

Torrey Conference Oct 25, 1990 What on Earth is happening?

By David Hocking

David Hocking:

Thank you, Ron. Ron informed me just as I came in today. He said, David, if you really can't handle it this morning, I want you to know that I got your messages down. He's got them down so, well that a guy came up to me in one of our Bike Ola rallies and said, I think it's awful the way you've been stealing Ron Haeffer's messages.

Delightful for me to be back with you. I have little news for Brandon. I got a model for you folks. On the basis of what? Ron Haefer, I would suggest averse, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.

Amen hey, we had a wonderful week last week, and just before I speak, I want to thank those of you who prayed. And I want to tell you about something that happened last week that tells me about your involvement in what we're doing across America. With a Biola hour, a gentleman came up to me at one of our rallies and said, Didn't you have the kids of Biola pray for folks who sent in prayer requests last year? I said, yes, we did. We mobilized everybody.

They took in all these prayer requests and prayed. He said, Well, my mother sent in a request to pray for me because I was on drugs and messed up so bad and long ways from God. And he said, God answered that prayer. He said, I just want to thank the kids at Biola for praying that day because I got saved as a result of those prayers. Praise the Lord.

Amen.

Last week, we were here on the West Coast. We were in Modesto and Fresno, two of the greater hot spots for tourism. And we had a wonderful time in Fresno and highway 99. It says Biola 7 miles. Have you ever seen it?

It's right on the freeway. So Art Black, director of the Biola, made us get up one morning and go out to Biola for breakfast. How did we know that it's only a crossroads? There aren't any restaurants there, but we went out there and we were kind of curious. It's called Biola, and there's a Biola Avenue just outside of Fresno.

So inquiring a little bit further, would you believe it? Dr. R. A. Tory.

How an evangelistic tent campaign at that corner. And that's how it got its name. Biola right outside of Fresno. I would not suggest buying a home there, but it is cheap.

We had 800 people show up from the radio audience, and by the way, we don't advertise and mass advertising. We do it only to the radio. But we had 800 people show up. But the good news is that 77 people receive Christ as Lord and Savior. Just last week in Fresno, in Modesto, where we're on the radio now, and a news station only been on there about a year.

And we were concerned about how we were doing. And we were thrilled as 900 people came out in Modesto and we saw 57 people come to know Christ as Savior and Lord, and that's what it's

all about. A year ago, 8700 people came to know Jesus Christ and wrote us for a Bible study correspondence course that we have, which they do in the mail free Bible study by mail, a series of lessons on the gospel. And that really thrilled us. You'll be interested to know.

I just got a report from our Department yesterday so I could share it with you. But from January 1 till now, we've had over 7000 people who have written for that Bible study by mail who want to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, and so to God be the glory God's doing great things. I want to talk to you about what on Earth is happening in all of our Biola rallies. What we do is I take a microphone to the audience to let people ask any questions they want to ask.

And sometimes it's sweet and peaches and cream, a Church crowd.

And other times it's really wild and people want you to get out of the place. But we've had a wonderful time, but I've observed something and it's growing. People on this planet, Christians and non-Christians are becoming very concerned with what's happening in our world. People are losing touch with what is happening. They don't understand what's happening.

And there is a great deal of anxiety and in some cases, panic as to what is actually occurring on the planet. Lots of questions about Saddam Hussein, lots of questions about the Persian Gulf, about the economic situation, about the European common market, which will become very, very powerful in this world. As of January 1, 1992, we have some very serious things facing us in our culture and in our world. And I want to ask the question for all of us today, what exactly on Earth is happening?

Take your Bibles, please, and turn to Matthew chapter 24.

Always carry your sword with you always Matthew 24. You say, well, I didn't bring mine today. Hey, Repent, Amen. You know, I don't know how you guys feel about it, but there's all kinds of people's attitudes towards carrying your Bible and doing things. Lots of folks carry the little secret New Testament deal in their pocket.

They're kind of Secret Service Christians. I really don't think that's where we are right now. Frankly, I'm glad you're being cool, for Jesus sake, but I don't think that's where we are. I think we're an open confrontation, folks. I think we're in an antichristian hostile society and we better wake up. So I like to carry a big one. I need giant print. It should be obvious, but I carry a big one. I've even been thinking lately about carrying Jerry Falwell's big family Bible, but anyway, I carry a big one. The other day, I was in a restaurant.

Mimi is down on 17th street intestine, and I was there at Mimi's. I go there early in the morning and I went to have a little breakfast. I went to the counter and I carried my Bible. I had my Bible with me. I don't always carry in the restroom, but I had it that morning. Last minute preparation for the message. Anyway, I came in and this is all I did. A guy was sitting two stools over from me and I've learned how to dramatically set the Bible down. I don't sneak it down, put the newspaper over it. I just kind of throw that baby on the desk. So I did that. I walked in there and I threw it on there and he jumped and he said, Are you going to leave that there? I mean, they don't say that about any other book. He was scared to death. I said, What's the matter with that?

He said, do you know what that is? I sure do. It's a Bible. He says, Well, you don't need to just put it on the table. And I don't always do this. But I am wacko for Jesus. And I just picked it up and I went, that guy jumped about 6ft off that stool.

Hey, the Bible calls this the sword of the Spirit. Amen. That's what it says. What on Earth is happening? Turn to Matthew chapter 24. Jesus told us about it. Let's begin at verse one and read down to verse 14. Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and his disciples came to him to show him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you not 1 St shall be left here upon another that shall not be thrown down, fulfilled in 70 Ad by the invasion of the Romans.

Now, as he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately saying, Tell us, when will these things be? A lot of Bible scholars do not believe that Matthew addresses that question. Luke does in chapter 21. That's probably a debatable issue, but obviously the most important question is the second one, what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age? Since he didn't repeat the word sign, we believe it's one question that is coming and the end of the age are simultaneous. Now I happen to be a pretribulationist. I believe the Lord is coming for his Church before the Tribulation.

And thank you that's two of us who agree there are a lot of folks who are posttribulationists, and I am too. I'm both pre and post. I believe the Lord's coming for his Church before the Tribulation, and I believe he's coming to the Earth. As most all believers who call themselves Bible Christians do believe he's coming at the end of the Tribulation. That's the end of the age.

Under discussion. The sign of his coming is referring to his coming and power and great glory at the end of that tribulation period. A lot of folks asked me to say, Well, what if you're wrong? What if it's not precisely and we go into the tribulation? Hey, I can change my view. Okay? No problem.

But I am a committed preciribulation list, and I really am not hung up one way or another. A lot of folks think, and they say in public meetings, they say, It sounds like you're an escapist. Like you're trying to get out of here, right? I don't want to stay around here. What good is this place?

Hey, this world is not my home. I'm just passing through. My citizenship isn't here. It's in heaven. I'm an alien for Jesus. I'm down here trying to take as many men and women and boys and girls to heaven with me as I possibly can. That's my only purpose in being here. How about you? We better get straight. It seems to me that a lot of us are spending a lot of time trying to keep ourselves in such good condition that we can stay here longer instead of going home to be with the Lord.

The place that we say we want to be. That's kind of a mystery to me. Why do we work so hard with nutrition and aerobics and Jazzercise and everything else? Why do we work so hard to stay out of the place that we all say we really want to go to something's wrong here. I like that wonderful story about those two elderly ladies who died and went to heaven. And the first one got there. And boy, she was excited. She could not believe heaven. It was so wonderful. She turned to her friend and she was crying.

She said, Matilda, why are you crying? This is heaven. And Matilda said, Well, I just got to thinking, we could have been here 20 years ago if it hadn't been for Oat Bran. Hey, heavens, our home. The sufferings of this present time aren't worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed. That's what the Bible says. We need to get our priorities straight. What on Earth is happening?

Jesus begins to answer the question. Verse four, Jesus answered and said to them, Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, saying, I am the Christ. I am the Messiah and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled, for all these things must come to pass. But the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation and Kingdom against Kingdom. There will be famines, pestilences and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Then they will deliver you up to Tribulation and kill you. And you will be hated by all nations. For my name's sake. Then many will be offended, will betray one another and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. And this gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations. And then the end will come. And he goes on to describe many other wonderful things.

Let's look to the Lord in a moment of prayer. Father, we pray in these few moments together, you will show us clearly from the word of God what is really happening on Earth and that we

might prepare ourselves very clearly and concisely for the situations that we are facing on this planet and for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. You told us to watch and to be ready.

You told us that we don't know the day nor the hour when the Son of Man will come. And God, I pray that you'd help all of us to see the seriousness of this matter as it relates to our priorities and objectives and what we're trying to do on this planet until that sweet day when God calls us home. We thank you in Jesus wonderful name, Amen, what is happening on planet Earth. And I want to give you a series of things as we walk through this passage from what Jesus taught us and give us a little bit of insight as to what really is happening.

The first thing that disturbs me and is not one of the points but a general little background to what we're going to look at. What Jesus said. The first thing that disturbs me is the continuing problem. I believe in our culture of evangelicals talking about the wrong things, the continuing problem of evangelicals not understanding either the moral catastrophe or the demise of traditional Christian values. As we have once seen it, we talk about it a little bit, but we don't understand that the world is becoming more secular and more distant, and our Christianity is becoming more anemic and powerless. And though we stay with one another and hear our concerts and read our books and support our organizations and attend our churches, we're becoming more isolated and we don't even realize it all across the country.

Now, having talked to thousands of people, I am very well convinced that Christianity is losing its desire to reach this culture for Christ. The whole issue of missions is dying and evangelism is dying. People are losing the heart that we say beats throughout the New Testament to reach a lost

world for Jesus Christ. And in this atmosphere we're all trying to pump ourselves up because we live in a narcissistic culture too, and we're all struggling with self-esteem and worth. And we're all trying to figure out about our relationship with each other, and that may be good in and of itself.

But while we talk with each other in some respects winds up being spiritual navel, gazing we are looking at ourselves while the world goes to hell. What is really happening on the Earth? Why are you really here? Why are you studying what you are studying? What do you intend to do with your life? Don't tell me later. What are you doing now? God uses people where they are. God uses Bailey's donkey. He can use anybody in this room, including his preacher.

God will use anybody any time that they want to be used. God has tremendous power and purpose and I ask myself, what is really going on? That I as a Christian, hearing from my master, what is really going on that I should understand and know. Number one, religious counterfeits will multiply and affect many people. That's what Jesus said.

You want to know what's really going on. Religious counterfeits. I do not have the time this morning to tell you the terrible things that are happening now that are being communicated even to Christians by television and radio personalities primarily. But now by many people in religious circles and organizations. We have been stripped of our power, confused in the presentations that we have heard and we are losing the heart of doctrinal understanding.

Doctrinal heresy is tremendous. I agree with Horton's analysis in the book by Moody Press Agony of Deceit that the issue is not simply the moral crisis or the televangelism scandals. The issue is doctrinal heresy. Religious counterfeits are everywhere and I can assure you from our radio broadcast they are growing. They are not diminishing.

More of God's truth is being questioned today than ever before. People don't just sit down and accept things they're confused by the multiple messages that they are hearing. There's a lack of good study and a lack of good understanding. Some people act like the Bible is no longer significant. What is significant is the person communicating it?

Listen, kids, I'm not the authority and neither are you. The Bible and God is the authority. We can all be replaced. But today some speaker shouts across the platform, sweats a lot, loses his tie and rarely comes to his Bible except as he's running back across and he doesn't teach the Bible anymore. And we don't understand what the Bible says.

We go into audience after audience and we are seeing thousands of believers who never bring their Bibles. They expect whatever I say is the truth. Are you kidding? It scares the daylight out of me. We need to be in Christians and search the Scriptures daily to see whether those things are sold. What did Jesus say is happening on planet Earth and will happen as we get close to the return. Religious counterfeits will multiply and affect many people. Look at verse four and five again. Take heed that no one deceives you. Obviously there's going to be a problem of deception for many, not few.

Many will come in my name saying I am the Messiah and will deceive many there's over a thousand. We're told in India alone. We're not just talking, Mr. Moon here we're talking scores and scores of people with messianic syndromes and brains of delight and people bowing at their feet. We're talking about a terrible, terrible problem in our society.

I am the Messiah. Look, please, down in verse eleven, then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many verse 23. Then if anyone says to you, oh, look, here is the Messiah or there do not believe it for false Christ and false prophets will arise and watch this show great signs and wonders so as to deceive if possible. Even the elect. See, I've told you beforehand.

Therefore, if they say to you, look, he's in the desert. Presumably, Palm Springs do not go out or look, he's in the inner rooms. Do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west. So also will the coming of the Son of Man be my dear friends.

We don't need any advancement or PR people to tell us when the Messiah's coming. I was at a rally in the Bay Area and a guy came up before the meeting about an hour before he was real Spacey looking looked weird. But he walked up to me and he said, I have a special message for you. I am a Prophet of the Lord. And I said, Well, what is it?

He said, I have been sent here by the Messiah himself. The Messiah? Yes. And he wants a personal interview with you. I said he does. Well, it's remarkable that he would choose me out of all the wonderful people on the planet. He said it's you he wants to talk to. And he said, Well, where is he? Well, he's right down the street.

He just lives right down the street. He's waiting for. This is at night. You think I'm going to walk down the streets of San Francisco at night with this Turkey? You're crazy.

But anyway, I said to him, Well, that's interesting. You say the Messiah is right down the street? I said, yes, well, then he's not the Messiah. He said, Well, how do you know if you don't come? I said, I already know already. The Bible's already told me. You said he's right down the street, didn't you? Yes. About a few houses down there. Yeah, just a few houses.

Well, then that's not the Messiah, he said, how can you be sure? I said, Well, I know anything. Anybody who tells me where he is, that's not the Messiah. I said, Well, he was so angry, he said, But I'm a Prophet of the Lord. I'm his forerunner.

I said, Well, you may think you are a friend, but you might just have eaten too much chili or something. I don't know. I said the thing I want you to understand when Jesus comes, he doesn't need any PR people like the lightning flashes from one into the sky to the other. The whole world will know he's here. We won't need ABC, CBS and NBC reporting it anymore. Thank God.

Jesus will let the whole world know he's here. Every eye will see him. So that's not the Messiah. But folks, listen to me. This isn't just a facetious story. We're getting it over and over again. If I'm reading correctly, we got messianic claims. We got manipulative preachers, false prophets. We got miraculous demonstrations. These are problems in the overall deception.

You say what is happening on planet Earth? Religious counterfeits are multiplying. Number two, you ask me what is happening. Jesus said Matthew 24, verse six. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled, for all these things must come to pass. But the end is not yet. Nation will rise against nation and Kingdom against Kingdom. Political and military conflicts will continue to develop all over the world. Political and military conflicts will continue to develop all over the world.

We are told in the Seals judgments of Revelation six, verse four, that the second one is a red horse and represents some terrible military disasters. What did Jesus say is happening on the planet? He said military and political conflicts are going to increase in one particular week. A couple of months ago, I surveyed in that one week the number of known military conflicts on the planet. At that one week there were 42 of them. Most of them. Only 31 of them did not have sufficient enough disaster and national attention to warrant big articles on the front page.

Sometimes there were minor little articles, 42 major conflicts on the globe. In one particular week. Now we see a focus on the disaster of the Persian Gulf, wondering what in the world is going to happen and all the world is concerned that we find peace. And yet the Bible says in one Thessalonians five, when they say peace and safety, then sudden destruction comes upon them as prevail upon a woman with child and they will not escape. What is happening on planet Earth.

Is there's going to be an increase of political and military conflict? The Bible is replete with it, both in the Hebrew prophets as well as in the New Testament prophetic passages. Don't be

surprised at what is happening. If this is not the final setting for Armageddon, as many of our newscasters are now saying, let's put it this way. We now know how fast it can be mobilized.

Can you believe what has happened in one year? Can you believe how Eastern Europe has become accessible to us in one year? Can you believe what's happened in the Soviet Union? Can you believe the reunification of Germany has happened in one year? Can you believe what has happened in the Persian Gulf in less than six months?

My dear friends, we have on the horizon from God. I believe if this is not Armageddon, it is clearly clearly an answer to a lot of Bible students who have wondered for years, how in the world will all of this happen. It is happening now in the Middle East and God only knows what that event is going to be. A war could change the structures of the nations and the prophetic understanding of God. I know that. And you know that. And we're not here to set dates. But I would not be surprised at all if Jesus Christ comes before this meeting is over for his Church. I would not be surprised. The world is set for Armageddon and only God knows when it's going to happen. And how all we know from Jesus is, don't be troubled.

Rabbi Schneerson, the 88 year old leader of the fastest growing Orthodox Jewish movement in the world, the Lubovich people. He lives in Brooklyn. He's never been to Israel, but he controls decisions in the Knesset of Israel. Rabbi Schneerson startled the Jewish world as he warned them not to panic over Iraq, not to keep matching Iraq and Assyria with the passages in Isaiah and Jeremiah. Jewish people were reading those and then interpreting it as Iraq. Today. The Assyrian is Iraq and they are getting scared and they're panicked. Is that whole passage going to be

fulfilled? Schneerson writes an article that's incredible, 88 years old and says, if we read our Bibles right and it is true, it's still no reason to panic.

It means the Messiah is coming and the whole world spread it around the news service. This 88 year old Brooklyn Rabbi who's a messianic Jew telling the Jewish world, hey, this is no reason to panic. It means the Lord is coming again. The Messiah is coming. And though they don't believe that Jesus is a Messiah, it is extremely fascinating to see that happening. Who we who are Christians shouldn't panic either. We should be doing all we can to win folks to Christ number three, you ask me what's happening on planet Earth. Economic crisis will be seen powerfully as food supplies are diminished. Jesus said there will be famines.

Interesting in all this Persian Gulf crisis. We almost missed what was going on in Congress in subcommittee form. And that is that the famine belt is getting worse, not better. It is kind of interesting, isn't it, that we all got pumped up in this country for what was going on in Africa for a short period of time and forget that that famine belt is literally spreading across the globe. There are now economic students of this who are telling us that America herself, along with Canada, the breadbasket of the world is going to face if we don't get some rain soon.

An enormous problem in terms of drought and famine. We are just now understanding because of the openings of Glasnost, the serious problem in the Soviet Union as it relates to food. My dear friends, famine is not something a long ways away as you continue to eat your big Mac. Listen, famine is a reality in this world for thousands of people, and it is not diminishing. It is growing.

And that's what Jesus said would happen on planet Earth number four. You ask me what is happening on planet Earth. Physical conditions among people will continue to deteriorate, Jesus said in verse seven, there will be pestilences or plagues. Disease and dangerous plagues will literally overwhelm our society and will be seen not in a locality but in various places, said Jesus, do I need to remind you that in the third Seal Judgment of Revelation, the Bible speaks about millions of people being killed as a result of it.

Today, after all the attention that our country gave to AIDS and sexual disease just a couple of weeks ago, the center for Disease Control in Atlanta said it is now far more serious than it was, and they are concerned at the lack of attention that's being given to it because of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Isn't it interesting how a world event can take our attention away from what really is happening? People's lives are being destroyed. Yesterday, I was on the phone with a dear mother just to bring it back home. Whose son decided to opt for a homosexual lifestyle, called himself a Christian, went to a Christian College, not this one but one close. He went and he got involved with homosexuality in his College dorm, and it was only just a few little escapades. But now she faces the shock of the fact that he has AIDS that has tested positively the hurt in her heart and saying, Pastor, what are we to do?

Hey, let's bring it home. We live in a society that is having enormous problems. It's a lot easier for us to focus on the Persian Gulf than to see the terrible ravages of sexual diseases having syphilis gonorrhea venereal disease growing now faster than ever before. There was a day in

which I refuse to even say things like this, lest we somehow think we're prophets of doom or standing on a street corner or telling folks the end is coming, but no more. Hey, we're talking Christ's time.

Somebody's got to do something. This world needs the gospel of Jesus Christ. It's been my joy to have the pleasure of seeing an AIDS victim turn to Jesus Christ and see His heart given to the Lord and then to watch the horribleness of him dying. Let me tell you something. There's no security and there's no comfort that can Minister the heart of a person eaten alive by that terrible plague than the gospel of Jesus Christ of knowing he can be set free by the power of the resurrection and have a brand new body.

And one day be with the Lord forever because of his trust in the wonderful Grace and forgiveness of our Lord. Sure hate sin, but we need to love sinners, folks more than ever before. The world needs Jesus Christ and a lot of them are looking like the lepers of Jesus Day when folks had to shout out Unclean unclean and people are staying away and society is trying to tell us it's okay, and we all are concerned and we don't know who to believe and who's telling the truth.

Let me tell you something. For the Christian, he knows exactly what his marching orders are. And in spite of the corruption, in spite of the problems, his heart says, I want to win people of Jesus Christ no matter who they are, no matter how ravaged they are by sin. What is happening really on this planet? Number five, I read in verse seven. Earthquakes in various places. Geological catastrophes will happen in various locations, said Jesus in the Book of Revelation.

That is such an amazing statement. I read things like every island is moved out of its place. I read all the cities of the nation's fall. This world is as the Prophet Isaiah said, so graphically and beautifully in the hands of Almighty God, and he is shaking it. I was really startled to read Seismologist report dealing with the earthquake activity around the globe, and I was really interested in it because this one Seismologist, and I don't know whether he's a Christian or not.

He said. Our studies show that the globe is literally shaking. It was almost like reading Isaiah where the Lord says I will shake this planet. There is so much earthquake activity. It's incredible. And every year on the Seismological reports, it's growing. It's intensity. They don't get news until they get up to 4567 and eight on the Richter scale. But these things are happening constantly. I could hardly believe it.

As one report said last year there were over 500,000 earthquakes that were recorded by our Seismographs, 500,000 on the globe. What is happening? Same thing the prophets predicted. You say what on Earth is happening? Geological catastrophes that the Bible says in the Tribulation period. They will even sense that this is coming from the hand of God. And yet they will refuse to repent what is happening. Number six, look at verse nine and ten. Emotional confusion will change people's attitudes and behavior. Emotional confusion.

Jesus said they'll deliver you up to tribulation and kill you. You'll be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then many will be offended will betray one another and will hate one another. Yesterday on the radio in Kfax Bay Area, I was doing a talk show and we were talking about the hostility. There's a lot of Christians up there that work in San Francisco are getting a lot of

hostility for being Christian. And we were discussing it. This hostility. I've watched it's growing when I get on talk shows. I'm not the favorite person, that's for sure. When you bring a Bible right away, they look at you like, hey, we're in trouble.

If you're on a panel and you've got a Bible, they wait to talk to you. I've sometimes stood there waiting, so nervous, I couldn't believe it. Sometimes I pick it up and I throw it down again and I do anything I can to get attention. I want to say something for Jesus wherever I am. Even if I'm never asked back. And I have discovered there is a growing hostility to Christians in our society. There's anger out there. I just had a person from a newspaper which I'll not say in this area. Call me about Halloween and said, I understand you're against Halloween. How can you be against something that's so wonderful for children?

I said, Ma'am, you do not want to hear what I'm going to say. But I said, I'm going to send you some material on Halloween is a Devil's holiday. It's not God's, and I'm praying and working hard. That this festival, whatever you call it, is removed from American life once and for all. We want it out of here.

We don't want it here anymore. She said, can I quote you? Yes, accurately. You sure can. So that'll probably appear in the paper this weekend. But let me tell you something. We're in a battle, folks. A real battle had a guy call on the phone just last week and he was so angry. I did not talk to him. But one of our staff did angry because he heard that we don't believe that Satanism should have an open forum. Really? Hey, folks, this is a terrible, terrible day. But I also

think it's a great opportunity. But if you want to just kind of sneak around and just kind of blend into the woodwork, this is not a day for you. God wants you.

God wants me to be bold. We need to pray for one another. We're not obnoxious. We need to be sweet. We need to be kind, but we need to be bold. We need to pray. As Paul prayed in Ephesians Six when he was in jail in the Praetorian Guardhouse, pray for me, that I might speak boldly. The claims of Jesus Christ with a certain freedom of speech without any hesitation whatsoever. I find lots of reasons to be hesitant. Lots of reasons.

A gal called me the other day just yesterday from the Bay Area, up near Castro Valley, by the way, Chris Lyons. And she said, My family does not believe in the gospel, and they're continually attacking me every single day. I became a believer last year. I have no encouragement. I have no support. I don't know if I can take it. And my family is attacking me, she said, why are they so angry that I came to know Jesus Christ? I'm still the same woman. I'm still the same mother. I still love them.

I still care for them. Why are they so mad? Because I came to know Jesus Christ. I said, Well, maybe you're driving them crazy. Maybe you're doing the wrong thing. I'm not doing anything. I just received Jesus. I love Him as my savior. Why are they attacking me? Welcome to the club.

Jesus said you'll be hated of all men. Some people believe the primary application here is to Israel and the Tribulation. But I've come to believe and I've seen it in society now that it's

applying to all of God's people. If you don't know that, that's where society is. I'll tell you how you can find it out.

Start speaking out about your faith in Jesus Christ. Just speak out. Just say what you ought to believe and just speak it out wherever you are. Just say it. People say, hey, how are you doing? Just great. Thank God. Or why? Thank Him. You really want to know?

I mean, use every opportunity. Isn't it a beautiful day? Yeah. Those mountains over there. My God made those mountains. I'll tell you, he's powerful. You better watch out. A lot of people don't want to talk like that. They said, Well, that's foolish. That's stupid. We have to be kind of, hey, what are you talking about? The kindest thing you can do is introduce people to our God.

The most wonderful thing you can do for somebody is to tell them there's a Lord of the universe who's in charge and one who has a plan of Salvation and they don't have to go to hell. They can go to heaven. I had a funny call the other day. A guy called me and somebody said that there are still preachers who preach on hell. I worked for the newspaper.

I wondered if are you one of them? Somebody told me you might be. I said, you bet. I said Jesus said more about that than he did about Heaven. He said, You're kidding. I said, no, I said, I don't know why you called me, but I'll tell you one thing. You're in serious trouble. He said, why? I said, because now you're going to be accountable for what I'm going to tell you. He said, Well, maybe we ought to end the interview now.

I said, Just before you do that, let me tell you what I was going to say, that you know what you were going to be afraid of. But anyway, I told him about the wonderful gospel of Jesus Christ. He said, this didn't turn out the way I thought. I said, but it should be wonderful if you reported it accurately. He said, Well, they won't let me do that.

Listen, if you don't know what's going on, wake up. Wake up. Christians don't just enjoy the comfort of the University. Wake up. The world needs Christ. What on Earth is happening? Number seven, verse twelve. Moral chaos will dominate the culture. Jesus said it says lawlessness will abound. Moral chaos will dominate the culture.

Paul wrote in two Timothy, chapter three. These words. But know this that in the last days perilous times will come. Men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money. Boasters proud blast femurs disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving slanderers without self-control brutal despisers of good traitors headstrong, haughty lovers of pleasure, more or rather than lovers of God having a form of Godliness.

But denying its power from such people turn away. You ask me what's going on on planet Earth. Moral chaos is dominating the culture every single week. Now some radio station or TV outfit is wanting us to say something about our new book, Moral Catastrophe, The Survival of the American Family, and what I have learned more probably from the secular side than the sacred side. But what I have learned is that the world doesn't know what to do either.

The secular world does not know how to stop the moral mess. They just know that somebody needs to do something. Yesterday's paper, yesterday's paper said that crime and violence and the moral problems of our society are greater in the last six months than they have ever been in our society.

Murderous, haters, brutal. You know, one of the best things we can do to get our eyes open is to walk into some of our ghettos in our major Metropolitan areas. What we call by the police departments, dead zones where cops don't even want to go in. And these are extending themselves in terms of miles. They're getting bigger and bigger and bigger.

Gangs are increasing, not diminishing. The gangs of the past were like Sunday school picnics to today's gangs were assault rifles and machinery and guns that we never dreamed would be in the hands of little kids are now being used profusely in these ghetto areas. And now it's hitting other areas. My dear friends, we are living in a terrible, terrible day from that standpoint. But what a day for the gospel?

One of our dear ladies, in fact, one of our pastor's wives came out of a shopping market just the other day. Over in Orange County. Guy walked right up during broad daylight, stuck a .44 Magnum right in her face in the window, said, Give me everything in your purse or I'm going to blow you away.

What would you do? I thank God for this sweet lady. She said, Well, just go ahead because I'm going to go home to be with my Lord. And this would be a nice way to go. Could you get it up

there close so I don't even want to hang on any. Just blow it straight through. He says, What's the matter with you? Woman said, Well, I'm not going to give you anything. I just want you to blow me away. What a thing I've always worried about.

Long term illness and cancer. And boy, would this be terrific? Just blow me away. And that guy couldn't believe he said, You're crazy, she said. Maybe. But I'll tell you one thing. I know where I'm going, do you?

That guy put his gun down and he listened to that woman shared a gospel with him and then he realized he was standing outside of the Gar with a .44 Magnum in his hand. Some folks started to come to her. He says, Woman, thanks a lot, but I'm out of here and he ran like crazy. She told me that story. I said, Praise God, what did more Christians would understand that? Wow. Moral chaos dominated culture. Number eight, you ask me what's happening on planet Earth. Spiritual complacency will affect the majority of believers.

Spiritual complacency will affect the majority of believers. Verse twelve, it says clearly in Matthew 20 41,2, the love of the many. The majority will grow cold if we have ever been in a day like that, it's now Jesus said in the last day, Matthew seven, many will say to me, Lord, Lord, have we not done many wonderful works in your name? Have we not cast out demons in your name? Have we not prophesied in your name? And he'll say, depart from me, workers of iniquity. I never knew you. You've never belonged to me. You may say you're a believer, but you're not in my camp. Get out of here, man. Revelation two, four to the Church at Ephesus. You

have left your first love. The love of the many, not the few will grow cold. Indifference, apathy and complacency has definitely hit the Christian culture of this nation.

In a recent study evaluating Gallup statistics that said 50 million and above people in America were Christians. In a recent analysis of the same areas in which Gallup made that study, the same Metropolitan areas with a greater number of people showed that Gallup was millions off. In fact, the current understanding is, if we have 20 million born again believers in America, we'll be shooting high.

They're now saying less than 10% of America really know the Lord. Christianity is still popular. This is what Dr. Francis Schaefer, bless His memory, told us, warned us about conference after conference and Church after Church as a dying old man pled with this culture and said, this is a post christian culture. You just don't know it.

I listened to him at a private conference with a handful of people with some dear friends of ours with the navigators and heard that man analyze our society. And I've lived now to see the validity of everything he said. It's a joke that we have all these people who are with us. Jesus said many, not few. Many will claim to be with us. But in fact are not. They're just going along with it.

My dear friends, we better wake up. Spiritual complacency has indeed affected the majority of believers in this culture. What is happening on planet Earth number nine? I look. Please look at verse 13. He who endures to the end. That would be the end of the tribulation period shall be

saved. And number nine, you ask me what is happening. Supernatural care will be needed for believers to survive. Supernatural care will be needed for believers to survive.

You say, Wait a minute. I thought you were a pre tribulation, as you'd be out of here. I am. But I want you to know that whether you're pre or posttribulational, you know, the Bible teaches that in the tribulation there will be a great host of believers who will come to the Lord. In the tribulation a number no man can count.

The Bible says of Gentiles at the end of the tribulation, one third of the Jewish nation. If I read Zechariah, the Prophet correctly will turn to the Lord, but two thirds won't. I read that there's going to be great tribulation so severe in Matthew 24 that if it were possible, even the very elect would not survive. And that's why God will shorten that terrible period of time, so believers will survive. But I also read in Revelation the Gentiles in the Tribulation period who come to know the Lord are killed, killed because they don't take the Mark of the beast killed because they won't worship the beast, whatever that means.

At that point, you talk about terrible disaster, as over one half of the world's population will be wiped out according to the Book of Revelation, and we will face the fact that only God could possibly spare a remnant. Only God could take care of his dear people, Israel under such persecution that all the world will be against her and she will flee to the wilderness. Just as Jesus predicted, God will care for her. The Bible says, the 10th and final thing I share with you is in verse 14.

It says this gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, the ethnic divisions of the world. And then the end will come. Now that's not talking about from a pretribulate view. Before the tribulation begins, the end is the end of the Tribulation. The coming of Christ in Matthew 24 is at the end of the tribulation. This gospel will continue to be preached.

So the 10th thing when you say, David, what is happening on planet Earth? Personal conversion of the lost will remain as God's top priority. And it's here where we find the most powerful message for our hearts in the midst of the last days. Be done with lesser things, no matter how important they may be on your spiritual agenda and your personal concern list be done with lesser things. Ask yourself by training my life be most effective in reaching the greatest amount of people for Jesus Christ. How can I help it with my financial resources? How can I help it with my time and my personal endeavors to reach this world for Jesus Christ? Personal conversion of the lost will remain as God's top priority when the whole world is collapsing.

The Bible says God will take out of every nation, tribe and tongue and people of people for himself. When people ask me if I'm interested in missions. I'm offended. I'm personally offended, though I will not say that, of course, to them to be kind. I'm personally offended. I do not see missions as separate from the Church at all. It's not an agency or a function or an arm of the Church. It's what we are all about, folks. We're here to reach a lost world for Christ. There should never be any point of division in our thinking, whether it's in our culture next door or whether it's around the world in another culture.

We need today more than ever before, a new generation of young leaders who are done with the materialistic mess of this society and say, hey, I'm going to give my life totally to God, whether I'm a banker, I'm a lawyer, I'm a schoolteacher or whatever. I have one goal that's to reach lost people. Kid said to me Yesterday, Kid, that isn't even out of College yet. He said, I'm going to take karate. I said, Great, why?

He said, I knew you would ask. He said, I want to tell you why I'm going to take it. This kid is not into sports and he's not really aggressive. And he said, I'm going to take karate. I said, what are you going to do just so you can beat up on people or what? He said, no, he said, I'm really not. I prayed about this for a long time. He said, the guy who asked me to be his partner with him in karate is a guy. I've been praying for years. He said, I want you to pray, Pastor, that I don't get discouraged, he says, because I really don't like this stuff.

I'm not the violent type. I said, you may come out of there as Kung Fu giant. I don't know, but I hope you keep that heart for the Lord. He said, the neat thing is his dad is a black belt, and I've been sharing with his dad, and he likes me. He said, I'm so excited. I said, Man, I'm so glad you're taking karate. God bless you. And after that, you could become my bodyguard. God bless you. Hey, listen, folks, whatever you do do with all your heart, but do it in order to keep on your heart.

What's on God's heart? The son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost. Be very careful. I believe, an edification of the believers and encouraging one another. But the question is, why why are we pumping each other up just to look in the other's face was sort of a piece on

our, hey, we are pumping each other up so we can go out into that hostile world and tell them of Jesus.

Our goal is to win men and women and children to Christ all over the world. That is our goal. That is what we are trying to do. That's the only reason why God leaves us here. And I plead with you go back into the Bible and ask yourself, what does God want me to do on planet Earth until Jesus comes again?

Let's close with prayer, father, we thank you. And we praise you. That in the midst of all the confusing messages we're hearing throughout society today, trouble with economics and budgets, trouble with military conflicts and hostilities among nations and Peoples. Terrible crime and violence on our streets. It's like the days of Noah all over again. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil. Continually. The Bible says God decided to destroy it all.

Lord, I know the next time it won't be by flood. It will be by fire. But I pray that you'd put within the hearts of every one of us a desire to reach our world for Jesus Christ and to not be quiet but to stand up and be counted no matter how we are treated. We remember our Savior said, Blessed are you and men will misrepresent you and slander you for my name's sake for great is your reward in heaven for so persecuted. They the prophets who were before you.

O God, help us to understand that and to not be afraid. God's not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind. Thank you, Lord. Help us to trust you and to fear of the Lord rather than man. We know the fear of man is a snare and a trap.

But the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge. Help us, Lord to understand that a God centered life is the only way to go. Deliver us, Lord from the mancentered theologies that are destroying us one way streets going nowhere and taking us away from your heart. God help us to look at people no matter how messed they are. Messed up.

They are, how broken they are, how filled with sin and corruption they are. Help us, Lord, to love them with the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and seek to win them to Jesus Christ. And we thank you and praise you in Jesus wonderful name. Amen.