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## **Episode 95 - When Truth Is Under Siege: Revelation, Zechariah, and the Last Generation**

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Scott Stanley explores Revelation prophecies alongside Zechariah and Johannine warnings, describing an intense spiritual assault on the last-generation church and the dangers of deception and apostasy.

The episode calls believers to humility, courage, and steadfastness in the doctrine of Christ, highlighting the cross as the remedy that empowers Christians to overcome iniquity and preserve the truth.

Modified Transcript:

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

Hi, this is Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries. We're continuing to look at Revelation prophecies, and really, when you're talking about the book of Revelation, practically everything in the Bible points to it. There are things that we will see in Revelation, because it's concerning the people of God coming out of the apostasy. If you'll remember, when this apostasy happened, it began in the first century, and what Christ

had taught those apostles, of course, was spot-on. It was all the truth. But then came the man of sin, or actually came a falling away, and then the man of sin, and we go all the way to the last generation church, and we see the truth happening again. You see the 144,000 truths formed in Revelation 7.

Well, one thing that I brought out recently concerning the truth and what happened at the cross and the Holy Spirit, receiving the Holy Spirit of God, entering the city of New Jerusalem... In Zechariah 14, this is something I talked about recently on one of our conferences, and I just want to start here because there are other things that the Lord has brought to my attention. So, if I could just cover this one more time, Zechariah 14:1,

Zec 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, and your spoil shall be divided in the midst of you.

Zec 14:2 Because I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, the women ravished, and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city (of New Jerusalem).

So I remember reading this and just sharing the fact that for the houses to be rifled, it's plundered, and the women ravished, raped, or violated. That shows an intense attack on the truth of the last generation church, the truth that they are carrying, and half of the remnant, half of the people will give it up. People will come into the truth hearing the trumpets, but it's going to be such a great pressure against anybody who wants to believe the truth. Truly, you'll see the kingdom of heaven suffering violence, and you're going to discover what it's going to take for you to hang on to that truth (Mat 11:12).

But he says half of the city, half of the city, half of the people who come into the truth will give it up. So what I want to do is turn over to 2 John, and I want to start reading at verse 1, and just take our time with this.

2Jn 1:1 The elder unto the elect lady (now he's speaking to the church, the elect lady, the chosen) and her children, whom I love in the truth, and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth (will love her and her children);

2Jn 1:2 For the truth's sake, which remains in us, and shall be with us forever.

Now I kind of read that wrong. I want to read this again.

2Jn 1:1 To the church, to the elect lady and her children, whom I love, not I only, but also all of them that have known the truth;

2Jn 1:2 And because of the truth's sake, which remains in us, and shall be with us forever.

So I know we're supposed to love everybody, but the people who possess the truth and have the courage to stay in it... You know, I say, courage. Why does it take courage? Because it takes humility, and that's what people are afraid of. They're afraid of humility. They're afraid of telling you the truth about what's happening in their lives and the struggles that they're having understanding scripture, because they don't want to be laughed at. It takes courage to find the humility to serve God.

Now, think of that verse in Hebrews chapter 2, starting at verse 14.

Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil;

Heb 2:15 And deliver them, who by fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

When he says "fear of death," he means "death to self." I dare say it would be easier for some people if you just put a gun to their head and shot them dead, versus having to admit that they've got problems in their life. It's easier, just kill them. So the devil, your Satan within you, plays off of that. Verse 15 again.

Heb 2:15 Deliver them who by fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Think about it. So when I read this in 2 John, and I say, "it takes courage," that's what I mean. I guess you could say it takes courage to stand up to the masses and tell them they're wrong, but it takes more courage to stand before the church and say, "I'm wrong." Again, 2 John, verse 1,

2Jn 1:1 The elder, John, unto the church and her children, whom I love in the truth; I'm not the only one who loves them, but everybody that's known the truth;

2Jn 1:2 And because of the truth's sake, which dwells in us, and shall be with us forever.

That's why you love the people in the church, because they love the truth and they possess something that you believe in with all your heart. You believe in it enough to give this truth your life and discover what it is and live in it.

2Jn 1:3 Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and in love.

You would think that verse right there would be all you need to teach the Godhead. But we know these things are turned and twisted. They will take that verse, and the next thing you know, it becomes iniquity. But Jesus is the Son of the Father in truth and love.

2Jn 1:4 I rejoiced greatly that I found of your children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father.

Now, I'm going to read this; you really need to be reading this along with me, because this is the only way this made sense to me. Verse 5,

2Jn 1:5 Now I beseech you, I ask lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we had from the beginning... what? That we should love one another.

2Jn 1:6 And this is love (to God) ...

We know the two commandments: Love God and love your neighbor. But he only mentions that we love one another, and we know that if we love one another, we're manifesting love to God. So that's why, when I look at verse 6,

2Jn 1:6 And this is love (to God), that we walk after his commandments (of loving each other). This is the commandment, That, as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

2Jn 1:7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

Now remember, what we're reading in Zechariah 14, the truth you possess is going to be attacked to the point they will plunder your house. They will try to take away from you the truth that you possess. So when he says, "*for many deceivers*," why is he saying that? He just simply said, in verses 5 and 6, that we are to walk in the commandments of love, and this is how we show love to God... and by showing love to God, we're loving each other. We're loving others.

Then he says, "For or because many deceivers are in the world." See, what difference would that make? Well, let's read this. Let me show you what he's saying.

2Jn 1:7 Many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

2Jn 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

Verses 5 and 6, God wants you to walk in love. Verse 7, but there are people out there who are denying the truth about the Son of God. Verse 8, so watch out. Watch out for these people so you don't lose what you've gotten so far. In other words, they're not going to leave you alone. They're not going to let you just walk in love. They're going to try to take it away from you.

I want to read about the antichrist and the flesh from 1 John, chapter 4, to insert that into what we're looking at. 1 John 4:1.

1Jn 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit. Try the spirits, whether they're of God (well, how do I know if they're of God?) Well, see, there are many false prophets going out into the world (like he just said in 2 John).

1Jn 4:2 This is how you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that will confess Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God.

1Jn 4:3 Every spirit that doesn't confess Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. This is that spirit of the antichrist, whereof you've heard it should come; even now, already it's in the world.

So again, in 2 John, what is he saying? Look, I'm happy to see the elect lady, see that the church and all of her children are walking in truth and praise God. You know, we've been told to love God, and we're going to manifest that by loving each other. But you know what? There are many deceivers out there, and they're going to try to take that away from you. Look to yourselves that you don't lose these things that you have wrought. Verse 9,

2Jn 1:9 Whosoever transgresses, and remains not in the doctrine of Christ...

Now you know, at one time I read that as the teachings of Christ, meaning everything he taught. That isn't what that means. There is a doctrine concerning Christ himself, and those are the only two things John mentions in 1 John dealing with antichrist: They'll deny Father and Son, and they will deny that he came in the flesh. Verse 9 again, 2 John,

2Jn 1:9 Whosoever will transgress and remain...

King James put "abide," which means "remain." Why remain? Why would I read it remain? Because he just said, "*Many deceivers are entered into the world. Look to yourself that you don't lose what you've gained so far.*"

2Jn 1:9 Whosoever transgresses, and doesn't remain in the doctrine of Christ, does not have God...

You understand how heavy that statement is? First of all, there are people who never accepted the truth in the first place. But then to realize you're going to trumpet this truth and this city will be ravaged and plundered, and there are going to be people, half of that church, half of the church, leave. So whosoever transgresses and doesn't remain in these doctrines does not have God.

Now I'm telling you as a Bible teacher, I've done a lot of studying and investigating of these ministries... I've listened to a lot of them teach. Most of them what they're saying is just water off a duck's back. Some of them, you've really got to consider what they're saying, and I'm warning you, be prepared to defend your faith.

Once again, John is telling you this because you can walk away from those truths, and you no longer have God. Now you'll think you do. You know, one of the strongest delusions a person could have is to think they're serving God and they're not. But as far as you're concerned, "I mean, I go to church, and there are all these people at church. They're all giving money. They're all piling in there. They're all lifting their hands and clapping their hands and 'praise God' and 'happy Sabbath,' and all the stuff that they want to say."

But you know what? They don't know God. They don't have God because the Bible says they don't. This isn't something we're just making up. The warning you're reading in 2 John is to be careful because you can lose everything you've wrought to this point. Again, some of the stuff I've heard, these people are not idiots. They have an argument, and we want to be able to answer those things and not be deceived in any way. I think of the statement Jesus made in Matthew 12, starting at verse 28.

Mat 12:28 If I cast out devils in the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Mat 12:29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he'll spoil his house.

Luk 11:21 When a strong man armed keeps his palace, his goods are in peace:

Luk 11:22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he takes from him all of his armor wherein he trusted, and will divide his spoils.

You see, there's nothing anyone can do for you to strengthen you except continue to give you the truth, and you need to make it your own. The more of this you can understand, the better you'll be able to resist what's going to happen. For John to say this, again, I mean, if you'll just stand back and look at this, verses 5 - 7: *God wants you to walk in love, but watch out, there are many deceivers out there. They deny that Christ came in the flesh.* If you deny that Christ came in the flesh... see again, why would anybody deny that? Why would they want to deny that? Because they have to say he's different than us.

Now, I'm sure we're going to find all kinds of arguments thrown at us, about how Jesus is different than us. And "there's no way in the world that he was like you." I remember,

just in my church background, that was always a question. You know, how do you prove he was just like you? What is it I have to understand to believe he was like me? What is it that we need to grab hold of and believe... because if they take that away from you, you can lose what you've fashioned up to this point.

That's why when we're together on the conference and we're studying and talking, it's good to ask questions. It's good to ask questions concerning the Bible because people need to think. I think a lot of times on these podcasts, we listen to them, but it doesn't really sink in what the Lord is trying to reveal to us, and so *"whosoever will transgress and remain not in the doctrine of Christ does not have God."* It's that simple.

I consider God. When I consider him, I think about him creating humanity and giving us all a free choice, but he wants to bring you to a place where you don't want to sin. You just can't sin. That reminds me of a verse. Let me just read this in 1 John 3, verses 8 and 9.

1Jn 3:8 He that commits sin (that's iniquity) ... He that commits iniquity is of the devil (who plays off your fear of death); for the devil sins from the beginning. This is why the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1Jn 3:9 So whosoever is born of God (meaning they believe Jesus is the Son of God) ... Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin; for his seed remains in him: and he cannot sin, because he's born of God.

Just hold your place there and look at Genesis 3. I know I'm all over the place, but there are a lot of things I wanted to talk about.

Gen 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman...

Now, it's speaking to our adversity. What woman does your adversary have enmity with? The Holy Spirit, the mother of us all (Gal 4:26).

Gen 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the Holy Spirit, between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise your head, and you'll bruise his heel.

But what is her seed, because a woman doesn't have seed? But God put his seed in the woman. His seed, the understanding of his Son, is in that Holy Spirit. *"Whosoever is born of God doesn't commit sin because God's seed is in Him."* See, the seed of God... you possess the seed of God. God wants you to look at his Son, to look at his seed, and see him on the cross, and realize what you do to people when you do what you do by acting on iniquity.

God would have us walk in love. God would have us keep his commandment of loving him by loving others. The only way he can get you to do that, again... consider that he makes humanity, but he gives you a free will. So he portrays through his Son the problem we have, and for those who believe it, they will possess a tool to overcome all iniquity. But by showing us on the cross, he is showing you this is what you do.

See, for some time, I've just been realizing that as we grow in the truth, the effect it has on us is organic. I mean, honestly, whenever we open our mouths and we say what we say, or we do what we do, in iniquity, if we could see into the spiritual realm what you just did to that person, if you could see what you just did, you probably would never do it again.

That's the point of the cross. He shows you this is humanity, and the first thing you do is say, "Hey, that's me. Look what they did to me, and look what I've done to myself. And dear God, forgive me. Help me not do this anymore. Please forgive me. I want to be free." So you go through that, dealing with yourself, but then he says, "Well, you know what, that's everybody else too."

So their problem... They have self as a problem, too, but you know you've been their problem, too. Just like they were your problem. Because Satan plays off the fact that you don't have enough humility to shut your mouth. You don't have enough humility to say I've got a problem. Be careful that you don't lose what you've fashioned up to this point (Luk 8:18). It doesn't even have to be another believer or an unbeliever who steals it from you.

You can give it up on your own. You can let bitterness creep into your heart. Anger creeps into your heart; pride creeps into your heart, so that you can't even be transparent to brothers and sisters in the Lord. You hide. You hide because you don't

want them to realize how weak you've actually been or what's actually going on in your life. It's easy, I'm telling you, if you could put a gun to someone's head and just shoot 'em dead, that would be easier than for them to face humility. That is what gives the adversary power in your life, that and ignorance, just being ignorant about it.

So when the peer pressure happens, when Jerusalem is compassed with armies, houses are plundered, the women, the spirit that you possess is ravished, half of the people are going to walk off. They will not have the strength, the power to deal with what is going on. They cannot endure it. Does that mean that they just give up the truth? Well, at first you want to think, "Well, yeah, they're plundering my house, let's just give it up," but it could also mean they cannot control themselves, and they develop a bitterness and an anger and a resentment.

They will leave the holy city, too. Anything that makes a lie will not be in that holy city. It isn't just simply somebody talking you out of believing in Jesus. It's somebody who cannot control themselves. You can't control yourself and you lose it, you're angry, and you just carry that anger and bitterness forever. You just can't get over it.

I don't know, I'm looking at this stuff, I'm praying that God will give us the wisdom to better understand it. Antichrist is a real thing, and the people out there who believe it, a lot of those teachers have deep reasons why they believe it, and you'll never convince them. I mean, some of them, it's just obvious, you'll never convince them, but that means they will not stop trying to sway us. If you can never convince them, they will not stop. They will not leave you alone. So, if I could go back to 2 John, verse 9,

2Jn 1:9 Whosoever transgresses, and remains not in the doctrine of Christ, does not have God. He that remains in the doctrine of Christ, will have both the Father and the Son.

2Jn 1:10 So if there comes any unto you, and doesn't bring this doctrine (Christ in the flesh), receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed.

That's pretty heavy right there, isn't it? Why?

2Jn 1:11 For he that bids him God speed is a partaker of his evil deeds.

If you don't say something, just tip the hat and hello, you know, and you go on leaving them thinking that what they're believing is true, that you just don't... you're not strong enough to stand against them. You don't know what to tell them.

2Jn 1:12 Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face (so your joy may be full, but it's our joy), that our joy may be full.

2Jn 1:13 The children of your elect sister greet thee.

I am praising God for what He's revealing. I pray that as we contemplate the cross and recognize the evils that are there wrapped up in that. And in so doing, you see the love and compassion and grace of God for you. You might tell yourself, "I'm okay," and by the grace of God, I hope you are. But the warnings he's given us in the Bible are not for nothing, and to convince us, "Jesus is different than us. He had to be. He had to be different. I mean, who can walk on water?" (Act 2:22) You know, all the stuff they're going to come up with.

Do we have an answer? Can we give an answer that maybe would cause them to be quiet and think about what you're saying? I don't know. I know that in this particular podcast, it's my prayer that we would be strengthened in the truth. You know, this stuff is brought out in Revelation 2, when you look at the trumpets, and the fifth and sixth trumpets, and how horrific those things sound... locusts coming up out of the pit and everything. God intended it to sound scary because if you could see in the spiritual world, it would be scary to recognize we're living in perilous times.

The Spirit speaks expressly, we're living in perilous times. These people will take the truth away from you if you let them. The kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and we need encouragement, we need schooling... we need to be schooled in what the truth is, and not let our pride stand in the way of learning truth and being humble as a child of God.

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, I thank you for the truth. I pray for more truth, that all of this will come together and make perfect sense to us, and that we will be able to answer everything in Jesus' name... that we can help those who are seeking help. Father, we always say to your glory, that's just the way it is, it's to your glory, because you're the

one making us. We are your workmanship. I thank you and praise you in Jesus' name,  
Amen.