? He's worked out before hand just like Nikola Tesla could think it all out in his mind and go and build a perfectly functioning electric motor the first time with no problems.

There's a lot of encouragement there about signs that God has left for us in His Word. He must have worked it out!

Admonitions: 'I have to say this, because that's going to cause that result, and they need that so that they can get to this point.'

Warnings: It kind of helps us look at God's Word another way, in that He's put it all together and He's said what He's had to say as little, as much, as clouded, as clear when it had to be said, how it had to be said. Why? ***To give you and me the best chance with those 'notes on the frig'***—with those notes sent back in time—so that we would

- *read it*
- *heed it*
- *be warned*
- *have the best chance of averting disaster*

(go to the next track)

Some overview considerations, the *déjà vu* situations. I was talking to a man in Queensland and he looked at me and said that he and his wife were going over this hill and the light was green and there was a four-wheel drive coming toward them trying to make the light. They could see the bull bar right at the door. They didn't know what happened; they saw the car go. It was there next to them, next to the door.

I don't know, I've got no explanation. I've experienced that when my son was in the pool—2-1/2 years old—and his older brother, 3-1/2 years old came and called me. I had to run around the whole perimeter of the motel. I just happened to be up at the front and was taking some TVs back down to the cellar, and I looked at his face and it was sheer terror. With one leap I took eight steps and could still see it. It's sort of something that is tattooed on your mind.

I ran around and dove into the pool and pulled out my little boy. I gave a speech on that in Toastmaster's Club and I asked him at the age of 30 if he remembered that time. At the time all he said was '*the man!*' He remembers these hands on his feet. His older brother said that he fell into the pool. He should have drowned. Can I explain it? *I don't know!*

There are these times of interventions! The interesting thing about this movie that played out, and we can think and put it to God's Word, events

that would happen, that were going to happen and how could they be prevented. They sent back notes. The inspector got the idea that if these notes could go back and if I got this note I could do this. He saw it on the screen. You can say that that motivated him to save this woman who the killer used, whose car he used to blow up this ferry.

The point is, ***God knows the end from the beginning!*** What are those messages—*those notes*—coming back in time or forward in time, because He knows they are tailor made just for us to get us through to eternal life. It's said that it's hard to get us through. He's got angels of these little ones that always ‘behold the face of My Father in heaven.’

There's that help, that feedback, that guidance. How difficult is it for us to be saved? One consideration is the lesson from the ‘rich man’ and Lazarus. What happened is that the ‘rich man’ comes back to physical life and he sees Lazarus. Think about it, he's a ‘rich man.’ Does he have a name? Lazarus is named, but the rich man is just the ‘rich man.’ There's a principle to consider:

Luke 16:27: “And he said, ‘I beseech you then, father, that you would send him [Lazarus] to my father’s house, for I have five brothers...’” (vs 27-28). Five is the number of mercy; there were ten virgins, five were wise, five were foolish. They all sought mercy.

“...so that he may earnestly testify to them, in order that they also may not come to this place of torment.’ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them hear them’” (vs 28-29). We have Abraham, the Prophets, Moses, all of the New Testament and the information about the Messiah Jesus Christ and the early Church (book of Acts). We have a lot more.

“...Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them hear them.’.... [this is an argument] ...But he said, ‘No, Father Abraham, but if one from *the* dead would go to them, they would repent.’ And he said to him, ‘If they will not hear Moses and the prophets... [and Christ in the New Testament and all the letters that were written] ...they would not be persuaded even if one rose from *the* dead’” (vs 30-31).

The point is that it's not the miracle, it's not the thing that happens. It's the change! It's the understanding of those messages that are given to us and acting on them. That is what makes the difference. All those messages are calculated, admonitions of God's Word.

Luke 11:29: “Now, when the multitudes had crowded around even more, He began to say, ‘This is an evil generation, seeking after a sign; but no

sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.’” They wanted to see something external, but God says that it's *internal*. ‘It's what you do with what I say.’ That is the message to us today.

It's not looking for this great feeling or this thing that's going to happen. ***It's how much you have taken of God's Word put it into practice!***

Proverbs 17:10 (RSV): “A rebuke goes deep into a man of understanding, than a hundred blows into a fool.”

A miracle or a whack on the back is only external, *but the rebuke and the change is internal!* That's where God wants us to focus, with the *internal change* from His Word; taking it and using it. Just like the man who went out and used the oxen. He bought the oxen and wanted to prove them, to see how they pulled and he got a good deal or what.

God's Word is calculated to produce a result. He says, ‘I send my Word out and it doesn't come back empty.’ Like the rains that go out, they produce the growth they're intended to produce.

Specifically, God's Word cannot be changed. These messages are there, calculated for us, to guide us and lead us to salvation.

Revelation 22:18: “For I jointly testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book, *that* if anyone adds to these things, God shall add to him the plagues that are written in this book.”

Messages coming back in time or forward in time, whichever way you see it, are there as they are. Do not change them!

Verse 19: “And if anyone takes away... [don't add or take away] ...from the words of *the* book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from *the* Book of Life... [we want to be in the Book of Life] ...and from the Holy City, and from the things that are written in this book.”

The Holy City refers to the Bride. We're given a specific name. There are billions that will eventually come into God's Kingdom, but the Bride gets the name of the city, Jesus Christ's new name, and a specific name to themselves. It's something that we cannot imagine, an incredible once only...

Sometimes I think about real estate in a physical way. If I could go back to the early 80s I could have invested in a couple of blocks where I live I could have easily bought five or six for \$1500 each. One of those blocks now is worth in excess of \$300,000. It's an interesting thing in business, the comparison made in one of the papers I read, that the best ice hockey players were interviewed. The secret that they put to their success was not that they would

go after the puck that they hit, but they would go to where the puck was going to be.

We know what is going to be, and God says, ‘This is what I say; these are My directions for you.’

We'll go through a few interesting signs on that magnetic board, these notes sent forward in time from God to us. That's the comparison that I'm giving you here.

1. The Old and the New Mind

Understand that there are two different minds, the old and new. Get it clear. First there was the old and now there is the new. There are two different types of mind:

- one of flesh
- one of spirit

God spoke to His people beforehand in a direct, clear manner. Notice how God speaks to the Israel of the flesh under the Old Covenant:

Deuteronomy 5:22—Moses says: “The LORD spoke these words to all your assembly in the mountain out of the midst of the fire of the cloud and of the thick darkness with a great voice. And He added no more.... [don't add, don't take away] ...And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and delivered them to me. And it came to pass when you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, for the mountain burned with fire...” (vs 22-23).

Verse 6: “I am the LORD your God Who brought you out of the land of Egypt from the house of bondage. You shall have no *other* gods before Me” (vs 6-7). Pretty clear! There's no hidden message there. Pretty straight and that's the way He spoke to them.

Verse 8: “You shall not make a graven image for yourself of any likeness of *anything* that is in the heavens above, or on the earth beneath, or in the waters beneath the earth.” No Dagons! Very, very clear! He gave them clear straightforward instructions.

That was the instruction to those who were of the heart of stone. What about that God says, ‘I'm going to give them a heart of flesh’? We are flesh. We have spirit comprehension. How does God talk to us?

Ezekiel 11:19: “And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you. And I will remove the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh.” That's the message!

We now have a spiritual comprehension and the comparison is just like stone to living flesh, now you're alive and you can understand. Before it was

like stone, no life in stone. There is life in flesh. It pumps; it's real. That's the point, God is telling us that that is the message. There's a clear division that's placed between the heart of flesh and the heart of stone.

Matthew 13:3: “And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, ‘Behold, the sower went out to sow.’”

Verse 10: “And His disciples came to Him and asked, ‘Why do You speak to them in parables?’ And He answered *and* said to them, ‘Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it has not been given. 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. For this *reason* I speak to them in parables, because seeing, they see not; and hearing, **they hear not; neither do they understand**’” (vs 10-13). These were of the heart of stone.

There's a key requirement here for understanding to be given, v 15: “For the heart of this people has grown fat, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and should hear with their ears, and should understand with their hearts, **and should be converted**, and I should heal them.”

If you were to throw something up in the air, there would be point where it stops going up and starts coming down. It's the turning point. Conversion is the *turning point*. That's where we make the turn and things begin to change.

“...and I should heal them.” Healing is required to have the heart of flesh and spiritual comprehension. ‘I have healed you’ is what He's saying to us. Another way of saying converted in other translations:

- they shall turn again
- you've got to turn around
- turn
- changed their heart and life

That's another comparison, where the turning point is. We turn toward God!

- ‘Turn to Me,’ God says,
- turn back that they might turn back to Me
- come back
- return

That's what's got to happen. That's when you begin to have spiritual comprehension. We've always got to be turning.

2. We can't stand still

That's another point that is given to us. A miracle happens, but if we stop the miracle stops.

Galatians 5:16: "Now *this* I say, walk by *the* Spirit, and you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these things are opposed to each other, so that you cannot do those things you wish to do" (vs 16-17). It's natural to do the wrong thing. We can take it for granted.

Recently a very dear friend has turned away. I couldn't believe it. It took time. What happened was that you can't stand still. They were missing out in prayer, missing out in study. I knew about it, because the world takes you in, and it's gone! We are stunned! It can happen! It has happened! We need to heed the messages that are sent to us.

3. More is expected of us

More is expected out of the spirit mind or the heart of flesh than is out of the heart of stone.

Luke 12:47: "And that servant who knew the will of his lord, but did not prepare, nor did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes; but the one who did not know, and did things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few.... [here's the principle, the message]: ...For to whomever much has been given... [we have been given a heart of flesh and spirit comprehension] ...from him shall much be required; and to whom much has been committed, from him they will demand the more" (vs 47-48).

4. Do we realize what God has given us?

God tells us what He's given us with His Spirit. Do we realize what He's given us? Sometimes we just don't notice. We've got to pay attention.

I took some garbage out and was looking for a garbage bin—it was at night—and it was one of these things. I went all the way around the part to find a garbage bin, and when I came back there they were right in front of me. Can we overlook these facts? These things that God is pointing out to us?

This is what God has given to His children now, John 14:17: "*Even* the Spirit of the Truth, which the world cannot receive because it perceives it not, nor knows it; but you know it because it dwells with you, and shall be within you."

That's the way it happens. First we're led by God's Spirit. We know we're led and then when we make that covenant commitment, then God's Spirit is *within us and leads us!* At that point there's no turning back!

Verse 22: "Judas (not Iscariot) said to him,

'Lord, what has happened that You are about to manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?' Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. The one who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father's, Who sent Me. I have spoken these things to you while I am yet present with you. But *when the Comforter comes, even the Holy Spirit*, which the Father will send in My name, that One..." (vs 22-26).

God's Spirit is a comforter. How many people in this world seeing the tragedies unfold are comforted? We see these killings, murders, ISIS going through the Middle East, the Ukraine and social unrest. We're hearing of so many murders on the news, and even murder/suicide of a family; five children were killed by their mother. I couldn't believe that. What is happening? *We have a peace!* This is what we're given; this is the message.

"...*when the Comforter comes, even the Holy Spirit*, which the Father will send in My name, that One shall teach you all things..." (v 26). You've got no excuse if you've got God's Spirit. It's going to teach you. We're told to stir the Spirit up. We can't doubt. The Truth is there and will be made apparent to us.

"...and shall bring to your remembrance everything that I have told you" (v 26).

5. Dig deep

Another message on the board is that we now have to dig deep. Before it was simple. They were told superficially here it is. But now it's not easy and we've got to dig deep.

Isaiah 28:9: "Whom shall He teach knowledge? And whom shall He make to understand doctrine? *Those* who are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts." You start off simplistic, joyous and there's romance and joy that God gives you. But then you have to grow. You have to have strong food.

How do we get strong food? Verse 10: "For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little." Now you've got to seek for it. God is not going to tell you plainly. You've got seek and search and want God's Truth.

Verse 12: "To whom He said, '*This is* the rest He gives to the weary'..." This is the joy. Where are you going to find the comfort? *When you seek and learn!*

"...and '*This is* the refreshing,' yet, they were not willing to hear" (v 12). We know that

applies to the Old Covenant. Remember He says, ‘Don’t change what I say, this is what I tell you.’

6. There a very real enemy who wants to deceive and ultimately kill you

I know of someone who had an unfortunate accident. He knocked over this grandmother on a pedestrian crossing. She had a pram with a grandchild and she pushed the grandchild out of the way.

The man was half asleep, as sometimes happens when we drive. She pushed the grandchild and the child was saved, but he hit her and killed her. It stayed with him and he got a call: ‘I know the family, I know who you killed. I have just come out of jail and I am going to kill you. You won’t know when and you won’t know how, but I am going to kill you.’

- How would that make you feel if you got a call like that?
- Do you think that you would be on edge?
- Do you think you’d be alert?
- Do you think you’d be watching out and take precautions?

In a very real sense this is what God tells us. Think about it. Who would leave their children to be looked after by a known child molester? Who would do that? But in a sense God has allowed us to be here where Satan dwells, with the people that he controls. But God is warning us; there is an enemy, a very real enemy that is out to destroy you.

We know that damage can happen to us, but all is repairable. God says that He’s going to remove your sins ‘as far as the east is from the west.’ How far is that? *It doesn’t end!*

This is the adversary, John 8:44: “You are of *your* father the devil... [those controlled by Satan the devil] ...and the lusts of your father you desire to practice. He was a murderer from *the* beginning, and has not stood in the Truth because there is no Truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he is speaking from his own *self*; for he is a liar, and the father of it.”

It never occurred in God’s realm for someone to lie. The truth is the only way to go. Suddenly, Satan—the adversary—finds a new way. God’s way is by appointment; He goes to make a place for us. But Satan’s way is to forget the appointment, ‘I’ll go and get what I want.’ You can only do that by being false, by lying.

He’s compared to predatory animals. His nature. If you think about ‘the wolf shall dwell with the lamb’; I’ve seen some documentaries about wolves and they would rip not only a lamb, but a big deer. It’s amazing the nature that they have! But

that’s not the way they were created. They reflect Satan’s nature. Wolves just have it naturally in them to tear apart and destroy because they have to eat. That’s their nature; Satan’s nature.

1-Peter 5:8: “Be sober! Be vigilant!....” God has told us. Do we take it seriously? I’m telling you, your life is in danger! “Be sober! Be vigilant!....”

“...For your adversary *the devil* is prowling about as a roaring lion, seeking anyone he may devour” (v 8). This is what you need to do, this is the message ‘that I tell you:

- don’t change it
- don’t say he doesn’t exist
- don’t add
- don’t take away

Understand this:

Verse 9: “Whom resist... [this is what you do; this is how you get away from him] ...steadfast in the faith, knowing *that* the same afflictions are being fulfilled among your brethren who *are in the world*.”

The very survival of a predator depends on killing. A lion has got to have at least a ratio of 20 attempts to kill one. Otherwise he’s going to die.

I’ve watched some of these nature films and they’ve even taken down an elephant. Two strong young lions took down this big bull elephant. They’re so intelligent that they attack the herd and the herd ran. This big bull wasn’t running fast. You could tell this one was old, not very strong. One from behind and one got on top and they finally brought it down and killed it.

- You have an enemy!
- We all have this enemy!

Ephesians 2:2: “In which you walked in times past according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now working within the children of disobedience.”

The world out there is against you. I mentioned that we lost a dear friend. His work pulled him in. He wasn’t getting the time. The responsibilities and the pressures, and the problems were too much. *Devoured!* It’s my hope that the situation will apply that living life will become so difficult that things will turn around and he will repent and come back.

The other thing is that we’re not wrestling against flesh and blood.

Ephesians 6:11: “Put on the whole armor of God... [Why? You’ve got an adversary you’ve got to overcome!] ...so that you may be able to stand

against the wiles of the devil, because we are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against principalities..." (vs 11-12). *Satan's dominion!* His demonic kingdom numbers in the millions or billions. We don't know. Who knows?

"...and against powers, against the world rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual power of wickedness in high places" (v 12). They control the governments of this world.

Verse 13: "Therefore, take up the whole armor of God... [watch yourselves] ...so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having worked out all things, to stand."

When we first counseled for baptism, how many of us understand and remember that Scripture. What king with 10,000 approaches another with 20,000 and will not try and work out whether he can defeat the 20,000 force? You've got to work things out. The counsel is that you've got to finish the tower. Don't start to build... If you put your hand to the plow and look back, God has no pleasure in you. Don't underestimate. It's a tough course! It says that 'the righteous are barely saved.' It's a serious business and we've got to be alert! We have to pay attention!

Verse 17: "And put on the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." What happens with the helmet? *It protects your head!* You've got to understand the plan of God. What happens if you cop a bullet in the head? *You're dead!*

There's a spiritual equivalent. It's an urgent message! It's an easy thing to not to pray. These days I time myself. You've got to put your heart, spirit, your whole gut into asking, praying, believing, trusting.

I found myself just last week so busy with one thing and another. It's nine o'clock and you're strong, but you haven't prayed for the day. It's almost as if Satan, when we haven't prayed for the day, gives us strength, 'Yeah, we're sailing.' Why? *To keep you away from that Source of power!* I put a clock on it day-by-day; you can't miss out on prayer, study and meditation. You can't do it! You've got to be in there. That's what happened to my friend. And there is someone else I'm concerned about.

The fiery darts of the devil and the offence with brethren. It's a little thing that grows; you've got to watch it. We're not ignorant of Satan's devices. These little offenses, these little problems will grow big.

In our backyard we planted this hedge and it grew and grew. I was busy working. I can't trim it now. It's the same thing with these seeds; they grow within us. These little offenses that can grow and

become great bushes and are very difficult to cut down. This is Satan's way! It's what he does! His devices!

In conclusion, what I say is that ***God knows the end from the beginning!*** In His greatness He can see it. We can't work out how. We don't know how electricity works. We know the principles, but what is it? What's nuclear power?

We're told in advance where the puck is going to be. That's where the treasure is. We know in advance. There's a little effort for a tremendous result!

7. Encouragement

Here's a note of encouragement that God writes to us, that He's inspired for us. He's saying, 'Come on! You can do it! It's worthwhile!'

Revelation 22:12: "And behold, I am coming quickly; and My reward is with Me, to render to each one according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last" (vs 12-13). A reference to time, as well.

Verse 15: "'But excluded are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators... [Is this where you want to be?] ...and murderers, and idolaters, and everyone who loves and devises a lie.... [Who is the father of lies?] ...I, Jesus, sent My angel to testify these things to you in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and morning star.' And the Spirit and the bride... [the future for us] ...say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who thirsts come; and let the one who desires partake of the water of life freely" (vs 15-17).

There we have an encouragement. God is saying, 'Come on! These are the messages that I send you, forward in time—He's seen it all—and this is going to encourage you. Whatever I say don't take away and don't add to it. Do exactly what I say.'

Let none of us be like Cain who sought to present to God the worship that *he wanted* to give. But rather, it's the other way around. So, the note that is sent forward before us beforehand, the message that is written on the *proverbial magnetic board*, God's Word for our encouragement is just this:

Take note of the notes that I give you, and you will be there with me in the City and as part of the Bride. You can make it!

All Scriptures from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version* by Fred R. Coulter (except where noted)

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 44:28
- 2) Psalm 109:5-9
- 3) Acts 1:20
- 4) Zechariah 11:11-13
- 5) Matthew 27:3-7
- 6) Isaiah 46:5, 9-10
- 7) Isaiah 55:8-9
- 8) Isaiah 40:25-28, 25-26, 28
- 9) Romans 1:20
- 10) 2 Peter 3:9
- 11) Luke 16:27-31
- 12) Luke 11:29
- 13) Proverbs 17:10
- 14) Revelation 22:18-19
- 15) Deuteronomy 5:22-23, 6-8
- 16) Ezekiel 11:19
- 17) Matthew 13:3, 10-13, 15
- 18) Galatians 5:16-17
- 19) Luke 12:47-48
- 20) John 14:17, 22-26
- 21) Isaiah 28:9-10, 12
- 22) John 8:44
- 23) 1 Peter 5:8-9
- 24) Ephesians 2:2
- 25) Ephesians 6:11-13, 17
- 26) Revelation 22:12-13, 15-17

Also referenced: Utube video: *The Illusion of Time*

RA:bo

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