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**2026 Brave New Year: Deception and the Last Days, Part 1:
 Welcome to the New Church, Welcome to New Worship**

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Reading

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you ... ¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.”

Introduction: Huxley Revisited

1) Now, I’m a pastor who always wants to be in touch with His flock.

So, I’d like to begin this New Year’s mini-series by taking a quick inventory of your Christian musical tastes.

So, here’s what I’m a-gonna do: I’m going to play you two clips of songs that have recently soared to the top of the contemporary music charts, and then I’m going to take a little *unscientific* poll to see which one you like best.

I think your answer will ultimately depend on whether your tastes lean more toward gospel/bluesy or country/Americana, but we'll see.

The first clip is by Solomon Ray called, *Find Your Rest*; the second is by Ella Scott called, *Lord, I'm So Grateful*.

I'm sure some of you have heard of these artists. Anyway, here we go!

2) OK, it's time to vote. So, what do you think?

Now let me see how strong your compare-and-contrast skills are.

Who can tell me what these two songs have in common?

Here's the answer: They were both completely created by AI.

There is no Solomon Ray. He doesn't exist.

He is not a worship leader. In fact, he's not even a person.

He is not someone that God created in His own image.

And there is no Ella Scott. No 'person' wrote these songs.

No musicians played on these songs.

Someone typed the words: write a blues song with Christian lyrics about finding one's rest in Jesus, and *Find Your Rest* by Solomon Ray came out.

And it rose to the top of the Christian charts, over other worship music that was actually written by living, breathing Christian people in whom the Holy Spirit actually lives. Welcome to *2026: A brave New Year*.

3) We read **Luke 12** in our reading this morning – Jesus' Parable of the Fig Tree.

In this parable, Jesus taught that one can tell what is coming prophetically by simply looking around and watching the signs.

By looking at fig leaves, which sprout in April, one can see that summer is near.

In a similar way, by looking at the spirit trends swirling around us, we can get a sense of where we stand in God's prophetic timetable. Time and again, Jesus warned His disciples to be alert, to stay awake.

This is because it is easy to become so entangled with the affairs of this life that we miss the signs Jesus and Paul described as characteristic of the Last Days.

We won't be here for the Tribulation.

We probably won't even know the identity of the Antichrist.

But we should be able to recognize how the world around us has changed and how the things the Bible predicts are being set into place.

In **Matt. 16:1-4**, the "Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ² He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³ And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times ..."

Well, from time to time I think it's wise to take a look at the world around us through a biblical lens to get a sense of where we stand in God's prophetic timetable.

And this morning, as we find ourselves on the brink of 2026, it's probably a good time to do that.

- 4) Now, when I was in High School, and again later when I was in the Navy, I read *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, which was published in 1932.

It's a disturbing, dystopian novel that explores a future world where people have sacrificed their individuality and freedom for the sake of living in a stable society and a manufactured, superficial happiness.

It's a devastating critique of consumerism, technology, and authoritarian control – and it was WAY ahead of its time.

It's *not* a Christian book, and I wouldn't recommend anyone reading it now, but it had a profound effect on me as a young man.

In Huxley's tale, the futuristic World State is a place where citizens have been genetically engineered into a rigid caste system (Alphas to Epsilons). And these citizens are conditioned for happiness through promiscuity, consumerism, and a mood-altering drug called *soma* – *not* through virtuous living.

Imagine a world where people are encouraged to seek happiness through sexual promiscuity and the use of drugs?

Pretty far-fetched, right?

In Huxley's vision of the future, ideas like family, love, and individuality have all been successfully eliminated.

It certainly makes one think, considering our own time.

- ✠ The attacks *we've* seen on the family.
- ✠ The way marriage has been redefined in *our* very lifetime.
- ✠ How promiscuity that would once have been shocking is *now* commonplace and routine.
- ✠ The widespread use (and legalization) of drugs anesthetizing much of the populace.
- ✠ The idea of achieving happiness through consumerism, buying stuff.

Each of these factors validate Huxley's vision.

5) Well, with 2026 looming before us, the world is changing and changing rapidly.

And I think we're losing a lot, especially our sense of 'humanness.'

We're witnessing pieces being set into place that God's Word warned would mark the very Last Days and set the stage for the emergence of the Antichrist.

This morning, I want to discuss some concerns that I have with emerging technologies and how they relate to biblical principles and Bible prophecy.

Now, I'm not going to provide sources for everything I'll be sharing this morning; were I to do that, I'd take all of our time citing sources.

For those here this morning, I'll have slides up with some of the sources, and, of course, you can simply request the notes – my sources are documented there.

Much of what I'll say today will be reports that I'll just be reading.

I've modified some of them for flow or for time, others I'll just read as is – but all of it can be easily found with a simple internet search.

Welcome, New Worship!

- 1) Now, we started out this morning by talking about the state of Christian worship as we enter 2026.

The Christian music world woke up last month (November 2025) to a stunning headline: the No. 1 Christian album on iTunes was from an AI-generated artist named Solomon Ray.¹

His album, *Faithful Soul*, and singles like *Find Your Rest* and *Goodbye Temptation*, surged to the top of the charts, outpacing some of the most influential worship leaders of the past decade.

Which is interesting because the computer that made it has no 'soul' and cannot be 'tempted!'

And with that surge comes one of the biggest questions we've faced yet in the AI revolution: *Can a machine create worship?*

For many believers, the rise of AI-generated worship feels *unsettling* – like we've crossed a line no one noticed until we were already on the other side.

To figure all of this out, I think we have to ask what worship *actually is* and what it's for.

¹ From 'The Rise of AI Worship Music: It's Already Topping Christian Music Charts,' by Prophecy News Watch Staff, November 24, 2025.

As I see it, the issue is *theological*. Christian music isn't just art; it's devotion to our Creator-God. It's not only about lyrical content but about the spiritual posture of the one singing it.

2) In Scripture, worship flows from Human hearts communing with God:

✠ From David crying out in caves,

✠ From Paul and Silas singing in prison, and

✠ From believers like you and I offering the praise which naturally flows from our faith.

But AI has no salvation story. It sheds no tears before the Lord.

It has no awe of the cross – and so, it has no repentance, nor joy in redemption.

Here's the biggest thing that people are missing: *AI does not and cannot have the Holy Spirit.*

Worship, Jesus said **MUST** be in Spirit and in truth. “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth” (**John 4:24**).

Worship is praise offered up to God by someone who loves Him.

But when the singer, and the musician and the songwriter is a machine, *what exactly is being offered up and to whom?*

AI can be a tool, but it can never be a worshipper, much less a worship leader!

It takes worship out of its biblically-defined purpose and place, and turns it into a product rather than *a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving* (**Psalm 116:16-19, 1 Thessalonians 5:18**).

Notice **Hebrews 13:15** carefully: “Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.”

How is this “sacrifice of praise” to be offered to God? “Through Jesus.” Can a machine do anything “through Jesus”? Can a machine “sacrifice” anything?

This “sacrifice” is called the “the fruit of lips that openly profess His name.” Do machines “openly profess His name”? Well call me simple, but according to these verses ...

✠ If it isn’t offered as “a sacrifice” and “through Jesus” it isn’t worship.

✠ And if it isn’t offered by “lips that openly profess His name,” it isn’t worship.

3) Which begs the question: *if a worship song is not worship, then what is it?*

It’s just another *product* for consumers to consume.

Rather than being Holy Spirit-inspired praise directed toward God, it’s just another *commodity*.

In my thinking, this erosion of the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the worship leader and worshipper is a huge problem.

When AI-generated songs dominate believer’s playlists, we blur the important difference between Spirit-led worship and manufactured product.

So, this is my big question: *What ever happened to the Holy Spirit?* Everything a believer does is to be done in the Spirit.²

✠ We’re to live in joy and peace and righteousness in the Spirit (**Romans 14:17, 15:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:6**).

✠ We’re to grow in our unity and love towards one another in the Spirit (**Acts 9:31; Ephesians 2:22; Colossians 1:8; cf. Ephesians 4:3; Philippians 2:1-2**).

² Compiled by Kenneth Berding, ‘What Does it Mean to Do Things “in the Spirit”?’, *The Good Book Blog*, Talbot School of Theology Faculty, March 25, 2024; modified by me.

- ✝ We're to proclaim the Good News of salvation in the Spirit (**1 Thessalonians 1:5**; cf. **Mark 13:11**; **Acts 1:8**; **Romans 15:19**; **1 Corinthians 2:4, 13**).
- ✝ We're to be led *geographically* by the Spirit – led to go somewhere or hindered from going somewhere (**Luke 2:27, 4:1**; **Acts 16:6-7, 19:21**).
- ✝ We're to rejoice in the Spirit (**Luke 2:27-28, 10:21**).
- ✝ We're to pray in the Spirit (**Ephesians 6:18**; **Jude 20**; cf. **Rom. 8:26-27**).
- ✝ And, as we've seen, we're to worship in the Spirit (**1 Corinthians 14:16**; **Luke 2:27-28**; **Philippians 3:3**; **John 4:23**).

So, again: *What ever happened to the Holy Spirit?*

I believe, considering the clear teaching of God's Word, only humans can create worship because only humans can be redeemed.

Jesus didn't die for machines, and so, a machine cannot respond with praise out of gratitude for what it cannot possess!

It is bizarre that I even have to talk about such things.

Welcome to the future; welcome to the machine! Worship was never meant to be about charts or creating product. It's ever only been about hearts lifted in gratitude toward heaven – something no machine can do.

Welcome, New Church!

- 1) So, even though it's relatively new, AI has found its way into the Church – perhaps in ways that may make you uncomfortable.

One innovation hails from the Church in Switzerland which came up with a novel idea. Rather than spending time digging in the Bible looking for answers to your questions, why not just ask Jesus directly?

And if your OK with that, maybe you'd be willing to take it a step further. Germany is experiencing a shortage of pastors. So, they came up with a novel solution.

2) Now as a pastor, I can tell you that things can certainly get busy doing ministry.

And so, there's the temptation to cheat. Not to cheat on my spouse; to cheat on my congregation. *YOU!* What do I mean by that? I mean, I can ask ChatGPT or one of the other bots to write me a 3500-word sermon on the theological relevance of umbrellas and it will do so in about 5 seconds. Anyone have a problem with that? With a pastor preaching a sermon to the people of God written by a soulless machine?

Again, I ask, *what about the Holy Spirit?* A congregation is *a living thing*. Where is our sense of humanness?

What happened to the responsibility that every pastor has to go before the Lord and ask, '*What does the congregation need?*' And not only that, what about the growth that happens with a shepherd of God's people that comes from the time he spends preparing a sermon – growth that is so *necessary* for anyone leading a congregation.

When a student in high school or college uses AI to write a book report for a book they've never read, they may end up with a grade, and even a good one, but *no learning has taken place*. There has been *no growth*.

The same is true of pastors who mail in their sermons. Any pastor worth his weight in salt has to be continually growing so that he can share the *life* of God, and the *things* of God, with the *people* of God.

Spurgeon was once asked by a woman on the way out of a Church service how long it took him to write the sermon he'd just preached. He answered: "30 years." Spurgeon's famous response highlights the fact that *a sermon is the culmination of a lifetime of study, faith, and experience*, not just the hours spent in preparation.

So, what happens when growth stops in those who have charged by God to lead others to grow in His Word? It's a spiritual disaster.

Well, this is the *Brave New Year* we're stepping into on Thursday, the first day of 2026.

Now, I don't like AI, but I do acknowledge that it can be a very useful tool if there are guardrails in place.

It can take 45 pages of text I've written and organized it for me in the blink of an eye. That's time saving and that's smart. But if I ask AI to go ahead *and write* those 45 pages, that's *not* smart; that's cheating. *That's denying the Holy Spirit the role that He needs to have in the communication of the Word.*

Furthermore, it's dishonest. Now, some of you receive my sermon notes each week. And if you do, you know that some weeks there are as many as 30 footnotes in a single sermon citing sources. I write *academically*. I cite sources. Why? Because God warned me in **Exodus 20:15** *not to steal*.

So, if I get an idea from another brother or sister, an idea that was not mine, the person who came up with that idea deserves to get credit for it.

And those who are hearing or reading my sermon, should be shown where that idea came from.

- 3) Everyone called to be a pastor is charged by God with these words: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth" (**2 Timothy 2:15**).

Rightly handling [actually, "*cutting straight*"] *the what?* The Word of Truth.

And that may be the biggest problem that's emerged with the dawn of the AI Age: *truth is becoming more and more ambiguous*.

'What is actually true,' is becoming blurrier by the minute. And that's a real problem because we're going to see next week that *deception* is one of the most ubiquitous spirit-trends which will characterize the Last Days.

Welcome to Church in the age of AI – *Brave New World* indeed!

- 4) Now, I get that ministry can get very busy and some pastors have turned to AI for help in handling some time-consuming tasks.

For instance, praying for and with people in the congregation can be time-consuming.

Someone calls, they're sick, or they're discouraged, or they've lost a loved one and they like someone to pray with.

Well, pastors often have much more important things to do than pray with people! Megachurch pastor Ron Carpenter of *Redemption World Outreach Center* in Greenville, South Carolina is a prosperity preacher. He's pretty open-minded about AI. He has decided to save time by having his team develop an AI bot to pray for the needs of his flock as they arise.

Church, I like Corey Minor's comment: this isn't Artificial Intelligence, it's Artificial Ignorance!

Prayer is communication between human beings and their God.

Is there anyone here who believes that God hears the prayers of a robot manufacturing a generic prayer for a person who calls in?

And, notice it, the machine isn't *giving advice* about how to pray, as AI often does; the MACHINE is actually praying for the person!

This is outrageous. Can you see how ...

✝ God's role in worship is being marginalized.

✝ God's role in preaching is being marginalized.

✝ God's role in prayer is being marginalized.

✝ The Holy Spirit is being marginalized.

More and more, "truth" and what constitutes "truth" is up for debate – everyone claims to have their own 'truth' today.

And this is precisely what we should expect to be happening, if we've been reading our Bibles correctly.

Welcome, New Morality!

- 1) Something has changed – and if it’s changed within the Church, it’s certainly changed in our predominately-secular culture.

In fact, recent studies show that something has indeed changed within America's moral soul.³

A new study from George Barna's *Cultural Research Center* reveals that millions of Americans no longer see many behaviors once considered sinful as wrong at all.

In short, the very definition of sin is being rewritten.

The study – part of the American Worldview Inventory 2025 – surveyed 2,000 adults across the nation and asked whether they believed twelve specific actions, long viewed as sinful in the Bible, were still wrong.

The answers painted a stunning picture of moral drift.

Only half of those actions are still widely viewed as sinful.

And that’s a problem. And not only that, it’s a satanically sponsored problem.

Why? Because when sin is redefined – when what God calls sin is no longer sinful – there’s no longer a need for grace, no longer a need for salvation.

Sin is not merely a list of ‘don'ts.’

It's the mirror that shows us our need for a Savior.

When society stops believing in sin, it inevitably stops believing in the need for redemption as well.

If there's no right or wrong – if everyone has their own truth – then there’s really no need for Jesus.

³ From ‘Most “Traditional Sins” No Longer Considered Wrong by Americans,’ by Ken Ham, November 06, 2025; <https://answersingenesis.org/morality/most-traditional-sins-no-longer-considered-wrong-by-americans/>

And, O how the devil would love for people to believe that!

If sin is not sinful, then what did Jesus come to save us from?

That's what makes these findings so concerning.

Barna's earlier research has already shown that *less than one in five adults have even a partially biblical perspective on sin.*

Gen Z – clearly the most secular generation in U.S. history – is now entering adulthood.

And they are less likely than any generation before them to believe the Bible is true, to see moral truth as absolute, or to accept that human nature is sinful.

Add to that the rapidly growing atheist and agnostic segment of the population – now about one-quarter of all adults – and it's not hard to see that a demographic shift is underway.

As the American conscience continues to drift, we, the people of God, must become living reminders that *truth is not up for vote.*

Sin is real, but grace is greater – and redemption is still possible.

2) And amidst this vacuum of moral ambiguity, AI is here to help!⁴

Sam Altman, the CEO of OpenAI, announced that ChatGPT would begin allowing “erotica for verified adults” set to start this month (December 2025).

He defended this by saying, “We are not the elected moral police of the world.” This plan is being sold as a matter of “adult freedom,” but make no mistake: this is about normalizing sin, monetizing lust, and expanding the reach of evil under the guise of technology.

What began as a tool for knowledge and creativity now risks becoming a factory for temptation – and the spiritual consequences will be catastrophic.

⁴ From ‘The Coming Flood of Evil: ChatGPT's Adult Content Will Create Digital Babylon,’ by Prophecy News Watch Staff, October 17, 2025; https://www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent_news_id=8986

Why? Because Artificial Intelligence has already blurred the lines between reality and illusion. But AI-generated erotica will go further – offering people simulated lovers, ‘custom’ fantasies, and seductive conversations designed to satisfy fleshly cravings rather than heal the heart.

This is not freedom. It is digital slavery dressed up as personal liberty.

When machines start whispering to lonely souls, what happens to the sanctity of marriage? To the discipline of chastity?

And not only that! The more people engage with fantasy, the less capable they become of genuine human connection.

AI erotica doesn't create love – it counterfeits it.

The soul that settles for imitation begins to lose its hunger for the real thing.

Scripture warns, “The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but of the world” (**1 John 2:16**).

AI erotica takes all three and packages them into a glowing screen.

Once the technology exists, it will spread like wildfire – faster than any moral system can contain it.

The exploitation that already thrives in digital pornography will multiply. This is not a possibility; it is a certainty.

What begins in secret on a private screen soon becomes visible in the collapse of families, in desensitized children, and in the corrosion of conscience.

We already live in a world drowning in pornography addiction.

Now imagine something infinitely more dangerous – a machine that adapts to your specific temptations, remembers your preferences, and feeds them back to you in ever-more alluring ways.

That is what AI erotica will be: temptation *personalized*.

Such technology won't merely *entertain* sin – it will *engineer* it.

Millions will fall into deeper isolation and shame. Marriages will falter.

Depression will soar.

The human mind, designed to be renewed by the Word of God, will instead be rewired by an algorithm trained to corrupt it.

Sin has always found ways to multiply, but AI gives it rocket fuel.

Christians must understand that evil does not stay in its lane.

It spreads. It normalizes. It numbs.

Altman insists that OpenAI is “not the moral police of the world.”

But that statement itself reveals the problem: the idea that morality can be optional in a world where every click, word, and whisper can now be generated by machines.

This is not a technological question. It is a spiritual one.

Will humanity allow its tools to serve darkness, or will it draw a line – a line that defends purity, family, and holiness in human life?

OpenAI’s plan moving forward, is not an innovation; it’s an invasion of hearts, homes, and souls.

- 3) And the power of these new AI-generated relationships, is stronger than any of us can fully comprehend.

There are lots of lonely people in this world.

A survey published *this* month (December 2025) by the nonprofit Centre for Democracy and Technology (CDT) found that one in five students report that they or someone they know has had a romantic relationship with AI.

As bizarre as that sounds, please watch this ... Now these women we just heard from *are adults* – that’s one thing. But what happens when vulnerable, still developing teenagers begin a relationship with AI companions?

Well, unfortunately, the results can be catastrophic.

Yet, just this past October (2025), California Governor Gavin Newsom vetoed a bill passed by the state legislature that would have blocked developers from offering AI chatbot-companions to children unless the companies could guarantee the software wouldn't breed harmful behavior.⁵

Newsom said it was “imperative that adolescents learn how to safely interact with AI systems” in a message that accompanied his veto.

At the nationwide level, the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has launched an inquiry into how AI chatbots interact with children.

- 4) Now we've just seen the results of some people entering into *emotional* relationships with chatbots.

Can you imagine what will happen when those relationships become *sexual*?

So, knowing all of this, why in God's green earth would anyone want to introduce erotica into AI?

In a word: *money*.

The BBC reports, “AI's revenue is growing, but it has never been profitable.”⁶

Tulane University business professor Rob Lalka, said, “The major AI companies find themselves in a battle for market share ... They need to continue ... achieving market domination as much as they can.”

Conclusion: God's Word Warned Us

- 1) Now, my time is almost done here; we'll continue next time. But let me leave you with a final thought: Jesus said, “I am the way the truth and the life” (**John 14:6**). Truth is the very foundation of our life – our civic life and our spiritual life.

⁵ NGUYỄN, TRẦN, ‘California governor vetoes bill to restrict kids' access to AI chatbots,’ AP; <https://apnews.com/article/california-chatbots-children-safety-ai-newsom-33be4d57d0e2d14553e02a94d9529976>

⁶ Jamal, Lily, ‘It's going to be really bad: Fears over AI bubble bursting grow in Silicon Valley,’ BBC News, 10 October 2025; <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cz69qy760weo>

We go to court to discover the truth: *Did he do it or didn't he do it?* That's what the law is all about. It's supposed to be about discovering truth, bringing justice where there's injustice, righting wrongs. But what happens when the truth gets so blurred that you can't tell up from down anymore? What happens when evidence is no longer objective or trustworthy? What happens when the opinions of people have been impacted by statements or pictures or videos that *seem* to be true but are not. Media that shows people in places that they've never been, saying things they've never said? What then?

When the Brown University shooting happened, Mary and I, like many of you, would watch the news conferences to hear the latest updates. And I heard the Providence chief of police say over and over again, 'Please stop posting AI generated images; they're not helping.'

Who knows, you might come across a very convincing video of me claiming that I've never *really* believed in God!

All you need is a picture of someone and AI will animate it and put it in any situation you ask it to. Just playing around, my son-in-law, Ryan, took a picture of Bella and told it to show her petting a lion. You wouldn't believe the authentic video it created! But Bella's never pet a lion; that video is not true.

That's the *satanic* genius of AI: it's blurring the lines between illusion and reality, the lines between THE Truth and THE Lie.

- 2) So, what happens when truth becomes nearly impossible to discern? I'll tell you exactly what happens: *people get deceived*. The Bible, it turns out, has a lot to say about deception – we'll expand on this next Lord's Day. Because *deception* is the sociological profile Scripture declares will characterize the last days, and cut a path for the rise of the Antichrist.

2 Timothy 3:13 warns that “evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”

I think we are witnessing the creation of those social conditions right before our very eyes.

This is the *Brave New Year* we'll be stepping into this coming Thursday, and we must be brave indeed!

For believers, this needs to be a time of renewed commitment to the truth.

AI is about to unleash *personalized* pornography for people already awash in moral ambiguity.

Do we think a society that embraces such things will not have to answer for it?

Have we forgotten that it's the nation *whose God is the Lord* that will be blessed (**Psalm 33:12**)?

Have we forgotten that our sin will find us out (**Numbers 32:23**)?

Have we forgotten that what we put in the ground is what will grow (**Galatians 6:7**)?

These are all biblical principles from the Word of Truth. But once the dopamine starts to flow from these wild new personalized fantasies, our national soul will be further crippled and further enslaved.

And so, each of us have to *keep ourselves free* in 2026 by submitting more completely than ever to the One who set us free.

“If the Son sets you free,” Jesus said, “you will be free indeed” (**John 8:36**).

And Paul tells us in **Galatians 5:1**, “It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.”

So, how do we stay free? Jesus told us: “If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (**John 8:31-32**).

And taking the things that we find in the Word, let them propel us out into the world so that we can impact the darkness with the light.

May God help us as we do.

Amen.