

RELATIONSHIP OF SPIRITUAL INTIMACY AND END-TIME JUDGMENTS

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The Protective Kiss of the Word

INTRODUCTION

Turn to Psalm 2, and we'll pick up where we left off last week. In Psalm 2 last week I was talking about the protective kiss of intimacy. In Psalm 2:12 is King David's advice to kiss the Son. That's a protective kiss. It's the invitation from the heart of God extended through the lips of King David. It's this grand invitation to pursue and experience the kiss of God. It's an invitation to kiss the heart of God and to receive the kiss of God's heart. We call it the "kiss of the Word." It's when God makes His Word expand in power in the inner man. That's the kiss of God.

Here's a little review of Psalm 2. I love this psalm so much, but I don't want to take time on it, though I know we have a number of people who are new here tonight that weren't here last week. In the first three verses the kings of the earth present a challenge before the throne of God. In essence they're declaring to God that they want to rule the earth. They want themselves to possess the peoples of the earth. They want the inheritance that the Father has ordained for His Son. In Psalm 2:1-3 they raise their fists and say, "We stand against You and we stand against the One for whom You've ordained the inheritance. We want the inheritance. We're the kings of the earth" (Ps. 2:2-3, paraphrased).

GOD WILL DISTRESS THE NATIONS IN HIS DEEP DISPLEASURE

In the next three verses the Father answers and mocks them. He laughs at them in verse 4. He's mocking their challenge of His sovereign authority to give the nations to the Lord Jesus who is His Son and King. He says in verse 5 that God will speak to the nations in His wrath. Here's the part that troubles me. It's that God will distress the nations in His deep displeasure. That hasn't happened yet, though tokens of it have happened throughout history. There's a time frame at the end of age, which I believe we're in. We're at the beginning of that final hour of history where God the Father will distress all the nations with His deep displeasure. The distressing of the nations is described best in the book of Revelation. It's described in detail in the book of Isaiah as well, and in the prophets. It's the distressing of the nations and His deep displeasure. The good news is that He brings forth a harvest when He distresses the nations. In verses 7-9 there's a harvest that comes forth out of that distress. It's a paradox. The harvest of the nations comes forth as God is distressing the nations in His deep displeasure.

THERE WILL BE A DASHING OF THE NATIONS IN ORDER TO BRING FORTH THE HARVEST

In the third set of three verses the Lord Jesus speaks. This is where we focused most of our attention last week. In verse 7 Jesus is declaring the five-fold decree of His Father. Jesus lines up with five decrees. In the prophetic decreeing of Jesus of these five truths, each one has a counterpart for the Church to decree as well. The declaring of God's five-fold decree, the prophetic decree, looses the harvest into being. Each of these five decrees is very powerful. We focused on that a bit last Saturday night, but we'll skip that now. However, I will mention the fifth decree. In verse 9, Jesus is speaking the Father's decree: "You said, Father, that You would break the nations with a rod. You will dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel, or like a clay pot" (Ps. 2:9, paraphrased).

Beloved, the reason I'm stressing verses 5 and 9 is that neither the world nor the Church has connected with this part of the Scriptures. In these verses we see that there will be a distressing and a breaking of the nations. There will be a dashing of the nations in order to bring forth the harvest. The dashing of the nations will bring forth

tremendous sorrow and tremendous blessing in the harvest. The human race will be in a position to respond to this jealous God who is mocking the kings that hate Him. It's the jealous God mocking the kings who have unified themselves together in rage and hatred against the Father and against His Son. The Father is going to distress the nations, break the nations, and dash the nations in order to bring forth an inheritance of fully-possessed people in every nation of the earth. It's so dramatic.

In the last set of three verses, which is the fourth set, King David comes on the scene and he describes the response of the wise of the earth who are the people of God. He gives added emphasis to the third response. He gives three responses. He says, "In light of the jealous God being opposed by all the kings of the earth in anger and His commitment to dash them, to break them, and to bring forth a harvest of fully-possessed people who are lovers of God, here's what I would do."

He said, "Number one: I would tremble before the majesty of God. I would perceive His majesty and tremble before it. Number two: recognize the goodness of what God is doing and celebrate with Him in rejoicing, because the harvest is coming."

It's not only trembling, but also celebrating before the Lord. "Rejoice with celebration. The harvest is coming!" It's a reason for celebration. Yes, we tremble that His majesty has been revealed in terrifying judgment, but the paradox is that we rejoice that the harvest is coming in fullness. It's trembling and rejoicing.

Here's the third response. Remember, this is in light of the judgments of God and the harvest with the angry kings of the earth being dashed and broken and the people of the harvest coming forth as lovers of God. He says, "Here's what I would do in the light of it all." He says in Psalm 2:12, and this is what we'll look at tonight in more detail, "Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way." When do you kiss Him? "When His wrath is kindled but a little" (Ps. 2:12).

"Kiss the Son lest He be angry and you perish. Kiss Him." When do you kiss Him? It's at the time "when His wrath is kindled but a little." That's the hour of history to kiss the Son. It's the hour of time when the wrath of God is kindled but a little on the earth.

You say, "Kindled but a little? He's dashing the nations." The full wrath of God is only seen in the lake of fire in the day of eternity. The shaking of nations is but a little of the kindling of God's wrath to awaken the human race for the full wrath of God that's coming if they don't kiss Him.

THE TWOFOLD KISS THAT PROTECTS OUR HEARTS ON THE DAY OF HIS WRATH

Then David says, "Blessed are those who will trust Him in that hour" (Ps. 2:12b, paraphrased). It's in the hour when this happens. The trusting of God will become the critical issue in the hour of the shaking. We're in that hour now. We're in the beginning of the time in verse 12 "when His wrath is kindled a little." That's the hour when the Church, the redeemed, is to kiss the heart of God like no other time in history. Obviously, the invitation to kiss the heart of God has been valid ever since there has been a redeemed community. It's particularly peculiar to the generation of the kindled wrath of God that the kissing becomes most imperative and most important. I call it "the protective kiss." It's the kiss of the Word touching us. It's the kiss of our affections touching Him. It's a twofold kiss that protects our hearts on the day of His wrath.

What a statement! “Kissing the heart of God.” It’s an invitation to move into deep intimacy with the Godhead. The exhortation to kiss the Son is a divine invitation. It’s the grand invitation to enter into a privilege that the angels don’t have. We’ve been invited into intimate communion with the Trinity, which is the Godhead. There’s a great boundary line that forbids the angels from intimacy. The angels are servants. We’re beckoned beyond the boundary line into intimacy with the Godhead. It’s union and communion with God as creatures and as created beings. The very zenith of redemption is that fallen, created people who are demonized, sinful, and rebellious can be delivered, cleansed, set free, anointed, and exalted into this unique privilege of intimacy with the Godhead. That’s what David says.

It’s more, though, than a grand invitation. Sometimes the message in this hour will stop short. That’s OK, because it’s the focus of a particular message. However, sometimes it stops short of “kiss the Son.” David didn’t only say to come into full intimacy with God. He said something more. He said, “Come into intimacy, lest God be angry and you perish when His wrath is kindled but a little.” It’s an interesting statement. Again, the exhortation isn’t only to kiss. It’s one exhortation with two dimensions, which is a better way to say it. “Kiss Him lest He be angry.”

Rarely have I heard the call to an invitation to have intimacy with the Godhead “lest God be angry and you perish.” King David by the anointing of the Holy Spirit is adding the dimension of the protective nature of the kiss at the end of the age. It’s more than a blessing; it’s life itself.

IF YOU DON’T ADORE HIM, YOU’LL ACCUSE HIM IN THAT HOUR

I’m not exactly sure if this is a balanced statement, but in times past the call to intimacy with God might stand on its own. However, in one time frame in history the call to intimacy becomes the very protection of the heart of the people. Here’s the logic we’ll develop. We ended with this last week. I’ll develop it. It’s implied here, but I’ll develop it later. The idea in David’s mind is that if you don’t kiss Him, then you’ll hate Him when He shakes the earth and when He dashes the nations. If you don’t adore Him, then you’ll accuse Him. If you don’t enjoy Him, then you’ll end up making war against Him. What He does will offend you if you’re not intimate with Him. The bottom line of what David is saying is what He’s about to do in bringing forth His promised inheritance of wholehearted lovers in the earth who are the fully-possessed people of verse 8. It’s breaking the nations in bringing forth His people in the harvest. It’s the drama of those events that if you don’t kiss Him and if you don’t move into deep fellowship with Him, then you’ll end up standing against Him throughout all the disruption of the drama at the end of the age.

THE ONLY WAY YOU’LL UNDERSTAND WHAT HE’S DOING IS TO DRAW NEAR TO HIM

We could focus on the beauty of the grand invitation to kiss the Son. I love that focus; that’s not my focus tonight. My focus is the protective dimension of the kiss. If we don’t move in close, then we will end up in hostility against Him. David says, “The drama at the end is too intense to stand at a distance and stay loyal.” David was prophesying that the drama at the end of the age is too intense to stand at a distance from the Lord and remain loyal to Him. He said, “If you stand at a distance, then you’ll turn on Him.” The only way you’ll understand what He’s doing is to draw near to Him. The only way you’ll be strengthened is to begin to move into union, communion, and oneness with His heart, so that what He thinks is what you think and what He feels is what you feel. When the enemy and the accuser comes in with his tactic to accuse God in the heart and to extract out of us a response of disloyalty, then he’ll fall short. What God thinks a little is what we’re thinking. What God is feeling a little is what we’re feeling, because we’ve moved into the kiss of God.

THE ONLY SAFE PLACE IN THE HOUR OF TRIAL IS THE CENTER OF THE FLAME

What is the kiss of His Word? It's to fully open our hearts to the depths of God's heart. I'll say it again. The divine invitation and the kiss of His Word; again, it's a twofold kiss. It's God's Word kissing us and expanding our hearts. Then we respond in wholeheartedness, which is us kissing the heart of God. We fully open our hearts to the depths of His heart.

Beloved, it's so common in the Church today to stand at a distance. So many people stand at a comfortable distance from intimacy with God. David said, "If you stand at a distance, then you won't maintain the loyalty necessary in that hour." You'll yield to the great anarchy going on in the earth against the Lord. You'll yield to the spirit that will cause a great falling away. Your only safety is in intimacy. Yes, there's a message. Our reward is intimacy. That's our primary reward. That's our place of fascination, but that's not what I'm talking about tonight. I'm saying it's the place of protection of the heart of God's people. If we stand at a distance, we won't remain loyal. If we don't enjoy Him, then we will make war with Him. We need to fully open our hearts.

I've said it for months now. You can be at IHOP-KC. You can sing the songs, play the instruments, pray the prayers, and burn out spiritually because you're not encountering God while you're doing it. Singing songs doesn't guarantee you'll encounter God. You're really positioned to do it. Praying prayers and studying your Bible in the prayer room doesn't guarantee that you'll encounter God. You can do IHOP-KC and burn out spiritually because you haven't connected with God. It's keeping the chord progressions right, keeping the songs flowing, keeping the prayers in line and articulating them well, but not actually encountering God. There's burnout in the place of actually leading in prayer. It's burning out. It's the fire going out while praying because it's professional. We do it without an engaged heart. I don't mean it's rebellious, but we do our jobs; that's what I mean by *professional*. That's not enough. We have to move in. We have to move into the heart of God. We have to make the moments count.

You can't just do meetings; you have to encounter the Godhead. Intercessors have been burning out for decades because they intercede, but they don't touch God. I'm not saying it's evil; it's certainly a lot better than not interceding. We have to begin the process of pursuing the kiss. "Kiss the Son"—that's what IHOP-KC is all about. "Kiss the Son." It's not about a full-time job. It's not about a conference ministry. It's about "kissing the Son." We want to begin the process of pursuing the kiss, right? It's called awakening the heart to the depths of God's heart. That's what the kiss is. "Kiss the Son, lest you perish."

1 Corinthians 2:10 is the best verse on the "kiss" that I know. I'll just quote it to you. Paul said, "No one knows the thoughts of a man except for the spirit of that man, which is in him. "No one knows the thoughts of God except for the Spirit of God," who does what? "He searches the depths of God" (1 Cor. 2:11, paraphrased). Why? To reveal the depths of His heart to you.

As He's anointing Paul, the Holy Spirit describes Himself as searching and discerning the depths of God's heart to bring the treasure back to you and me. I'm not talking about new Bible verses that we can preach or sing; I'm talking about our hearts connecting with the depths of God's heart. Beloved, this is an awesome privilege.

GOD HAS ORDAINED AN ESCHATOLOGICAL ULTIMATUM FOR THE PEOPLE OF EARTH

Turn to 2 Thessalonians if you would. I'm going to talk about why it is that if we stand at a distance we won't be able to remain loyal. It's in the great drama of the Father securing the nations for His Son and breaking the nations that resist Him. If you're having a hard time finding it, all the T's go together. Timothy, Titus,

Thessalonians, all five of them are together. There it is. There's a premise that David is operating on when he says, "Kiss the Son, lest He be angry." There's an eschatological ultimatum. *Eschatology* just means "the study of the end." I only know a few big words and every time I get a chance I want to use them. I know about four of them. It's an eschatological ultimatum.

There's an ultimatum that God has initiated for the end of the age. There's an ultimatum. It's a terrifying ultimatum. It really is a terrifying ultimatum. It's real. There's a global, escalating rage mounting, mounting and mounting in the nations against God. We don't see it. If we really studied the global picture we would see signs of it, but God sees it really, really clearly. It's hidden under the surface. It's in the human spirit. 2 Thessalonians 2:7 calls it the mystery of lawlessness. Here Paul describes this mysterious dynamic. It's a very powerful mystery; it can't be understood. It's that the human spirit is designed with a voluntary choice. We're set in the theater of natural beauty, the theatre of the universe, with a voluntary choice. At the end of the age they'll see miracles far beyond Moses and the book of Acts combined and multiplied. Here they are: a human spirit with a living conscience of voluntary choice. They look up in the natural realm and they see this theater of beauty. God is going to release signs and wonders that will surpass the book of Exodus and the book of Acts combined and multiplied. Yet, not only will they resist God with their voluntary facilities and capacities within them, but they'll hate Him with a perfect hatred.

God will heal the sick. God will raise up preachers who preach under the anointing with convincing revelation that the Son of God died to freely forgive them. They will hate Him with perfect hatred. It's called the mystery of iniquity. It's rational human beings with a living conscience and full operating volition of voluntary will seeing the beauty of God in creation. They have a sound mind and operating conscience, they see signs and wonders, anointed preaching, attesting miracles, and not only reject the God-Man, but hate Him with a perfect hatred. The lake of fire will make more sense. Right now the lake of fire seems cruel because the rage in the human spirit against God is buried beneath the surface. People who have it don't even know it. If you told them, they would deny it. If you told the Church, they would say, "No, He's a nice man."

The Lord says, "I will create the scenario where the rage comes to its fullness."

It's called the mystery of iniquity. It's when you look at a man and say, "Why won't you say yes?"

He says, "No, He has no right to do this."

"He created you. He loves you. He died for you."

"No, He has no right to do this. I won't."

"Why? Where are you going to get with this rebellion and defiance? He's God."

"I don't care that He's God. I will not!" It's called the mystery of iniquity.

We can't understand the judgments of God because we don't understand the fierceness of the latent or potential hidden rage against God. God sees it perfectly; we don't see it. God is accused throughout history because we don't see clearly and He does. It's called the mystery of iniquity.

Look at 2 Thessalonians 2:3. All of 2 Thessalonians 2 is about the second coming. They were troubled that Jesus had already come and they had been left. That's what verses 1 and 2 are about. Paul says in verse 1, "Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come" (2 Thess. 2:1-2).

When he says, ". . . either by spirit or by word or by letter," that means a prophetic word or an angel. He says, "I don't care if some angel appears; Jesus hasn't appeared yet in the clouds in the second coming."

Paul goes on to say, "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first" (2 Thess. 2:3). Hello? There's a great falling away of people who profess the name of Jesus under the drama and the pressure. Let's say it this way: in the pressure of the end-time drama they're living at a distance. Their loyalty, or their confessed loyalty, will be manifest as false. There will be great falling away.

THE WHEAT AND THE TARES WILL MATURE TOGETHER AT THE END OF THE AGE

Paul describes this in 1 Timothy 4:1. I'll just quote it, but write that down. "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons" (1 Tim. 4:1). *Apostasy* means "falling away." Some translations call it "the apostasy." Beloved, this must come first before Jesus appears. We haven't yet entered the time of the great falling away, but we will.

Someone says, "Is the harvest going to be a billion people? Is it going to be a great in-gathering or a great falling away?"

It will be both. The wheat and the tares will mature together. There are a billion people right now on planet earth who profess Jesus. They say, "I believe in Jesus." There's a billion. I don't know how many are genuinely saved; I'll just make up a number and say half of them. I don't know. The half who aren't genuine, or who are made manifest as not genuine, will betray Him. They'll say, "No, that was a thing I did when I was a kid. I'm not into this anymore." Imagine 500 million people disavowing Jesus.

On the other side, a billion new ones are coming in with fierceness, power and love. There's going to be a lot of drama going on. The falling away must come first. There are several passages about this in the New Testament, but those two are good enough. There's a great falling away. Beloved, it hasn't happened yet. There's not a great falling away going on. The great falling away comes when the judgments break in. There's an anger and offense against the Lord when the falling away comes.

Paul says that two things have to happen: the falling away must come, and the man of sin must be revealed, who is the son of perdition. He must be revealed. Some people take this man of sin and make him totally symbolic. That's not helpful to the Church. He's coming. He's coming with rage. Until the man of sin is revealed and until hundreds of millions of people disavow Jesus and a billion come in—I'm adding the great harvest, because there are other verses that say that—Jesus isn't coming until those things happen.

People say, "He can come any minute."

I say, “I don’t believe that at all.” I don’t believe He’s coming until the great falling away happens, which will be precipitated by the judgments, and until there’s a great harvest and the man of sin is revealed. I personally believe he’s alive on the earth.

Someone says, “Wow, really?”

Do the math, because if this is the last generation, then he has to be. As long as the man of sin, the Antichrist, is just a biblical doctrine, then it’s safe, but when you think he’s alive, you think, “Whoa!” He has to be alive if this is the end. It becomes a little more real and people say, “You mean he’s talking to people right now?”

I say, “He will be talking to a lot of people.”

NO WARNING WAS GIVEN WHEN HITLER CAME FOR EUROPE

Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin were the two clearest examples of a man who will be far craftier, more powerful, and more evil than those two men. Fifty million people died in six years in the 1940s in Europe. Fifty million died suddenly in six years. There was no warning beforehand. It was a dress rehearsal of what’s coming. Germany was the most cultured nation in the earth. It had more scientists, doctors, and musicians than any other nation, surpassing even Britain, France, and America in the arts and culture. They became a barbarian nation in a moment. The PhDs of the universities were leading the death camps and exterminating human beings by the millions. They were professors of math, science, and music. They became evil and demonized. They led the death camps. Men who had PhDs in the universities led the three largest death camps. They were very cultured men. The Lord says, “I’ve warned all of human history today.” This stuff happens in a moment.

Verse 7 is the mystery of lawlessness. Verse 9 says, “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan” (2 Thess. 2:9). Let’s go back to verse 8, because some people still think this Antichrist is just a spirit. “And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming” (v. 8). This is a man who is literally destroyed when Jesus comes again. This isn’t just a spirit who’s been here for 2,000 years. Yes, that’s true, but he’s also a man who’s destroyed at the second coming. He’s a man who’s alive at the second coming who is destroyed by the brightness of Jesus. We’re talking about bright! I love the verse in Isaiah 24:23 which says, “The sun will draw back in shame when He appears” (Isa. 24:23, paraphrased). This man will be destroyed by His coming. He’s not just a spirit; he’s a real person who will live.

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders” (2 Thess. 2:9). He will have all power. I don’t mean relative to God, but in the human arena he will have more power than any other human being. He will have lying wonders, which are deceiving signs.

Jesus said the same thing in Matthew 24:24. He said there would be great signs deceiving the people. That hasn’t happened yet. It’s not figurative. It’s totally literal and it hasn’t happened yet. But it will happen soon, in the next two or three decades. I don’t know; it could happen in a decade. It could happen in two, three, or four. I don’t know, but it’s soon. It will come in a moment.

Look at verse 10. He will come with all unrighteousness. What a sentence! This man will possess all unrighteousness. “He will deceive those who perish” (2 Thess. 2:10b, paraphrased). He will come with unrighteous deception. Look at that: he’ll be deceiving. *Deceiving* is the word.

Why? Because “they did not receive the love of the truth” (2 Thess. 2:10c). The love of the truth is synonymous with the love of God. Take the word *truth* out and say, “Because they didn’t receive the love of God.” Love is received and is imparted by the Spirit. They wouldn’t receive the love of God, whether it’s the love of truth or the love of Jesus or the love of the Spirit’s work. Whichever, it’s the love of God and they wouldn’t receive it. The love of God is something that needs to be received. We don’t well it up; we don’t discipline ourselves into it. It’s received. This corresponds with David’s exhortation, “Kiss the Son,” which means to receive and get into the flow of God’s love.

GOD IS GOING TO SEND A STRONG DELUSION UPON THE HUMAN RACE

These people wouldn’t receive the love for this reason. Verse 11 is where I’m going. Here it is: “God will send them strong delusion” (2 Thess. 2:11). God is going to send a strong delusion upon the human race, like the delusion He put upon Pharaoh. “That they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (v. 12). They refused the love of God; they refused the truth. There will come a strong delusion sent from God to bring out the latent rage in their spirits. God won’t send it upon the innocent. God won’t send it upon the people who are moving towards Him or even have any possibility of moving towards Him. He will send it upon those who have adamantly refused to receive His love and instead have loved unrighteousness. They had pleasure in sin. Their pleasure is sin. That’s their love.

When He sends this delusion He’s going to remove all the gray area. Right now there are three responses. There are those who love God and, not many, but a few who hate God in a manifest way, and then a vast majority in the middle. God is moving the middle ground. Everyone will either love Him or hate Him; there will be no third option. There’s coming a strong delusion. It will bear down upon all who hate God, and will bring the hatred to the surface. In the period of the strong delusion, the lying signs and the deception of the evil one come forth, and with the judgments of God and the true signs and wonders of the gospel, there will be only two responses: love or hate. Human history has never seen anything like this before. It’s unprecedented. The closest we can get is Pharaoh’s court. God performed signs, wonders, and miracles. Pharaoh said, “No!” After Pharaoh resisted over and over, then God hardened his heart to bring it up a notch for a global display, or a worldwide display according to the world of that day.

King David said, “You had better pursue the kiss.” Go on the offensive. Go on the offensive. Go on the offensive. If you live at a distance, you won’t stay loyal.

THE JUDGMENTS OF GOD WILL DRAW FORTH THE RAGE IN THE HUMAN HEART

Very quickly, I’ll give you a sevenfold progression of how I see this happening. I’ll give you some verses and you can look the verses up later. I only have a few minutes left. The judgments of God begin to break forth on the earth. That’s not number one; that’s the context before number one. The judgments of God are breaking forth. The judgments of God are the gas poured out on the hidden fire of the human spirit of rage against God that God knows exists. The judgments aren’t just for that; the judgments have many, many reasons. One of the reasons is to be gas that brings the hidden rage to the surface. It’s as though God is saying to the whole human race, “Let us be honest.” The human race is locked into dishonesty and deception. He says, “Let us be honest. You said if I raised the dead, you would believe Me. You said if I broke in with power you would say yes. I’ll do that.”

It’s the whole combination of the power of God in signs and wonders, which are the good ones, and the false signs and wonders, which are the deceiving ones of Satan. It’s the strong delusions sent by the Lord, because

the Lord is using the enemy's tactics as well. Those fit under God's overall plan. The devil is God's devil. The devil is on a leash. He has limited sphere in which He operates. He only has the sphere which God apportions him. He causes the love of the saints to mature. He causes the hatred of unbelievers to come to the surface. He causes the in-between to be converted one way or the other.

The temporal judgments are now breaking out in the earth. They start slowly and they build. They're starting already. They're already starting. They start building. The first thing that happens is that the people accuse God. It's happening right now. According to Revelation 12:10, and if you want the verses just write them down because I'm going too fast to look at them, Satan accuses night and day. He accuses the saints and he accuses God night and day. In 2 Corinthians 10:5, Satan raises up arguments against God in the human heart. It's arguments against God. It's called *arguments*, and we accuse God. It's not *we*; I'm not going to personalize this, but people do. When the judgments break out, negative feelings begin to arise. People are tempted with negative feelings against God. "If You're so loving and powerful, then why did the tornado hit 100,000 people?" The negative feelings begin to tempt. The accusations and the arguments are lodged in the human heart.

But it doesn't end there. Accusations turn from tempting feelings of confusion and uncertainty to anger at God. In Revelation 18, the nations will be angry. They will rage. Psalm 2:1 is what Revelation 18 is quoting. The nations will be raging in anger against God. Romans 1:30 says that they'll be haters of God. They will hate Him. Whether you put *rage*, *anger*, or *hate*, the hostile feelings are now not temptations; they're established in multitudes. Hundreds of millions in the earth have hostile feelings. They're not neutral; they're hostile now. The nations will be angry, and it's only phase two.

THE NATIONS WILL BECOME DRUNK WITH FORNICATION

Number three. Turn to Revelation 17; I want you to see this. It's the third stage. Hundreds of millions and billions of people are angry and hostile at God. The third thing that happens is that the nations become drunk with fornication (Rev. 17:2). They become drunk with sexual immorality. They become drunk with it. Right now the nations are perverse. They will become drunk with immorality. The Internet is setting that up, by the way: the explosion of technology along with the unholy revival of sorcery and the occult is going to create an outbreak of immorality beyond anything that we could even fathom right now. I've said it before and it's a highly-known fact, that the people financing the technology industry are the leaders of the pornography industry. That's not true of all technology, but much of it. The pornography industry is financing it, and they're the primary leaders in pushing technology forward so that perversion can sell. It's an unbelievable billion-dollar industry. It's billions and billions.

They'll be drunk. The inhabitants of the earth will be drunk with fornication. Revelation 18:3 says all the nations will be drunk—all 262 nations. The angry nations become the drunk nations. The angry nations of Revelation 11:18 are the drunken nations of fornication.

And the bride on the wedding day says, "We agree with Your judgments now. We fully agree with Your judgments because You judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with fornication" (Rev. 19:2, paraphrased). Basically, this means it's a judgment that touches the whole earth. The earth will be entirely corrupted with fornication. The earth will be described as corrupted entirely with fornication. Beloved, it's the Internet mixed with sorcery and with billions of people with rage and hostility towards God, and their consciences shut down. We can't imagine the unstoppable progression of perversion when people say yes to it.

GOD WILL GIVE THEM UP TO UNCLEANNESS AND PERVERSION

Turn to Romans 1. Being drunk with fornication is going to bring the whole thing up a few notches. I have no doubt there are millions of people demonized with sexual perversion demons, but it will go to billions. The earth will be labeled “drunk with fornication.” God is using the Internet as well, but the Internet is going to bring this to new realms. Right now there are only pictures. They’ll go so far beyond pictures to other dimensions. I don’t even want to go there. I’ve read some of it in leading magazines like *Newsweek* and *Time*. It’s unthinkable what they’re tapping into right now and where this is going in the realm of perversion. It’s far beyond pictures; it will create the illusion of reality.

Look at Romans 1:24. We’re still on number three: drunk with fornication. They say no to God and therefore God gives them up to uncleanness, to lust, and to dishonoring their bodies. This is sexual perversion, but limited within natural sexual passions, men and women. The first giving up is that they’ll give themselves without restraint, men with women. But it doesn’t stop there. In verse 26, God gives them up a second time to unnatural sexuality, women with women and men with men. That’s the second degree. It’s happening right now, but it’s going to happen on a global level. Verse 28 is the third: God will give them over to a debased mind. That’s the third category.

First is the wholesale perversion; that’s men with women. It’s natural, but immoral. The next level of giving up is that God gives them up, men with men and women with women. Then the next one is called a “debased mind” (Rom. 1:28). That’s the end of that equation. It’s a debased mind.

1 Timothy 4:3 is an interesting verse. I’ll just quote it to you. I’ve already quoted verse 1. It says their consciences will be seared like a branding iron. They will forbid marriage and abstain from meats created to be received with gratitude towards God. Most of you can picture that verse; you’re a little familiar with it.

“Now the Spirit [explicitly] says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons” (1 Tim. 4:1). I’ll skip verse 2, which speaks of a defiled conscience: “. . . forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth” (1 Tim. 4:3).

Forbidding marriage. This is what’s going to happen. I want to tell you this. It will shock you. The homosexual community right now is pushing the gay marriage thing, and that thing will be absolutely set in. One decade will go by, and then two, and then three, and maybe even sooner than that; but the laws will be against marriage. It’s going to end the exact opposite. They will make legislation against marriage at the very end when the earth is drunk with fornication. They’ll forbid it. There will be legislation against it. It will be Sodom and Gomorrah and beyond on a global level. The cup will be full.

It says in Revelation 15:7 that the cup of fornication and wrath will be full. It doesn’t say *fornication*; it says that in another place, but the cup will be full. It’s interesting that at the end of the age there are two full bowls. There are the full bowls of prayer in Revelation 5:8 and the full bowls of wrath in Revelation 15:7 and a half dozen other verses. This is described in Revelation 17:4 and 18:5. Those are full bowls of fornication and wrath.

After the human race is drunk with fornication, after they make laws against marriage, they now have a debased mind. Remember, it’s immorality that’s natural, but immoral and immorality that’s unnatural. Then the debased mind is at the end of the equation. It’s the debased mind. Third, they’re drunk with fornication, and fourth, God

sends them strong delusion. I mentioned that in 2 Thessalonians 1:11. God sends a strong delusion on the debased mind. The gray area is gone; there's only love and hate. There's nothing in between.

The evil one will deceive the whole earth (Rev. 13 and 14). It's the deception of the evil one and the strong delusion sent by God on the debased mind of the triple-given-over population. They're given over the first time to immorality. The second time is to homosexuality. The third time is to a debased mind. It's the triple-giving over with strong delusion to hate God.

MULTITUDES IN ALL THE NATIONS WILL OPENLY WORSHIP THE DEVIL

The fifth one comes after the strong delusion. Turn to Revelation 13. I know I'm out of time, but I will do this really quickly. We're on the fifth one, which is Revelation 13. They will worship the devil worldwide. It will be worldwide; not here and there, but worldwide, open devil worship in all the nations of the earth. I'll give you a bunch of verses: Revelation 13:4, 8, 12, and 15. There's Revelation 14:11, which describes the falling away. This is actually where the falling away comes in, really, right here. The whole drama will be about worship: kissing the Son or worshipping the devil. There will be no neutral ground. It's the debased mind under the strong delusion. It's the whole earth, but obviously the saints aren't giving in. The Scriptures interplay the saints all the way through Revelation 13 with the group that won't yield. They're in contrast.

Sixth, after they worship the devil, the peoples of the earth will blaspheme God (Rev. 16:9, 11, 21). They'll go beyond worshipping the devil; they will stand in total blasphemy. Hating God is one thing, but they'll be standing together in unity in raging blasphemy against God. The devil-worshipping, strongly deluded, sexually-perversed human race will blaspheme God.

IF YOU DON'T KISS HIM, YOU WILL HATE HIM IN THAT DAY

The seventh is the ultimate end in Revelation 17:14. They will make war against God openly. They will declare war upon God (Rev. 17:14, 19:19). They will declare war.

King David said this: "In the great day when His wrath is kindled"—just a little compared to eternity—"kiss Him. Kiss Him! Kiss Him!" If you don't kiss Him, you'll hate Him. If you don't enter into unity with His heart and begin to understand what He's thinking and feeling and give yourself to this thing, if you don't kiss Him and you stay at a distance in that hour, you can't stay loyal. When the judgments start, the accusations come. Then the anger comes, and out of the anger they become drunk with fornication. After they're drunk with fornication, then comes the strong delusion. After the strong delusion they begin to worship the devil. After that they blaspheme God with a boldness that only demon-worshippers know. After that they'll declare open war, the whole earth, upon God. It says in Daniel 7:21 that the saints will be there. The saints on the earth will be worn down when the earth makes war against them, but only for a short season. Then the saints will prevail.

Amen. Let's stand.

MINISTRY TIME

Kiss the Son. It's the year 2000. It's July 2000. Kiss the Son.

"I'm tired. I don't get treated right at work. My friends don't like me. My marriage isn't very good. My kids are... well, I feel bad."

Beloved, kiss the Son. Take those arguments, I beg thee, and throw them away. Kiss the Son or you'll war against Him at the end. Kiss Him or you'll end up making war against Him. The nations will do this. It will be too dramatic; it will be too intense to stand at a distance and stay loyal. Kiss the Son. Open your heart fully to the depths of His heart. Kiss the Son!

There will be two groups of worshipers at the end of the age: the lovesick, worshiping bride and the deluded, fornicating devil worshipers. Some of them will be those who formally named the name of Jesus. The great apostasy is coming. It's coming. Kiss the Son. Open your heart to the depths of His heart. I know this stuff seems so unbelievable. That's why we need to kiss the Son. It's not unbelievable. We need to get in the Spirit. We need to know what He's thinking. This is what He's thinking. It's these things. This is the Word of God. We need to get near His heart so that what He's thinking isn't so strange to us.

We love You, Jesus. We love to love You.