

Episode 54 - Unveiling the Truth: Exploring Revelation and the Kingdom of God

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Join Scott Stanley from DTG Ministries as he delves into the profound messages of the Book of Revelation. In this episode, Scott explores the concept of the Antichrist, the nature of God, and the true essence of Jesus Christ as the Son of God. He challenges traditional views of the Trinity and shares his journey of understanding and teaching the abiding truth of God's love.

Modified Transcript:

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

Hi. This is Scott Stanley with the DTG Ministries. We are continuing our podcast on the Book of Revelation, and today, we will get into some pretty deep material. I think it can be simplified if we just look at the day in which we live and what has happened to the churches. We know that in 1 John 2:18 antichrist had already begun. John says this because these people separated from the Apostolic Church. I don't see anything different throughout the centuries that have passed, because he identifies these antichrists as denying the Father and Son, and denying that Christ came in the flesh.

This has been the problem all of my Christian life, learning from these churches and struggling. I was struggling with the Trinity. I saw something wasn't right, but I didn't

know exactly how to explain it. I didn't know what the truth was, but I saw what it wasn't. I didn't know enough to stand up to the way they were defining God.

But as the years went by, as I continued studying, I began to realize Christ was born in eternity past. Now, what makes this important is that I didn't know very many other people who were seeing that. I knew all along there were people who did not believe in the Trinity, but none that specifically used the scriptures and said that there is only one God the Father, who brought forth his Son in eternity past - he <u>did not</u> create his Son, he birthed his Son, and through his Son, he created all things.

That is a big message, and to spring that on the churches, well, they just wouldn't have any part of it. But gradually, there began to be a handful of people who saw that truth, and as we went about giving that message, more and more people saw light in it. I can remember holding a meeting, I believe I was in North Carolina with 67 people in attendance, where I told them the Trinity wasn't true, and at the end of the meeting, every single one of them agreed. So, this message was spreading fast. I'd say fast, it was fast for me, and we had a handful of men who were going about giving this message. Now, all of us were in the wilderness, and I look back at John the Baptist, and I look at the ministry God gave him. His ministry was to proclaim or point people to Messiah.

When you think about it, we are a religion of faith. Faith is what you're told. *Faith comes by hearing, hearing by the Word of God. How are they going to hear without a preacher?* (Rom 10:17, 14) So John the Baptist came preaching. Well, who told John the Baptist? God did. God had told John the Baptist that he was going to see the Holy Spirit descending like a dove on this guy, and this is going to be Messiah, this will be my Son. So, John the Baptist came baptizing, fully expecting to see that happen. Well, he did see it happen. It happened to Jesus. And John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said, *"He is the Son of God, he is the Christ."* Had those Pharisees or anybody in that day been really studying the scripture, what John the Baptist pointed them to, what he said about Jesus, would have been enough, that through the scriptures they could have identified him as Messiah. But they didn't do it.

John the Baptist was the forerunner of Christ. Well, in my lifetime, I believe that we, giving that Godhead message, were the forerunners of the message of the love of God. We had no idea. We, like John, were in the wilderness. Spiritually speaking, we were in the wilderness of our understanding. None of us understood the love of God. None of us understood why Christ died. We were just like the universal church. We were looking at it like he died to pay our sin debt, but we were growing in our understanding. If somebody were to approach us and challenge us, we had our defense against that. We

had our verses to defend ourselves. Well, going back to the Hebrew, that word "defense" (what you're defending yourself with), it's literally the word "locust."

So, we were in the wilderness eating locusts spiritually, as John was in the wilderness eating locusts literally. It's just interesting to me how these things parallel. In the process, I fell into adultery, and all of the elders in this movement came together to accuse me of adultery and throw me to the dogs, so to speak. I mean, I can look back at it, and I can see ulterior motives, but they used the law, accused me of adultery, and in so doing, all of them lost their ministries. Interesting, isn't it? I think there might have been one guy who stood against me and still has a ministry today. Everyone else fell away. When I look at that spiritually, they were in the bondage of iniquity- like John was put in bondage, he was put in prison. He lost his head. Well, they lost their head. Their head was Jesus Christ.

But using the law, having no mercy, having no forgiveness, no long-suffering, they all came together and decided that they were going to turn everyone against me. So they did, and I survived it. It's interesting how, a few days before all of that happened, the Lord told me that I was to give the abiding truth. I didn't know what abiding meant. I thought I did, but I didn't. The "abiding truth" means *to remain in his love*. Well, it took me a while to understand what it meant, but the Lord had already given me another ministry before these fellows tried to take it all away.

I look back now at how all of that happened, and it's something else. I still have my ministry, and I'm teaching the abiding truth - remaining in God's love. But through the years that went by after that, the Lord taught me that God is love (1Jn 4:8, 16) and love does not make a record of sin (1Co 13:5). If love does not make a record of sin, then why did Christ die? And the Lord showed me Titus 2:14: *Jesus died to redeem us from iniquity*. I had already been teaching for years that *thoughts produce feelings, feelings move you to action*. Thought, feeling, action: That thought is iniquity, rebellion (feeling), and sin (action). Thoughts, feelings, actions (Exo 34:7).

If the Lord can remove iniquity from us, you will stop sinning. That began to be perfectly clear to me and to those who were listening to these truths and in agreement with me and encouraging me to keep studying, keep going, keep teaching- let's see where the Lord's going to lead us. So, in this process (I have been recording these things on this podcast, the truths that God has given me and is continuing to give me), one of the truths is the kingdom of God. What exactly is that?

If you go back to the podcast, you'll discover a more in-depth explanation than what I'm going to give you now, but the kingdom of God is within you. The kingdom of God is an

understanding of the cross: Understanding what happened on the cross, how you can make an atonement, a covering to cover the thoughts of anger and lust or whatever is happening to you, and put away the rebellion or the anger you are feeling toward another person, hence, not sin.

Recently, I made a podcast on Azazel, and we took this to Leviticus 16. There, we saw how the blood of the goat and the bullock come together on the Day of Atonement, and that is your death as Christ died on the cross. In other words, he was portraying your death. *He who knew no sin was made to be sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God* (2Co 5:21). He became the similitude of sinful flesh, showing us the result of our iniquity and how to die to self, giving God your spirit- *"Into thy hands I commend my spirit"* (Luk 23:46). In that instant you do that, understanding your sin and all that's going on, and giving your spirit to God, you find death, and yet you still live (Gal 2:20).

In Leviticus 16, there are two goats. The first goat represents your death, and the second goat represents you being able to lead away all of the iniquity into the wilderness. Now, looking at that second goat, they confessed on it all the what? Iniquity, rebellion, and sin of your life. All of it is on that second goat. It's not corporate, it's personal. It's your goat. To lead away this goat doesn't mean it was led away for all of us. To lead away this goat is something you have to do, as you understand the kingdom of God, the atonement, and possess the Holy Spirit. That makes you a fit man, able to lead away your iniquity and live above sin- overcome iniquity. This is why Christ gave his life; it was to allow you to do that.

Because of the apostasy, that is not being taught in the churches today. That is why I believe, in my lifetime, God needed a forerunner to bring this message about, just like he needed John the Baptist to bring that message about- pointing to Jesus as Messiah. See, we can give you enough truth that if you're a Bible student, you can look it up and discern whether we're right or wrong. I don't mean, turn to your commentaries and go to your pastor and ask him what he thinks. I mean, if you have been told about the love of God, the reason for the cross, Jesus really is the Son of God, Jesus came in the flesh, Jesus is your Messiah because He gave His life so you could find death to self and be free of all iniquity - that's a big message, and these churches need a forerunner, someone who can come along and get them on the right track and help them through it.

So, when this happens, you become the fit man. When you see the kingdom of God, you enter into the kingdom of God (which is within you), and you understand the cross. You

become the fit man. Now I want to read a verse to you about the fit man. It's Revelation 20, verse 1.

Rev 20:1 I saw a messenger come down from heaven, having the key of the abyss (which is the mind) and a great chain in his hand (which is from the Father to the Son, you could say, to the apostles, to us- the scriptures).

Rev 20:2 He lays hold on the dragon, the old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan (which is Azazel), and he's able to bind him for a thousand years.

That's the fit man, and that is you today if you've received the truth of the gospel- the true gospel. What does he mean by "a thousand years"? We've covered this in other podcasts. That word "thousand," if I take it back to the Hebrew, literally is a "yoke." It's binding, putting oxen in a yoke- putting two of them together, one leading the other, being the guide. That is you and Christ yoked together. "Years" is "repeatedly." In other words, you walk with Him repeatedly. How? Well, you've bound the adversary.

You are living at the end of the world. The true meaning of the gospel is being expressed, and you can take your Bible and look it up, search the truth on your knees, seek the Lord to give you the answers, and you will discover power over iniquity. He did not die to pay a penalty. He died your death to show you death to self and set you free. So what you're looking at in Revelation 20 is a person at the end of the world who has come out of the apostasy and is able to lead away Azazel, or we could say, who is the fit man.

The dragon, the old one, the serpent, we call it the devil and Satan, is within each and every individual. All the word means is "adversity" when you take it to the Old Testament. All of us have adversity. It happens by means of iniquity. The serpent, the devil, is the author of iniquity (1Jn 3:8), and on him we confess all the iniquity, rebellion, and sin of our lives. God has given us the ability to lead it away. Now, notice, I'm going to keep reading here. I'm in Revelation 20, verse three.

Rev 20:3 The fit man can cast him into the abyss, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years are fulfilled ...

The "thousand years" is not literal. It simply means "to be united or bound together with Christ repeatedly." You stay in harmony with Christ repeatedly because you're leading Satan out of your life. You're not letting Satan have his way with you. You put him in the bottomless pit. Why? Because that's your mind. That's where it came from. You turn it around and put it right back where it came from.

Remember, in Revelation 5, you're redeemed from all nations, kindred, tongue, and people- the nations. This is what you have been hearing and learning from everyone around you- the sea. This walk with Christ will continue. You will continue, as the fit man, leading away Azazel, leading away Satan, he says,

Rev 20:3 ... until the thousand years are fulfilled. After that, Satan's going to be loosed a little season. (What do we mean? Let's keep reading. Verse 4.) Rev 20:4 I saw thrones, and they sat upon them (They who? The fit man, the people who can lead away the adversary). I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, ...

Here, the Lord is revealing to you that the messenger who can bind the devil- there's going to be a 'they.' It is a group of people who can do this.

Rev 20:4 I saw thrones, and they sat on those thrones, and God's determinations were given to them.

The throne is the conscience. They are on that throne with the Father and with the Son. *You will be seated with me on my throne, even as I am with my Father on his throne* (Rev 3:21). The throne is your conscience, and God, the Son, and you are together as they make the decisions. You agree with them in their judgment.

Rev 20:4 I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, God's judgment was given to them: I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus...

That is not literal. You see the beheading in verse 1. You lead away Azazel. You see, Satan is the God of this world. When I look back at this movement of men who accused me, they lost their head- Jesus. Had they remained faithful to the truth, they would have lost their head- Azazel, Satan.

Rev 20:4 ... Those who continued in the truth are beheaded for the witness of Jesus (That is positive, not negative), and for the word of God. These people did not worship the beast, the image, or receive the mark in their foreheads or hands; and they lived and reigned- they reign... they reign with Christ a thousand years.

That's what the thousand years mean. You're yoked together with Jesus. You walk with him repeatedly. You are reigning with him. Remember, if you die with him, you'll live with him. If you suffer, you'll reign with him. Verse 5,

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead (and I'm going to say 'in Christ') live not again until this thousand years is finished. Key phrase: This is the first resurrection.

For them to live again is the first resurrection. The dead in Christ will be raised when God's living saints, the last generation church, reign with Christ, and that will be fulfilled, as stated in verse 3. There is a fulfillment that will happen to you as you put away all iniquity and live and reign with Christ. "Thousand years" is simply a symbol. There is no literal thousand years. At the end of the thousand, those who are dead in Christ are raised, and that is the first resurrection. When the first resurrection occurs, the people raised will have to be brought to the truth, just as you have been brought to the truth in this world, the last generation church. Verse 6,

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death has no authority, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him a thousand years.

Who will reign with him a thousand years? Those who were raised from the dead (you could put verse 6 in parentheses). It's talking about the people who are dead in Christ, who will be raised from the dead when the last generation church's thousand years is fulfilled. Now he goes back to that first one thousand years in verse 7. When that first one thousand years, when the living saints have fulfilled the thousand years...

Rev 20:7 When the first thousand years are expired, Satan is loosed out of his prison.

What do you mean? Because that will be the first resurrection. Those who are dead in Christ will be raised, which will loosen Satan again in them. Satan is in them. They have not heard the truth. They do not understand the fit man. They don't understand the cross. They will be taught that, and they, too, will lead away Azazel. They, too, will have a thousand-year experience. That is what you're seeing in this millennial, the first one thousand. But there is a second one thousand that will happen after they are raised. Again, none of that's literal. Those are just symbols God has used to help us understand where we're headed, who we are in Jesus Christ, and how he is delivering us from all iniquity, rebellion, and sin.

Just as John the Baptist was literally in Jesus' family (Luke 1:36 says John the Baptist was Jesus's cousin), I knew throughout this movement of truth that I was in the family of God, meaning that if I died, I believed he would have resurrected me. But coming to this truth of having victory over iniquity, rebellion, and sin has caused another understanding to come to us. This one I want to read to you from Hebrews 2:11.

Heb 2:11 For both he that sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren.

Jesus goes from being like you're just in his family, you're a distant cousin... No, you become his brother. This quote is taken from Psalm 22:22, which is a depiction of that believer and how Christ is dying in their stead. The people who receive that truth, he is not ashamed to call them brethren. I want to read Revelation 3:12.

Rev 3:12 And him that overcomes will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem (which is the Holy Spirit), which comes down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Well, that new name he gives you is brother. You go from being a distant cousin, just simply being in the family of God, to entering into his death with him, reigning with him, and he takes on a new meaning in your life. He becomes your brother.

Now, in our next podcast, we will pick up where we left off in Revelation 20 concerning those who are in the first resurrection, being brought to their one-thousand-year reign with Christ.

Most gracious Heavenly Father, there's nothing like learning the truth and serving you, nothing like that. I pray that we all have clarity on these issues, on this truth. I pray for your glory. I love you and praise you in Jesus' name. Amen.