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## **Episode 101 - When New Jerusalem Becomes a Burden: Unpacking Revelation's Sixth Seal**

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Scott Stanley examines Revelation and Matthew 24 to show how the true "gospel of the kingdom"—a new heavenly understanding and the coming of New Jerusalem—will provoke intense opposition and a great tribulation.

He explains the symbolism of the sixth seal, how conviction exposes false views of Christ and Scripture, and why preaching this truth will bring division, persecution, and the fulfillment of prophetic timelines.

The episode urges listeners to ground their beliefs in Scripture, expect testing when the message goes out to all nations, and prepare spiritually for the coming upheaval.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to the KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, this is Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries, the deep things of God, searching out the deep things of God concerning the book of Revelation. That's what this podcast is for. If people want to better understand the book of Revelation, I'm trying to give you insight into that, because we need to understand it. This is a book in the Bible that God has given us. It's for the end time, for the last-generation church. It may be one of the most important books, because it helps tie everything in the Bible together so that we can understand what is going on in the world and what is happening. God has not left us blind to this.

Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:5 that we're to be children of light. Being a child of light, this day is not going to take you unaware. The day of the Lord is not going to come on you unaware. *When they say peace and safety, sudden destruction comes* (1Th 5:3). Well, what I want to share today happens before that, before the sudden destruction. It's important because it has to do with the giving of the gospel.

Now, at one time in my life, reading Matthew 24:14, I didn't know how to apply that because I thought, well, the gospel is going out all over the world, you know; it has all my life. Then the Lord helped me understand what the gospel actually is, and I realized it isn't going out all over the world. When we go through this study and these concepts, you're going to understand how you're going to know it's the end. We're not blind to these things. And if we're faithful to the scripture, we're going to have a much better understanding of it all. When Jesus says, again, in Matthew 24:14,

Mat 24:14 This gospel, this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end ...

The end is the completion. There is a completion coming on this world. But like I said, I'm not getting into that, *the peace and safety and sudden destruction*. But when he says, *"This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world,"* this is the gospel, helping us understand the truth of the cross and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, helping us get a handle on what all of the truth is... how it all comes together.

So when I read this in Matthew 24:14, I skip down to verse 21. Why? Because he is telling you, between verses 14 and 21, the things that we need to be aware of. You

know, pray your flight be not in winter. See, all of these things have a spiritual meaning. But it all boils down to verse 21.

Mat 24:21 For then, when the gospel is preached, for then... When the gospel is preached, there is going to be a great tribulation.

Again, God has not left us in the dark concerning this. He has shown us exactly what it is. To describe this... again, what I'm sharing today is based on the other studies I've given. Hopefully, you've taken the time to listen to some of these things, and you have an idea of what I'm talking about without me having to read everything all over again.

See, in Zechariah chapter 12, verse 1

Zec 12:1 The burden of the word (the concept) of Jehovah for Israel, saith Jehovah, which stretches forth the heavens, he lays the foundation of the earth, and in so doing he forms the spirit of man within him.

So this verse right here is telling us the heavens and the earth are within the human mind. It's the way we think. Each one of those things, the heavens and the earth, has a meaning. "Heavens" is God's understanding, and the "earth" is "self." There's a third one that isn't mentioned here, and it's the sea... the heavens, the earth, and the sea. But God will lay the foundation of the earth. *He'll stretch the heavens and lay the foundation of the earth and form man's spirit within him (Zec 12:1).*

Spirit is how we see a thing. Your spirit is your emotional side. That's why when you come to verse 2, Zechariah 12:2,

Zec 12:2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all people round about...

See, why does he put that verse there? Because Isaiah 65, verse 17,

Isa 65:17 For, behold, I create a new heaven and a new earth...

See, a new way of understanding. There's a new understanding God is going to give

us.

Isa 65:17 ... The former understanding will not be remembered nor come into your mind.

Isa 65:18 But be glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: For, behold, I create Jerusalem, a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

Isa 65:19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people...

Now, the Jerusalem he's talking about is New Jerusalem. Again, in Isaiah, he says, *"I'm going to create a new heaven and a new earth."* In Zechariah, *"I'm going to stretch the heavens and lay the foundation of the earth."* Then, immediately, he goes into Jerusalem. See, Zechariah 12:2, *"Behold, I make Jerusalem a cup of trembling..."* Well, what is Jerusalem? If he has to create a new heaven and a new earth, Jerusalem is seen in Revelation 21.

Rev 21:1 I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and first earth were passed away...

In other words, *I saw a new understanding. The old understanding is passed away, and there is no more sea.* So I have a new heavenly understanding of how God perceives. I have a new understanding of how I'm seeing it, and there is no more sea. The sea is taken away from me.

Rev 21:2 I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of the heavens saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he, God, will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and he'll be their God.

So new Jerusalem is the tabernacle of God, and for God to say, *"I'm going to create a new heaven and a new earth, behold, I create Jerusalem..."* But then he tells you in Zechariah 12, verse 2,

Zec 12:2 Jerusalem is a cup of trembling unto all people round about, when they are in the siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

Zec 12:3 In that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people...

Now, a stone is a symbol of a concept. Why in the world is Jerusalem a burden on people? Remember, there's going to be a great tribulation, and it's going to be on, he says, "this people." And I would like to touch on "this people" right quick. In Luke chapter 21, I want you to see this.

Luk 21:19 In your patience possess ye your souls.

Luk 21:20 When you see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation of it is nigh.

Now, he is speaking of Zechariah 14:2, "*When all nations are gathered to battle against Jerusalem.*" Jerusalem is a doctrine. It's an understanding. He'll give you a new heaven, a new earth, and create Jerusalem. Jerusalem is going to be a burden for all people. But back to Luke 21,

Luk 21:20 When you see Jerusalem (not literal Jerusalem, the new Jerusalem) compassed with armies, then know that the desolation of it is nigh.

What desolation? There is going to be an attack on this truth. And he tells you that, in again, Zachariah 14:2,

Zec 14:2 I'm going to gather all nations against Jerusalem. The city will be taken. The house is rifled. The women ravished. Half of that city is going to go back into captivity of iniquity. The remnant of the people will not be cut off from the city.

So there is going to be an attack on that truth and on the people who carry that truth. Let's keep reading in Luke 21:20.

Luk 21:20 When you see Jerusalem compassed with armies, know the desolation of it is nigh. (What he is speaking of is Zechariah 14.)

Luk 21:21 Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter into it. (See, he's again quoting what you read in Matthew 24.)

Luk 21:22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

Now, don't miss that part, *"all things which are written."* We're not leaving anything out here.

Luk 21:23 Woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! For there shall be a great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.

Who? The people who are promoting New Jerusalem, the people who are teaching the gospel of the kingdom. Verse 24, Luke 21:24,

Luk 21:24 They shall fall (who, "this people") will fall by the edge of the sword. They'll be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem, New Jerusalem, shall be trodden down of the nations until the times of the nations (or the Gentiles) be fulfilled.

Now, we see that in Revelation 11, John is sent to prophesy again. You see, this is actually at the end of Revelation 10, *"Go prophesy again."* So in Chapter 11:1-2, *"There's given me a reed like a rod. I'm told to go measure the temple, but don't go to the Gentiles. They're treading underfoot the holy city for forty-two months."*

Forty-two months is perfected wickedness. They will perfect wickedness, treading underfoot the new heaven and the new earth that God is trying to give humanity. God's trying to give you a new heaven and a new earth. He wants you to see things the way he does. He wants you to believe him and apply his principles of forgiveness and love, and so on, to your daily life. So why does everybody rise up against it? Why is everyone coming against this New Jerusalem?

Well, let me say this again. How does he create New Jerusalem? And when he does, that is in each person individually. New Jerusalem is a truth. It is truth coming from God. It is the tabernacle of God. A tabernacle. See, God dwells in this tabernacle. This carries God. It is information that carries the truth about God. So you have to have a new heaven and a new earth in order to grasp it.

Well, how in the world do you give somebody a new heaven? What does he mean by that? Well, he's given us a picture of it in the seals in Revelation chapter 6. And I want you to see that Revelation 6:12-17 is a picture of God giving a person a new heaven. How do I know that? Well, he says in Revelation 6:14,

Rev 6:14 The heaven departed as a scroll when it's rolled together. Every mountain and island were moved out of their place.

Rev 6:15 The kings of the earth, the great men, ...

See, all of these people are crying out. This truth becomes a burden to everybody. Why? Because it's what he says in the sixth seal at the beginning of it.

Rev 6:12 I beheld, when he opened the sixth seal, there was a great earthquake. (That is conviction, and what happened?) The sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

Rev 6:13 And the stars of heaven fell...

Stop. If I am going to give you the truth of New Jerusalem, and if you're going to receive the tabernacle of God, which is the Holy Spirit, for a person to receive that, then they have to understand their sun, the way they look at Jesus, is as black as sackcloth of hair. In other words, you do not understand Jesus Christ. They have to be told that. Why? Because you're going to give them the truth of the Holy Spirit. That's what New Jerusalem is.

This will become a burdensome stone. Why? Because nobody wants to be told the way you look at Jesus is as black as sackcloth of hair. No one wants to be told the moon, the way you're reading the scriptures, is as red as blood. "Red" is "literal." If you look at what he is saying in this prophecy, it's covering virtually everything that the world struggles with.

The way they're looking at the Son of God is bogus. Remember to the seven churches (Rev 1:4), remember Antipas, my faithful martyr, my faithful witness (Rev 2:13)? It's "everything except the Father." They're attacking the Son of God. They attack the Son of God to say he isn't really the Son, to say he didn't come in the flesh. They're attacking the Son of God to promote their Trinity God. So if I were to step into their lives and say,

well, the way you're looking at Jesus is as black as a sackcloth of hair, what am I actually saying?

What you're doing is attacking their perception of the Son of God, and they're going to have to understand spiritually. The way you're reading the Bible as red as blood, and all of the stars, all of the things that you think are true are going to tumble to the earth because they're earthly. There's no truth in it. And we're going to close the heavens, the way you think God thinks- that needs to be changed, because he isn't demanding a human sacrifice in order to forgive anybody.

If that be true, that makes the Universal Church pagan. The Son of God did not die to appease God's anger, and if that's what you think, that's called paganism. So here in the sixth seal, you're reading why all nations are going to come against New Jerusalem. You cannot teach New Jerusalem without a new heaven and a new earth. You've got to have a new heaven and a new earth.

In Revelation, the sixth seal is the new heaven. Here's the new heaven. He's getting rid of the old so he can give you the new. The new heaven is in Revelation chapter 7, where there is a messenger ascending from the east, sealing the 144,000. I've heard people challenge, you know, where do you get your Bible? What Bible are you reading? And we have moved beyond that. We can use the Bible to teach what we teach, but what we teach is a new heaven. We're teaching a new heaven.

We have sealed the 144,000 truths. Why would everyone be upset? Because you're changing every single thing that they believe about God, everything. That is the reason for your tribulation, and it's entirely scriptural; it's perfectly scriptural. There's going to be a time where everyone is going to be up in arms because God is going to send his church to deliver the true gospel. In order to do it, you're going to have to give them a new heaven and a new earth so they can possess New Jerusalem and be saved.

Just the mere fact that you're telling them they're not saved... a man cannot say Jesus Christ is the Lord of his life without the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is New Jerusalem. And New Jerusalem is an explanation of the Son of God on the cross, and without symbols, you will never be able to see yourself in it. This is why the tribulation. Don't

think for a minute that we don't know what it is or when it's going to happen. We know when it's going to happen- when the message goes to all nations for a witness.

You cannot give a message like that and there not be distress upon this people, and it will continue until the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled, because God has given the prophecy that when the Gentiles, the fullness of the Gentiles happens, he is going to send his church to Jacob, and he is going to tell you, don't go to the Gentiles anymore, leave it alone. They have rejected the truth. They have no light.

Remember this, giving this message will bring new people into the church. But when the persecution heats up, according to Zachariah 14, half of those people will leave. That's pretty precise. I mean, we've got these verses that lay this out, and I'm telling you, as a messenger of God, this is what's going to happen. It's in the Bible. I see it. It's plain as day. I may not be able to explain it perfectly, but it's right before us.

So don't think for a minute we don't know what's going to happen. We know what's going to happen, and we know how bad it's going to be. We know it's going to be bad enough that people coming into this truth will leave it because they can't handle it. They won't be able to handle it. *Great distress upon this people.*

Can we get prepared for it? Well, if you're expecting it to happen, if you know it's going to happen, you're a child of light, and this will not come on you unaware. Anybody in their right mind knows if you go tell a person the truth about the Son of God, who he is, and why he died, that is going to cause a ruckus.

Not everybody is just going to say, "Hey, yeah, well, that makes sense. What else you got?" It doesn't work like that. You're literally showing them their sun is black, their moon is red, the stars fall into the earth, and you're closing their heavens. They are not going to like that. That is the day of the Lord for them. The day of the Lord is when Christ is revealed. It happens spiritually, and it will happen literally. The Son of God is coming back. Will he find faith on the earth? Because faith is in the heavens. It's in his understanding.

So, again, we have seen a picture of what happens when the truth is given. God has predicted for you what's going to happen when the world hears it. God has warned you,

people will come in, and people will go out. When they go out, the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled. It's over, and all of the people left in the Universal Church have no light. No hope of it. The sun, the moon, and the stars give no light.

And God will say, *"Don't go tell them anymore. They've trampled underfoot the Holy City."* What is that? New Jerusalem. *"They've trampled underfoot the Holy City. Go to Jacob."* And you're going to have another giving of the message, which is going to create havoc in the Jewish community. That is what the truth does.

There has been a great apostasy. It is still going on. It goes to the end of the world, and we are looking for people who want to come out of it. But let me give you a warning. If you're going to come out of it, you need to base what you believe on the Scriptures. There is nothing else that matters. The scriptures are where you're going to get your truth.

Most gracious Heavenly Father, we ask for help and understanding. I thank you for your patience and long-suffering. I worship you, and I praise you in Jesus' name. Amen.