

****NOTE****

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Well for at least for the rest of this month I want to do a little mini-series calling paying ransoms and making deals. Paying ransoms and making deals and what I'm doing is taking a little theme that's found kind of scattered throughout the Bible on these two topics and of course using some modern-day illustrations of some things going on in the world in which we live in right now and of course God is always one step ahead everything because he knows the future because he controls the future and so the title of our message today is it's a big deal.

It's a big deal and that in fact will be part of our sermon points our main points this morning on on this topic so I want to begin this morning to read from the book of Genesis and then I'm going to read from Psalm and Proverbs and I've selected these verses because they have a common tie in which I will share with you eventually about a word but I think you'll pick up on what I'm trying to emphasize as we begin this today. Genesis chapter 6 notice the earth also was corrupt before God and the earth was filled with violence. Those words shouldn't be put together there ought to be a space between them. Anyway so God looked upon the earth and indeed it was corrupt for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth and God said to Noah the end of all flesh has come before me for the earth is filled with violence through them and behold I will destroy them with the earth.

Psalm 11 verse 5 the Lord tests the righteous but the wicked and the one who loves violence his soul hates and of course we read that psalm a while ago the complete psalm and then Proverbs 13 in verse 2 the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence. Let's let's pray together God as you brought us together we're so

grateful to be together as the family of God and we pray as the family of God meets here and in other places that as your word is brought forth Lord we know your promises it will not return void it will accomplish what it sets to accomplish we pray for seeds to be planted we pray for seeds to be watered and we pray for the increase of your kingdom Lord I thank you that you've made it possible for us to still live in a country that has the freedom to worship the freedom to congregate and the freedom to share the gospel help us never take it for granted because we know there are many in this world today who are meeting underground there are many cast in prison because they share that word there are many going through persecution because of your word so help us to realize the benefits of it but also to whom much is given much is required so help our country Lord how we need revival in Jesus name I pray amen now there is a narrative in the Bible involving both of these themes regarding ransom and regarding deals Adam and Eve made a bad deal with with the devil in opening chapters of Genesis they ate the forbidden fruit there and of course brought death upon mankind every time that I've done a funeral and someday someone's going to do be a part of mine I'm reminded of what has happened because they disobeyed God and they thought what he offered what devil offered was better than what God offered they were warned all right and then I go on in the Bible and I see Abraham Abraham tried to make a deal with God that he would not destroy Sodom and Gomorrah and he said Lord if you can find 50 if you can write on down the line and of course it got so bad that the you know and again the permeating effect of sin which we'll touch on here in just a minute and then I thought about Esau Jacob and Esau how Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of beans for some lentil and of course what happened Jacob got the birthright and what did Esau get well a meal a meal and then of course the ultimate example of a deal is the devil offering Jesus all the kingdoms of the world that if he would just bow down if Jesus would just bow down and worship the devil and how many people right now do

we stop and realize that are doing that they have done that they have sold their soul to the devil in this essence for the things of this world that the Bible tells us are passing away so and then in the idea of a ransom Jesus gave himself as a ransom for many the Bible tells us so to begin this message this morning I'm going to give a current example of some ransom and some deals all right it was almost a year ago October 7th in fact of 2023 that Hamas terrorists murdered 1200 people all right and they took some 250 hostage hostages and filmed a lot of this brutality that was taking place and some of that film has ran in loops since that time then last Sunday when we were meeting news leaked out and became common that six of those hostages that had been held for all of those days for all those many months that they were found they had been brutally murdered all right by the Hamas they were in an underground tunnel in the Gaza area and apparently the Israelites soldiers were closing in and within 48 hours they had found discovered where they were and were going to get in and rescue them and the Hamas intervened and brutally murdered those young people who were had been their hostages and of course after that event there were much mourning for those people who were lost and killed one particular individual who received a lot of media coverage in our country his name was Hirsch Goldberg Poland all right he let he was originally his parents in Cal lived in California and he they moved at age 7 over to Israel and he was one of them who was abducted on October 7th at a music festival that was taking place well this past week they did a funeral service for that young man who was just 23 years old his parents were both very vocal trying to of course do everything humanly possible to rescue their son and unfortunately fell short but his mother and I'm I want to share with you something she said at the eulogy I am not trying to bring any attention I don't do that deliberately but one of the great eulogies I ever heard was what David shared at Amy's funeral service you know a couple of years ago and I want to share part of what she had to

say on that day she said this this is on September 1st I have his her name is Rachel Goldberg Poland I have had a lot of time during the past three hundred and thirty two days to think about my sweet boy Hirsch and one thing I keep thinking about is how out of all the mothers in the whole entire world God chose to give Hirsch to me what must I have done in past to deserve such a beautiful gift it must have been glorious Hirsch and I once watched some documentaries a couple of years ago together about young people who had died and he commented how come everyone who dies young is always said to be the funniest the smartest the greatest the handsomest why doesn't anyone say I like Max but you know what he was pretty stupid his sense of humor was off he had bad breath I'm honest and I'd say it's not that Hirsch was perfect but he was a perfect son for me and I'm so grateful to God and I want to thank God right now in front of all of you for giving me this magnificent present of my Hirsch for 23 years I was privileged to have the most stunning honor to be Hirsch's mama I'll take it and say thank you I just wish it had been longer Hirsch for all these months I've been in such torment and worried about you for every millisecond of every single day it was such a specific type of misery that I never experienced before I tried hard to suppress the missing you part because that I was convinced would bring me would excuse me break me so I spent 330 days terrified scared worrying and frightened it closed my throat and my soul throbbed with third-degree burns amidst the inexplicable agony terror anguish desperation and fear we became absolutely certain that you were coming home to us alive when it was not to be now I'm no longer have to worry about you I know you are no longer in danger but now my worry shifts to how do we live the rest of our lives without you I pray that your death will be a turning point in this horrible situation in which we are all engulfed finally you each and every single one of you did every single thing to survive 329 days and what I'm pretty sure can only be described as hell I send each of the families my deepest sympathies for

what we are all going through and for the sickening feeling that we could all not save them I think we all did every single thing we could and Hirsch there's one last thing I need you to do for us now I need you to help us stay strong and I need you to help us survive now it's hard to fathom someone has kidnapped your child and it's you know these individuals aren't good guys these are the worst of the worst and every day you think about what could they be doing how could they be torturing them are they trying to get information out of them are they just treating them horribly because they hate Jewish people what is going on and her grief and her sorrow reminded me of something that was taking place around that first Christmas when Jesus was born when there was an evil King by the name of Herod who sent out a decree a decree to put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem not just in Bethlehem but all of its districts from the age of two and under and the Bible in that story quotes from Jeremiah chapter 31 and it says there in Matthew 2 in verse 18 a voice was heard in Rama lamentation weeping and great mourning Rachel weeping for her children refusing to be comforted because they are no more the tears the mother's tears the mother's labor her lamentation her weeping now you think of that continuing and continuing and can you continuing here we are two thousand years later and it's still going on and the sad part of it is is right now in our country we have people who are supporting this these tears they're supporting the death of Jewish individuals it's off the charts I haven't seen anything like this in my life you know I see old films and I read books in the history of what was going on in Nazi Germany you know which we're not too far removed from a hundred years removed from and here we are here we are in the year 2024 and we have college students marching in support of more murder they had caught somebody in the news media saying well you know the Jews did this to themselves they did this to themselves they even denied the fact that this this boy was even killed in these hostages were even killed by the mosque they said no they kill the Jewish people

killed themselves that the Jewish people the Israelites the Israeli army killed them you know and what are some of them saying and you're going to hear more of this make a deal make a deal make a deal with the devil now I want to give you a real quick background 18 years ago in 2006 a man by the name of Gilead Shalit was captured by a mosque and held in Gaza he was released five years later in exchange for more than 1,000 terrorists all right in other words all right 1,000 to 1 1,000 to 1 let me share with you a true crime story that happened back in the 1950s there was a criminal group that had kidnapped the wife of a man who was one of those individuals who was a policeman who went on those armored cars he was one that protected the money in the armored car they kidnapped his wife to use her as ransom and use her as an hostage to get this man to let them steal money out of that armored car he finally acquiesced and gave in and let them do that all right the cops then he contacted the police the patrol intervened set up a roadblock all right they had these guys caught there there were three of them and the lady that they had killed cost hostage they had a standoff all right they said you let either let us through this roadblock if you don't we'll kill her we've got a right here we've got a gun we'll kill her if you don't let us through the commander the captain of the police rightfully said all right we're not going to make a deal because what he as he told his comrades he said what they'll do is they'll just go on down the road and kill her anyway we're not going to make a deal with the devil now what they were able to do set and it's hard to believe that the 50s were 70 years ago Wow all right the 40s were 80 years ago and even the 60s were 60 years ago but what they were able to threaten those people with was the electric chair what do we have to threaten people with today what kind of capital punishment can we threaten people with today we don't have capital punishment anymore oh we say it's not a deterrent to crime well I'll tell you what those guys did one by one they surrendered and gave up because they were threatened with the electric chair now here

we are here we are 75 years later from that episode all right and what's going on the devil is still trying to cut deals and he's a liar and he's a murderer and in the Bible in John chapter 8 and verse 44 which has been quoted many many times where Jesus said about him said he was a murderer from the beginning and bowed not in the truth because there is no truth in him how can you deal with people who are possessed by him and you expect to get any truth out of them all they're going to do is lie you can't negotiate with them because there's no truth in them see the Hamas or any of these terrorist groups their purpose is to avoid peace ha Hamas in fact I was reading this past week has provision in its charter that says it is a violation of Islamic law to even negotiate with Israel all right Hamas does not agree to the existence of a Jewish state of any size even the size of a postage stamp and that's why they say you know they want to take them to the sea they want to exterminate the Jewish population just like Adolf Hitler did now the focus of the world today the focus of the Word of God today is not on a presidential election in a little old US in November that only makes up 4.23% of the total world population the focus is on a little country called Israel all right and there's massive anti-semitism that's going on in this world it's in our country now we see it we do nothing about it we let them come into a college campus we let them go to even next to our Capitol building and we let them what graffiti up statues and things and catch things on fire and burn American flags and march with pro-israeli or excuse me Palestinian flags what is going on why all this violent hatred toward Israel in Jews how did we get the whole world to be so anti-semitic how do you get them to hate Jews like that well one answer and one key answer is Islam Islam all right it's invaded our planet all right it is Satan's plan and he's letting them carry it out of course to kill the Jewish people why is God allowing this well it's all in the book the first point I want to make here this morning it's a big deal seeing Bible prophecy fulfilled you know some of you especially some

of you that were born 1948 or before all right I don't know we got too many people in that category but something amazing happened in 1948 that changed the world forever it was Bible prophecy coming to life because Israel which had not existed since the time of Christ basically in fact Israel in essence was scattered in 8070 so and from 8070 until 1948 it was not a Jewish state the Jews were dispersed they were scattered all over everywhere and just like the Bible said they came back together all right it where we take it for granted right now that we look on a map and there's Israel well before 1948 there was no Israel on the map and there's an Israel on the map today why because God said he would bring those people together again all right and God said in his word that the hatred against them would continue to escalate and escalate in fact I know the ladies are studying the book of Revelation and when we get done we'll have them share their findings with us you know I that they're picking a tough book all right but I want to say when you get to the end of the book you're going to find out that the whole world will come against Israel from everywhere Israel will look around for a friend and there won't be any friends because the world in essence is big has become anti-christ anti-jewish anti-israel but we know what God will simply collect all the God haters together and all the people who hate Israel together his chosen people and what will they do he'll make birth him he'll make roadkill out of them they'll be feet there'll be food for the birds because we know there's a battle that's coming on the scene called the Battle of Armageddon it's that war to end all wars and if you read there in the book of Revelation it's like it's hardly even a fire shot is fired because just as he spoke this world into existence he's going to speak all the God haters out of existence the battle will be done you know what's the hymn say he cannot fail he must prevail full disclosure as a grandfather I've got a couple of grandchildren in Washington State who are part Jewish all right God is going to protect Israel he'll preserve them until the day that they finally

look upon the one they pierced and they have as if you read in Romans chapter 9 10 and 11 Romans 9 gives us the past Romans 10 gives us the present blindness of Israel as far as receiving Jesus Messiah and Romans chapter 11 gives us the future visual and the fact of a great turning to the Savior now I want to go back in time and I want to go back to those verses that we begin this message with and I am NOT going to read them all again but I want you to notice that word that I mentioned and tried to emphasize the word violence notice the world was the earth was filled with violence the earth is filled with violence the wicked and the one who loves violence his soul hates the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence violence violence violence let me let me give you and I'm I'm not burr I've had you know I've had two semesters of Greek no semester of Hebrew all right but in heap in the Hebrew language guess what the word for violence is if you look and I hope one thing what would be very profitable if you don't have it is a concordance it will give you every word of the Bible all right every word and you can look those words up the Hebrew word for violence is hamas h a m a s and if you look at the definition for hamas that word violence it means violence violently dealing in taking away ruthlessness fierceness cruel hatred to lay waste to think up devised miss to think up devised mistreatment to wrongfully imagine all right now the word violence is the word in Hebrew hamas now hamas was not founded as a terrorist group until 1987 but here is the Bible all right we reach back clear to the very beginning back in Genesis the world before the flood and I want to I want to again stipulate today there were millions of people on the planet Earth when the flood happened people live for a long period of time there were some almost 2,000 years of existence before the flood happened so there were a lot of people living on planet Earth when that flood came now think about here is this violence that's taking place and the violence is tied in with lawlessness we live in a world today like I described how we're letting people just come in and what the monkeys run in the zoo the tail is

wagging the dog people are coming in and they're just taking over all right they're just come they're destroying things and graffiti and things and going into schools and riding riding they're filming it and they're still not doing anything to them and they will rest some of them and then they just turn around and let them go all right now hamas terrorism is surely living up to that name aren't they now hamas will tell you that they got the name hamas from an acronym from Arabic acronym that's where they get it they say that hamas means zeal and bravery well the Bible says it means murder and violence now rab I want to share a quote from a rabbi Jewish rabbi listen to this neck of my neck of Maya coppersmith said quote October 7th became the dead deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust the world then it knew and the world did nothing we will not stand by and do nothing again not today not tomorrow not ever how fitting it is that in Spanish the word of moss has an entirely different meaning it means never again so this morning I'm teaching you some Hebrew and I'm trying to teach you some Spanish and take and of course his reference is you know after the Jewish Holocaust of Hitler and Nazi Germany the Jewish people said we will never go peacefully again we will never lay down our arms we will never surrender all right so it is a big deal that Bible prophecy is being fulfilled in our midst second point I want to make here this morning is it's a big deal understanding sins evil presence because I want you to understand the world of a moss then and the world of a moss now the world of violence then and the world of violence now and notice how what the Bible tells us the Lord saw and I want to tell you he's still seen the same thing and we'll again clarify that thought as we move along but notice it says the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth seeing that today and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually I want to break that down it's one of the great definitions of sin in the Bible and let me break that down into three different categories first of all I want to highlight

the word every sin is consuming consuming it spreads spreads throughout you know we talked about a while ago about Abraham trying to make a deal all right trying to make a deal to save his in-law there from Sodom and Gomorrah all right his nephew excuse me law and what what did God you get all 50 you know 40 right on down because what it had permeated as Paul said a little leaven again an illustration a metaphor for sin will live in the whole lump it will spread through the whole dough of bread the condition of unsaved people is so consuming that it entirely in gulfs them all right theologians have a correct term for it called total depravity total depravity that is we become we in our fallen nature state are completely again consumed with sin I want to give you up here on the screen and this is not an exhaustive one but what the Bible says about us from head to toe notice our mind is depraved and reprobate the Bible says we're blind we have eyes but we don't see Bible says we're deaf but and we have ears but we don't hear our ears are deaf to God's violence and truth what comes out of the mouth is this filth as rotting as a rotting corpse our mouths are full of cursing in bitterness we open our mouths and we pollute the air our tongues are filled with lies snake venom drips from our lips the Bible says our hearts are this desperately wicked we have the hands of the wicked and our feet are are swift to shed innocent blood.

Alright? We have people proudly running for political office that says, "I want to kill the babies!" And we call it reproductive freedom. See, as the Bible warns us here, the heart of the problem, the intent of the heart, the heart of the problem is the problem of the heart. The heart is depraved. The heart is deceitful above all things. Our hearts are so wicked that we don't even know half of what we are capable of.

Alright? In fact, Jesus said, "How do you murder someone?"

Well, you don't have to take a gun and shoot 'em. Just hate them. Just begin to hate them." Alright? So, sin, it's an inside job. It's internal. Second thing we see about sin, as defined here, back here, is it's

controlling.

Notice, every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil. In other words, it just took over. Alright? He couldn't think of anything else. She couldn't think of anything else. You know, there are many people right now, alright, they've got a, what the Bible talks about, besetting sin, they've got something that's got a hold of them, that death grip on them. They can't keep, they can't keep thinking about, can't stop thinking about sex. They can't stop thinking about pornography. They can't stop thinking about getting a drink. They can't stop thinking about taking a drug. They can't stop thinking about shooting up. They can't stop thinking about cheating on their spouse. It's got a hold on them. It's got a death grip on them. It's hell-bent to take over. And what's the famous last words of so many? "I thought I could handle it." "I played with a rattlesnake, and I thought I could handle it. I never dreamed it would bite me." Alright? Every besetting sin, every addiction, every evil attraction is a picture of this. It's, you know, as Zig Ziglar called it, "It's stinking thinking." Alright? Alright? You get something in your mind. It's amazing. Here I am. There are some years from being a Christian, alright, and being a lost person. And I can still have some tapes running in my mind of my past. Of my past. It's like, you know, it bugs me on television when you watch something and they'll want to put it on the screen and they'll play the same tape loop over and over and over and over. But it's like the mind. The mind, it just keeps, "Oh, I want to erase that tape. Lord, help me to release, to erase that tape." And then, third thing and final thing on this definition of sin and how it's a big deal, "The thoughts of his heart was only evil." Notice, "continually." "Continually." I mean, it became the first thought, it became the middle thought, it became the last thought. Alright? It's no wonder that God destroyed the whole world but the only eight people who got on board because that's a description of how it was then. But

here's why we need to be careful.

Because that is a description of the world in which we live in now. There's no difference. The Bible tells us in Romans chapter 3 in verse 23, and it's really the point, "For all," notice that, "all." All means all and that's all all means. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Genesis, now think about this, Genesis is not just about what happened, it's about what always happens. Always happens. Alright? And it's a big deal. I remind you that good old Noah, Noah that found grace in the eyes of God, you read what he did when he got off the boat? Planted a vineyard and what? Made him, mashed him up some grapes and got drunker and a skunk. Alright? Our hero. No, Noah. No. Not that. Well, here's the ticket. Jesus said, "As it was, so shall it be again." And that leads me to my third and final point this morning and that is, it's a big deal knowing history repeats itself.

Notice this. Yeah. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Let me take this and says, take this, "As the days were, so also shall they be." The world, you want to know what it was like before the flood happened?

You're living in it. It's today. It's not past tense, it's present tense. Notice he says, "For as the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking and marrying and giving in marriage until the day that Noah entered the ark and did not know until the flood came and took them away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be." Now, let me take that thought and that biblical truth and I want to divide it into about five different categories that I want to share with you this morning up here on the screen and this outline. First of all, what are the marks of the days of Noah? Well, first of all, the world didn't get better. It got worse. It got so bad that God said, "I'm going to destroy it." Alright? "I'm going to destroy it." Now, I've got a verse here that tells us about in 2nd Timothy 3 and verse 13, "But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse deceiving." If we're waiting on the world to get better, it ain't going to happen.

We're just cursing the darkness and the darkness is only going to get darker and that doesn't speak well of us, does it? I think of the world that my parents birthed me into.

What have I done to that world? I mean, the world, I don't think any of us would dare venture to say that the world 60 years ago, 70 years ago, 80 years ago, that it was worse than it is today. But let's stop and think. If I was up here preaching a sermon today in 1945, let's say it's 1944, let's go back 80 years. Would I say the world's getting better? Well, we went through two world wars, alright? We had Hitler exterminating Jewish people in ovens in Germany. Would we say, and we went through World War I, World War I, World War II, and of course they were looking, "Boy, it can't be long." But what was missing then that we know of now?

1948. Israel. Israel as a nation. That was one thing. I'm not saying God needs anything to happen. He doesn't need the temple to be rebuilt or anything for Jesus to come back. But all I'm saying is things aren't going to get better, they're going to get worse. And notice here, people living back then, what? It was business as usual. They were marrying and giving and marrying, alright?

That's not saying there's bad things about that, but here's the warning. They were trapped in the business as usual, the routine of life. Alright? The routine of life. Most people are more prepared for a wedding than they are their own death. Most people are more prepared for a vacation than they are for eternal life. More people are prepared for retirement than they are for what's going to happen to them when this life is over. I remember a classic case of a guy when I worked at Atlas Powder Company. It was such a strange instance. It was his last day of work. He was retiring. He had his plans all in place. He had a cabin down at the lake he was going to move to. He had signed up his retirement papers. It was a Friday night. It was his last day of work. The only thing left to happen was him to come back to work on Monday and say goodbye to

everyone. He was a line foreman out at the plant. And what happened to him out at the plant that night? He had a massive heart attack and he died. And instead of walking off the plant that night, he left the plant on a gurney in an ambulance headed to the funeral home. I hope he wasn't too busy with retirement or plans out there kind of like the man building bigger barns. He thought he had the world by the tail. He thought, you know, someone said, "Life is what happens to us while we're busy making other plans." Well, that's what's taking place here.

Third thing, and we've highlighted this and I won't stay, won't go back and do that. The world was filled with violence then. And it's filled with violence now. You know, violence and Hamas, wickedness is found in every generation and it just keeps escalating, alright? Notice fourth, the minority of believers like Noah were standing alone against the majority of the unbelieving world then and now. You know, I've labored on this point and I'm not ashamed to say it because I know there's pastors that have no spines, who will not get up in their pulpits and preach against abortion. But it's on the issue, on the ballot. And I'm scared to death that that thing is going to pass. Now, thank God we got a Supreme Court that said, "We'll at least give the people in each individual state the right to say yea or nay." But it's just, again, shows us what? So often, will the Christians shine their light and take a stand even to go to a ballot box and say, "No more?" I mean, like we

read, "If the foundation be destroyed, what can we do?" Are we going to let them keep going? And you know, you talk about violence to take a baby and at nine months, I have a little baby in my arms last week.

I showed grandma a picture I got after church to think that you would take that little baby at nine months and right before it's born, crack its head open like you would a walnut and suck its brains out and kill it. That we want to vote for that, that we want to support that, that we want to say, "Yeah, we demand our rights." Our rights to do what? They never finish the

sentence. Our right to murder our children. Our right to murder God's gifts to us. And I don't care. They always use the extreme example of, "Oh, well, you know, what about this 12-year-old girl that's pregnant and she's going to have a baby?" Two wrongs don't make a right. Killing the baby? God allowed that to happen and God is trying to bring life into the world. And just as I saw this last week in a pastor's breakfast. We had a pastor's breakfast this week and we had the Missouri Baptist Children's Home representative.

I've always known this and you all know it too. There's so many families out there that want a little baby. There's so many families out there that want children and can't have them. Alright?

The adoption places. So, a flood of judgment is coming and God is no respecter of people. See, the two great problems then are the two great problems today. And that is ignorance and indifference. Which is the fifth point. The world wasn't ready then and they ain't ready now, are they? They're not ready. You know, it's... Here's the pastor's dilemma that I've dealt with my whole life. I've dealt with it at every funeral. I've done funeral service I knew before. Been in church service. I knew there were people there. They're not ready to die. You're not ready to live until you know Christ.

They're not ready to die. But they, even at a funeral, hear someone they loved, hear someone they've seen the end result, the wages of sin is death. But yet they keep thinking, "Well, you know, I've got a long time." Count the flood. I've got a long time. You know, we read that Moses... Excuse me, Moses. We read that Noah preached 120 years, a preacher of righteousness. And how many got on the boat?

Eight. And what does Jesus say? "Few there be that find life." Right? Right? You know, people aren't... People don't get serious about the things that really matter. Alright? They're all hung up in the marrying and giving to marriage. They're hung up in the temporal things. They never look beyond the end of their nose at the

eternal things. The end of the world, the kingdom of God. Heaven and hell, the big issues. Instead, it's what? Well, people are worried about checking their email, Facebook, Snapchat. Alright? What's the next big thing? What's the next thing I can order online from Amazon?

Alright? And people are wrapped up in making a living instead of making a life. I mean, they're wrapped up in taking care of their family, but they're not wrapped up in taking care of their soul. And they're putting their physical house in order, but they're not putting their spiritual house in order. You know, we deal with the same problems they had then. We're selfish.

We're self-centered. We're self-seeking. Why? Because sin is an evil presence within us, as it was then, so it is today. Now, I want to say in wrapping this message up today, what happened then?

The majority didn't know God. They were ignorant, and they were ignorant by their own fault. They chose to remain in the dark. Alright? Chose. And what does Jesus say? It's history will repeat itself. The past reminds us of what's going to happen in the future. The majority aren't going to be ready. They're not going to be. They're not going to know Christ. And what is the punishment going to be? Alright? The floodwaters of judgment are going to come, and they don't have to come in another universal flood. I remind you, they come when we die, because if we don't know Christ, we're not ready to die. We're not ready. We need Jesus to save us. Time's not going to save us. Progress is not going to save us. Future generations are not going to save us. Politicians and political parties are not going to save us, as it was then, so it is now. Jesus said we need Him, and that brings me to the last verse I want to share with you this morning, and that is, "The plans of the Lord stand firm forever." We're not going to change things. We're not going to change His plan. You know, there are people trying to exterminate a group, Pacific group of people that we talked about. Alright? He cannot fail. He must prevail.

His plans are firm forever, and the purposes of His

heart through all generations. Alright? People will tell you out there there are many ways to God. No, there's only one, and that's Him.

That's Jesus. It's a big deal seeing Bible prophecy fulfilled. It's a big deal understanding sin's evil presence. It's a big deal knowing that history repeats itself, because of Bible prophecy. We know, we can find out, as you study, as they're studying the book of Revelation, you can find out how it's going to come to an end. We live in a country where you can have a dozen of these. You can have a thousands of these, if you want them. Alright? Things are not going to get better on a global scale. They're only going to get worse. Alright? Why? Because sin's evil presence was present then, as it is today. Alright? And God is going to judge sin just as He judged sin then. And unfortunately, are we going to be ready? You know, that's a common message. People, get ready. Jesus is coming to take from the world His own. Alright? How do we overcome this evil? The Bible says in Romans chapter 12 in verse 21, "Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good." How do I do that? Jesus said, "There's none good but God." I need to what? Let God come in and the evil will go out. Jesus is there to provide that for us, if we'll receive Him. Will you stand with me?