

Questions about the Bible

Louis T. Talbot

[Music until 00:23]

Announcer:

The Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc., half century old Christian training center of the West, presents verse by verse with Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Biola Chancellor and one of America's great evangelical leaders. Now once again, your radio Bible teacher Dr. Louis T. Talbot.

Louis T. Talbot:

And thank you, Mr. Announcer. Good morning my radio friends and friends of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. This is Louis T. Talbot greating you and welcoming you to another broadcast of Bible study. And I do so in the wonderful name of our wonderful Lord and on behalf of the young men and the young women who form the student body of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. Last evening, I had a blessed ministry with the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Pasadena. Dr. David is the pastor. And I was speaking to the people, eh, last night on the significance of the unrest and the upheaval that is sweeping Africa today, and showing the parallel of the events in Africa the day with the Mau Mau movement of four years ago.

Some of you folks will remember, eh, that I was in the heart of Africa about 4 or 5 years ago when the Mau Mau movement was sweeping through great portions of Africa. And the Kikuyu tribe especially were affected by it. And that tribe has, eh, has about 3 million natives connected with it, and of that number, seven hundred and fifty thousand had taken the Mau Mau oath. They

killed by torture and by every conceivable and inconceivable way of ending a person's life associated with the, eh, with indescribable, pu-, describable pain. I guess you are reading the newspapers, my dear friend, in regard to all this. And these are indeed perilous times. And as we look over the world today, we can see signs everywhere rather than approaching crisis. I was told by a missionary leader just about half an hour ago that great numbers of the missionaries from Africa are being evacuated. And I think, my dear friends, that all of this that is taking place in the mission field today is a call for prayer. That is I do not mean that, eh, the regular Wednesday evening prayer meeting. I do not mean that. But I think that we ought to, as many of us as possible, all the churches should call, eh, prayer meetings and have an all-day prayer of waiting before God in behalf of the terrible things that are taking place in not only in Africa but in other parts of the world.

You know there were several time when we need, ought to give ourselves to prayer and intercession and to the moving of the arm of God. It's the day in which we are living. Well, I was telling them about this last night and I wanna say just for the benefit of all of you folks that are living in and around about Pasadena that there will be meetings every evening with missionary statesmen speaking and putting before you, eh, the great needs and great perils of they, of them, eh, foreign field. You know that the Christian and Missionary Alliance is located at the corner of, of Villa and Craig Street and the meetings begin at 7:30.

Now thank you for your letters. You know that your letters, my dear friend, my "vitamin." You know that your letters are my vitamin A and vitamin B and D and F and all the rest of the alphabet. I think that your letters, my dear friends, not the things that I eat that keep me going.

And they warm my heart more than you can ever know. You know that in this way that you are our co-laborers. And one of these days we're going to rejoice together in the presence of the Lord.

I think that the Lord of the harvest has given to the Bible Institute of Los Angeles the greatest ministry ever. And you would agree with me, my dear friend, in regard to that statement if you could see this, eh, body of almost a thousand young men and young women who have come to us from all parts of this and other lands to prepare, eh, for service to this needy world. And I think that when school opens, well, it's gonna be a great job to know just where to put these folks.

I am still praying and hoping, my friends, that soon that that memorial building that I've been speaking about so much, overlaid will be in the course of erection before many many days.

Yesterday I received another very very generous gift, but while I'm very very thankful for the large gift yet, do you know, my dear friends, that it's the smaller gifts that come from, eh, letters the people just majority means? And they remember us every month regularly with a dollar or two dollars. You know my dear friends that when I get a thousand letters just like that, you can just imagine what, what, how it just voice my spirit, gives me the confidence that we are going to have this memorial, eh, building very soon that so that there will be none of these students that will have to, have to just commute from downtown out there and then back again at night.

You remember us with your letters and let me tell you that when you write a letter to me and write it personally, it comes to my desk. And I just spend about an hour every morning just reading them. And let me say again that they are the tonic to my soul. And whenever I got on my

knees, I thank God for all of my wo-, wonderful friends in radio land. Just write me today; those of you didn't get in on that last week and this week. Just write a letter today. Give me a little bite and from your pen, will you? You know you can tell from my voice that that I am, eh, just have been using it too much. But if I get a letter from all of you folks today, you have written it all, I'm sure that that Spirit shall abide them and will put my throat in train and I'll come on the radio tomorrow, feeling more fresh than ever. Just write me, Louis T Talbot, the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Los Angeles 17, California.

Now my dear friends, before we take up the verse by verse study of another book of the Bible, I wanna get through with all of these questions. And some of them indeed just reveal the fact that all of you folks are thinking people. You know, here is a word from one of my listeners and he writes, "Will you please explain the verse in Isaiah Chapter 45 verse 7, where God says 'I form light and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.'" And then the questioner says, "Now, in what way can God be the author of evil?" My dear friends, this verse has been sent to me on a number of occasions over the last 20 years with a request that I explain it, and especially those words "I create evil."

When God says "I create evil," my dear friend, it cannot in any sense or in any ways be taken to mean that God is the author of sin. You remember how the James says; I think it is in Chapter 5 and verse 13. He says let no man, when he is tempted, say I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man. Well, you may say "well, what does God mean when He says that I, the Lord, create all these things, and I make peace and I create evil?" My dear friends that the Lord was addressing the children of Israel, and the children of Israel

always had a tendency to go into apostasy. And you know that, that God said to them that if you go in a certain way that your experience is going to be one of chastisement. And He told them what He would do if they went their way and what He would do if they did not go that way.

And my dear friends, what God allowed to come onto them, eh, was determined by what they did in the way of the revealed will of God for them. And my dear friends, that's true of you. You know that when in the days of the, of the backsliding kings of children and God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to go down there in Jerusalem and take them captive. God allowed them to go down there. God, my dear friends, just allows evil to come by taking His hand off you. That's all. You remember how that we were studying yesterday, about, eh, that is a lady says "how can I resist temptation?" And she had read that text that, eh, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." But you know, my friend, the ways to resist the devil is to, i-, is to do what the first verse says "submit yourselves under God." And if you refuse to walk in the way of God, if you refuse to, eh, to submit yourselves and God, my dear friends, God creates evil by just taking His hand off, and what he does that the devil comes in. And so indirectly God uses the devil just to be a means of chastisement. Now I don't know whether that is given any light on that or not, but the thing to do is just walk very very close to God. My dear friends, that whatever comes upon you in the way of sickness and sudden disease, will you know it is a chastisement. And therefore God has some other reason for allowing those things.

Now the, the next question as a reference to the animal sacrifices that are going to be offered in the Millennial Kingdom. And in the book of Isaiah, in Ezekiel Chapter 43, you'll remember that there is a statement that animal sacrifices are going to be restored. They're going to be re-, they're

going to be offered again, eh, when the millennial temple is erected. And this, and with this thought in mind, the questioner says how can Ezekiel Chapter 43 verse 21, be still waiting for a fulfillment in view of the statement of Hebrews 10 verse, verse 8. Well, of course, E-, Ezekiel chapter 43 speaks of the millennial kingdom, speaks about the, the burn offerings and the meal offerings and the s-, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering. They are all going to be offered again. And my friends, if you read the final chapters of Ezekiel, you will get to the title description of the bloody offerings to be resumed during the millennial reign. Now the questioner wants to know why.

Well, it is evident that the purpose of these sacrifices will be memorials pointing back to the one sacrifice for sin forever, accomplished Calvary's cross, just as the bloody offerings of the past dispensations were memorials. And they were pointing forward, eh, to that offering. You have an illustration of that, my dear friends, even in this age when you, eh, when you meet together to remember the Lord in His death a-, and in His resurrection. You are at the Lord's table and you take the bread and you take the wine. And when you eat the bread and drink the wine, you are just remembering the Lord and what, eh, Christ did 1900 years ago. Now back there in the Old Testament days, God had the children of Israel look forward when you sit at the Lord's table, my dear friend, you look back. And then in the millennial reign of Christ after the church is gone, He is still going to have things upon this earth that will keep in mind, the minds of the people who will be in the millennium. The meaning of Calvary. I want to tell you, my dear friend, God will not all through the eternal ages allow you to remember Calvary. You will never, eh, never allow you to forget Calvary. You'll always remember it. And in the millennial reign of Christ, when

Christ is reigning, there will be evidence there that will, that will set the minds of the people, take them back unto place 1900 years ago.

And my dear friends there is something else about, ab-, millennium. He is not only going to allow, eh, He is going and not only going to re-, eh, to keep in mind of the people what took place 1900 years ago, but He is going to have, in the millennium, also something in the animal kingdom and the creatures that, that's not gonna be blessed. You know, for instance you take the 65th chapter of Isaiah and you will find there that the lion is going to eat straw like the ox, and the little child shall lead them. And then the all the rest of the animal kingdom is going to be marvelously changed and the deserts are going to blossom like the rose.

And then you find in that marvelous description of the effect of the millennial reign of Christ on the animal kingdom, you find this. This is Isaiah Chapter 65 "and dust shall be the serpent's meat." My friends, the only part of the creature kingdom that will not be affected by the millennial reign of Christ will be the serpent, and dust will be the serpent's meat. And during the millennial kingdom, the serpent will crawl on its belly, just as it does now. And you know why? It's a reminder that the people in the millennial reign of Christ that, that is the first paradise that the world had known. There was a paradise many years ago into which Adam was placed and sin came in and wrecked the paradise. And God will have in the millennium reign of Christ not only a picture to remind them of Calvary, but to remind them of sin and once sin is, once sin does. And during the millennium, my dear friends, every person that sees a serpent crawling on its belly and having its meat taken from the dust, it will be a reminder of what sin is and what sin does.

And you know how the millennial reign is gonna end, my dear friend. You know it's going to end in rebellion. And in spite of those remembrances that God will put into the world, they will still go on in their own way. That is that, that is during the first, eh, part of the thousand years of Christ, the world will be a converted world. But I think I've told you that during the millennium, children are going to be born in the world just as them, eh, just as they're born in the world today. And just as the children have got the people, eh, oftentimes are, are gospel hardened in this day, so in that day there will be glory harden. And my dear friends, that's the way that the millennium ends with that higher rebellion against God. But all through the millennium, God will be giving to the people reminders of Calvary in those bloody offerings and the reminder of sin in the serpent as the only creature that is not affected by the millennium.

All right. Now here is a very interesting question. And it reads on this wise, "Will you please tell us what we are to understand by the statement in Isaiah Chapter 9 verse 7, and of the increase of His kingdom there shall be no end?" Then the questioner says, "What is the meaning of that word increase?" Well, my dear friends, that would increase just means just exactly what you understand it to mean. It means increase. And of course that is one of the great prophecies of the Lord Jesus Christ and His rule over this earth. And you know that the angel said to Mary, eh, when she had the angel announce to her that she was going to be the channel, so it's the Messiah would come. And the angel said and "thou shalt conceive and bear in thy womb a child. And God shall give to Him the throne of His father David. And He shall rule over the house of Jacob forever." And Isaiah writing about the kingdom, when the Lord Jesus Christ will return to this earth. He says "and of the increase of His kingdom," or "His government, there shall be no end."

My friends, you and I cannot conceive of infinite space. When you look at the great star and universe, even though you're look at through a telescope and you see the boundary as far as the, as far as the universe is as revealed by the telescope. But my dear friends, beyond what the telescope reveals, even the most powerful in the world, there is space that is gone on and on and on and on. And you know that it seems as though all through the eternal ages, that the Lord Jesus, that is His government and of his kingdom, there will be no end and they'll be marked by increase.

I read a very significant thing in a magazine some little time ago. That is of astronomers looking at this universe, so powerful telescopes, and they saw a part of the universe whe-, it seemed as though there were no stars at all. There was no part of what we know a-, as the universe that was just empty space. And then that is they looked at that about 15 years ago. And then just recently they looked at that spot again and they saw clusters of stars. I am simple enough to believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is creating and creating and creating. Of course he's not creating you. He's not creating mankind. God has other beings beside human beings. And that word increase, and of the increase of His kingdom that shall be no end. And my friend, you know the Lord Jesus Christ is the creator of all things. He is the one who has created all those millions and millions of stars that form the Milky Way. And He is going on creating and creating and creating. And there will be no end to it, because there is no, there is no boundary to space at all.

As I said a moment ago, you can't grasp the thought of infinite space. And my friends, do you know who you are? You are the bride of the Lord Jesus Christ and everything that He has,

everything that He has created, my dear friends, He has endowed you with it. Just as when a bridegroom, eh, when he is marry, he says to his wife and will thee, upon thee, I, with my worldly goods I thee endow. You know, my dear friend, that's what the Lord Jesus Christ said to you. When you accepted Him as your savior, you became a part of His body, the bride of Christ. And everything Jesus has, Jesus says He's mine and they're all yours. And we are [inaudible] with God, [inaudible] with Christ. My dear friend, isn't it wonderful to look at this great universe? And when we get our resurrection bodies, we're going to go right through this universe. And isn't it wonderful to have a look at the whole thing, on, as far as we can see with these naked eyes, on a clear night?

And remember that all that real estate is yours, my friend. And you know that the Lord doesn't allow you, doesn't require you to take, pay any taxes on that real estate. Aren't you glad, my dear friends, that you look at the great universe and see what belongs to you that you don't have to pay taxes on it? And it's gonna be yours. And when you get your resurrection body, you're going to go right through it. And my friends that is the meaning of that statement, Isaiah Chapter 9 verse 7. You mark that in your Bible, and of the increase of his kingdom, there shall be no end.

Now here is another question of interest. "I was Sunday school teacher, holds that the great fiery furnace into what Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were cast was prophetic of the great tribulation period. I have always believed that the story is a beautiful illustration of the providential and protecting care of God over His children and that He is always with us at all times and under all circumstances." Well, my dear friends, what you have given in connection with your understanding of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego being cast into the fiery furnace is

the practical lesson that God want you to learn. And you know that when Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were pitched into that fiery furnace, oh, Nebuchadnezzar was gonna get their ashes out, I guess, to send to their relatives. And when the door was open, there they were walking around. I guess they were having an old time revival meeting in that, in the midst of that fire.

And as Nebuchadnezzar looked at it, He saw another one there. He saw one walking with them. And Nebuchadnezzar said I see another one and the fourth is like them and the Son of God. You and I know, my dear friend, who that fourth one was. That one was the Lord Jesus Christ, who said I will never leave you nor forsake you. He is the one who said "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." That's the practical lesson. I wonder if I'm talking to somebody this morning who is going through the fiery furnace. Let me tell you, my dear friend, that you will never alone in it. The Lord Jesus Christ is right in the midst of His people. And where the need is greatest, there He is the closest. And God would have you to remember that, my dear friend.

But you know that there is another great lesson about that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and the fiery furnace. And that is from a prophetic standpoint that fiery furnace is a picture of the great tribulation. And those three Hebrew children, because they refuse to bow to knee to that, eh, Nebu-, that image that Nebuchadnezzar set up on the pla-, plain of Dura. The day because they refuse to worship that image, Nebuchadnezzar cast them into the fiery furnace.

My dear friends, have you ever noted, have you ever read carefully that 3rd chapter of the Book of Daniel and note everything that is said about that image that Nebuchadnezzar set up? You

know that the Spoke of God has given to us the dimensions of that image and the dimensions was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits broad. Now what do you have that? You have the number 6: 60 cubits high, 6 cubits broad. That took place at the beginning of the times of the Gentiles. How were the times of the Gentiles going to end? They are going to end with another dictator and that another dictator will be the Antichrist. And he is going to put up his image. And my dear friends, what will his number? The number of the beast will be 666. Isn't that significant? That is the beginning of the times of the Gentiles with Nebuchadnezzar when he set up that image. And it was all of gold and was compulsory worship. Nebuchadnezzar says that every man who refuses to worship, eh, that image will be cast into a burning fiery furnace. There it was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits broad. We do not know whether the cubit was 90, eh, 90, eh, whether the cubit was 18 inches or 22 inches. If it was, if it was 18 inches, that is the cubit back that in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, then that image was 90 feet high. And if the cubit was 22 inches, then that, that image was 110 feet high and was all of gold. My friends, what a dazzling sight that must be.

And Nebuchadnezzar said when all the musical instruments play, every man must bow down and worship it. And there were three that stood. And you know, my friends, that as the times of the Gentiles began, so they shall end because they are ended with another dictator. He will be the Antichrist. He will set up his image. His image is going to be stand with a number 6. And thank God that there are some folks in that day who will refuse to bow to knee. And I tell you what happened to, the same thing as what happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the fiery furnace they go. And Jesus says concerning that tribulation, He says that there will be a time of trouble, such as naval wars since there was a nation.

I tell you, you just think that statement. You know that this world has seen some terrible times, but Jesus says that tribulation will be a time of trouble such as the world has never seen. And I believe that the setting up of that image in the 3rd chapter of the Book of Daniel and Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refusing to worship him, and then being cast into the lake, into that burning fiery furnace and being miraculously preserved. My dear friends, I think it's all prophetic. And while it is taking place and so when you are Sunday school teacher, s-, teaches the 3rd chapter of Daniel along that line. The 4th chapter of Dan, my dear friend, you listen to him, because he's giving you the great prophetic truths of that book.

All right. Now here is another question. It has to do with accountability in the age of accountability. And the questioner says, "When Jesus remained in the temple at the age of 12 years, did it indicate at what age a child's personal responsibility begins?" Well, my dear friends, I do not think that there is any such indication. In the fact that when Jesus remained in the temple at the age of 12, and, and asking and answering questions, I do not think that the age that is given there, the age of 12 is indicating that that is the time when a person reaches the period of, of accountability to the God.

You know, the age of accountability doubtless varies in different children. Some children reached before 12 years of age. Some of them reached 12 years of age. Some of them reached after 12. And tell you the truth, my dear friends, some folks never seem to reach at all. There are some folks that are 70 and 80 years of age, and they don't seem to be all there, when it comes to spiritual things. But God knows when the age of accountability is reached. And my dear friends,

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when that age is reached, then Calvary no longer cover you. You're on your own. And you're responsible to God and you're given account to God as to what you did with the Lord Jesus.

Well, my friends, I got about 30 more questions on my desk, and we haven't come to them yet. But I will get to them this week. But I trust that these questions have been a great interest to you and a great help. And let me close by saying remember the missionaries in the foreign field. And if we call a day a prayer, my dear friends, I am very desirous that you should all respond to it.

Thank you for listening and goodbye. And God abundantly bless you all.

[Music until 29:03.]

Announcer:

You've been listening to your radio Bible teacher Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Chancellor of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc. Address all mail to Dr. Louis T. Talbot, 558 South Hope street, Los Angeles 17, California.

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