

The 2nd Coming of Christ

by Leonard Ravenhill

Leonard Ravenhill's sermon emphasizes the urgency of remembering biblical warnings as we await the return of Christ amidst societal decay and materialism.

Duration: 1:23:37

Scripture: Matthew 6:33, Luke 17:20-24, Luke 17:32

Topics: "Second Coming"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of standing before the judgment seat of God. He highlights that regardless of our status, wealth, or background, we will all face judgment. The preacher also discusses the contrasting images of Jesus sitting on a throne of mercy and a throne of judgment. He mentions instances where Jesus displayed anger and rebuked the Pharisees. The sermon also touches on the moral decay and violence in the world, drawing parallels to the days of Noah. The preacher concludes by emphasizing the need for individuals to take care of their children and the darkness that will cover the earth at the end of the age.

Transcript

I want to read a scripture to you from the Gospel as it was recorded by Luke in the 17th chapter and reading from verse 20. And when he, that is when Jesus, was demanded of the Pharisees when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, the kingdom of God cometh not by observation, neither shall they say, lo here or lo there, for behold the kingdom of God is within you. And he said unto the disciples, the days will come when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and ye shall not see it.

They shall say to you, see here or see there, go not after them nor follow them. For as the lightning that lighteth out of the one part under heaven shineth unto the other part under the heaven, so shall the Son of Man be in his day. But first must ye suffer many things and be rejected of this generation.

And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage until the day that Noah entered into the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot, they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded.

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even more shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed, in that day. He which shall be upon the housetop and his stuff in the house, let him not come down and take it away.

And he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot's wife. The text, three very simple words.

Remember Lot's wife. These great hymns we've been singing from England this week, were great. That one we sang tonight, that beautiful, beautiful hymn.

Rejoice the Lord is King. It was written by the man who wrote the hymn that children love, some people say the best known hymn of Charles Wesley. Gentle Jesus, meek and mild.

There are times I think when we overstate the gentleness of Jesus. We've been taught that one day from his beautiful throne he will welcome me home. I don't believe it for a minute.

If the Lord permits me to come back next year I'll be most happy. I've only one engagement next year so I'll really be short of cash by September. And so I'll be glad to come back and maybe I'll have enough energy and life to preach on the judgment seat.

I don't preach on that for 90 minutes, usually it's about two and a half hours. It's a very thrilling, very disturbing factor. But all of us irrespective of station, wealth, intellect, color, race, creed, we're all going to stand at the judgment seat.

As I said the other night, before you see Jesus, in fact when you see Jesus you won't see him as your savior. Tonight you can come burdened with pain, you may be the rottenest person in America and you can come because the door of mercy is open. Tonight he's sitting on a throne of mercy.

When you see him he'll be sitting on a throne of judgment. Jesus was gentle, he got angry, he whipped people even in the temple. And on one occasion he opened fire as he very often did on the Pharisees.

They were very antagonistic to him and he was very antagonistic to them. The Pharisees and the Sadducees. The Pharisees were intellectual, they were very religious.

They believed in angels, they believed in the resurrection. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection. That's why they were Sadducees.

So Jesus opened fire on the Pharisees and on the Sadducees and he said you're very smart. You turn to the sky in the morning and say the sky is red and therefore it will be a nice day. You turn to the sky in the evening, he says in the 16th of Matthew and verse 3, in the morning you say it will be foul weather today, the sky is red.

And in the evening you say it will be fair weather because the sky is red. You hypocrites he said. Can you read the sky and not read the sign of the times? And I think if Jesus came back tonight that might be his stern message to us.

Can he put a man on the moon? Can he do all these things and you can't see that we're running into a bottleneck in history again. Which I try to remind you of every day this week I think in the trials of Hebrews. That we're moving into a section of history where everything that can be shaken will be shaken.

That the kingdom that cannot be shaken may remain. Five years ago if you have said the American economy will be so bad your dollars worth about 40 cents you would have laughed. We've lost all the power we had five years ago and nobody's too disturbed about it.

The OPEC nations have got so much money that the World Bank says by 1985, 10 years from now, the 11 Arab nations will have 1.2 trillion dollars. I never counted that you better get the pastor to explain what that is. But 1.2 trillion dollars.

When they've paid all their bills it is surplus cash in their pockets. Now we discover it's not so much fault that put men on the moon or other things but now the nations of the world are governed by people that five years ago didn't count too much. And the word of God talks about it becoming exceedingly dark at the end of the age.

It uses this figure gross darkness to cover the earth. Darkness cover the earth and gross darkness the people. You know I can remember as a little boy in England, it seems about 200 years ago tonight I'm feeling tired, but I remember as a little boy in England singing about Jesus, I wish that his hands had been placed on my head and his arms had been thrown around me.

And you know I used to get a bit weepy. Oh I wish I'd seen Jesus like that. But you know we're going to see him far better than that in one day, before very long.

But still it must be wonderful to follow Jesus and hear him preach. To see Jesus show the people who are unbalanced mentally and knock the devil out of them and restore them to dignity. To unplug their ears, to put sight in their eyes, to turn them to God.

And one day he was he was preaching and the Pharisees came up in the Sadducees and suddenly Jesus broke away and they said, watch over the sign of thy coming and the end of the age. And he began to describe the end of the and then with three words he throws their minds back 3,000 years to three people. They must have said, what's wrong with him? We asked him about the end of the age and instead of pointing forward 2,000 years he takes us back about remember Lot's wife.

Why was she a blonde or who in the world was she? Who cares about Lot's wife? Billy Graham says so very often. When he's preaching he says, you're listening to a man with lips of hay. Well tonight do you mind listening to a woman with lips of salt? I'm going to drop Lot's wife right in front of you tonight.

She's the most important woman you'll ever meet in your life. What do you mean remember Lot's wife? Well if you remember Lot you must remember, if you remember Lot's wife you must remember the husband Lot. And if you remember Lot you must remember Abraham.

If you remember Abraham you must remember Sodom and Gomorrah. This is a tale of two cities, as Charles Dickens might put it. It's a study into attitude.

It begins in the 11th chapter of Genesis and it goes right through to the 19th chapter of Genesis. Abraham was on a journey with his nephew Lot and they came to a place where there was strife. And Abraham said in our language this won't do, after all we're supposed to be Christians and we can't live like this.

Now if you take that side of the valley I'll take this side of the valley. And if you take that I'll take this, make a choice. And it says that Lot chose him.

There's nothing wrong in choosing. But you see if he'd been a gentleman he would have said, Uncle Abraham I'm not going to choose. If you hadn't have been a good uncle I'd still be a cowboy or a in Texas, not Texas, but somewhere over there he said I'd still be a cowboy.

I would be nobody. But he said, you know what? No point taking those hills up there. The grass is so short the sheep have to kneel down to nibble it.

But oh over here the grass is good. And look at the water supply. And the city where I can make a lot of money do business farther than Jamara.

And so he makes his decision. Lot says, Uncle Abraham I'll take this side of the valley. Abraham says fine.

And Uncle Abraham is going away and the Lord says, Abraham. I like it, it's so poetic. The Lord says, Abraham and he says, here I am.

Isn't that nice? And he says, go stand on that rock. Look north, look south, look east, look west and all the land that thou seest I'll give it to thee. But my nephew Lot has taken it.

No, no, no he's borrowed it. And Abraham went up on the mountain. And Lot went into Sodom.

And oh he made a stack there. He became exceedingly rich. Everybody envied him.

Did you notice the paper yesterday? You see that guy cornering all the markets, making money. He's really going ahead. And Uncle Abraham's up there and all he did was watch the lambs shake their tails and say his prayers and build his houses and rejoice in the Lord.

And Lot is getting more and more set it seems that he's going more and more downhill. And so the Lord says, I'll have to throw a block in his way. And so you get an interesting story.

You get the story of, well, there was a battle of five kings against four. And when they came into the city, they took all of Lot and they took all of Eden and they ran away with it. And somebody came to his uncle Abraham and said, Abraham, did you hear the news? No.

Oh, there was an invasion and they took your nephew Lot. And they took his antiques and they took his cattle and they took a lot of other things. And Abraham said, you know, I've been praying about that.

Let him stew in his own juice, stew in the world of juice. You might have said that. But Abraham said, I'll take my hired servant.

And he went and he found the young man in captivity and he cut the rope off his neck and he brought him home. And as he was coming home, he met a mysterious, majestic, marvelous man by the name of Melchizedek. And it says immediately he saw him, that Abraham fell at his feet and worshipped him and offered him tithes.

But the young man didn't do that. He went back home and he said, I'll start all over again. And Abraham went up on the mountain there and he just stayed in his close walk, his close relationship with God.

But you see, in the story it says, as it was in the days of Lot, they bought, they sold, they planted, it was a materialistic age. And as it was in the days of Noah, and there are two outstanding features in the days of Noah, the whole earth was filled with violence and the whole earth was corrupt before God. And as the

pastor says, there's an attack on every home in the country, now every home in the world.

You'd hardly believe the reason why God blessed Abraham, do you know what he says? Read about the 14th chapter of Genesis. He says, I'll bless Abraham. Why? Because I'm going to make him the leader of a great nation.

No, no, no, he doesn't say that. He says, I'll bless Abraham because he knows how to take care of his children. Do you know how to take care of yours? I was preaching in the first, well, certain church out west, and as I finished the Sunday morning service, a man came up, a tall fellow, and I looked straight into his eyes.

He said, this has been a great service. Well, I knew that already, but he said, this has been a great meeting. I've enjoyed it.

My son John has enjoyed it. We had a wonderful meeting in that church. So much so, they had to take the division out of the side of the church and the Lord graciously filled it.

And after the second week, the man came again and he said, I want to tell you that this has been a great time. I said, thank you. What about your son John? I haven't seen him for the last two weeks.

Oh well, he's busy. He couldn't come. Number one, of course he's a straight A student.

Number two, he's in most sports programs at school. Number three, he helps in business. He's a gifted boy.

He can pilot the family plane and you should see him manipulate our boats. And he went on reciting so much about the boys. And he said, he's just a wonderful boy.

I said, I don't doubt that. But he hasn't been to church for over a week. No.

Didn't want to come. Well, I said, I suppose when a boy gets to be what, about six foot one and he looks as though he weighs about 200 and some pounds, but you can't make him go. And a boy gets to 18 or 19.

What do you mean 18 or 19? He's 14 years of age. 14? Yeah, he's a big muscular fellow and he's a talented boy. He's only 14.

And I said, why didn't you make him go? Make him come? You don't make a boy like that. I said, sir, your boy has the body of a man and still the brain and emotions of a child and you have a responsibility to him. Well, I don't want to make him do anything.

Well, I said, apparently he's a faultless kind of character. He has all the gifts and abilities. Yeah, he's going to inherit the business and do this, that and the other.

I said, very good. Very nice. But you still should have made him come.

You don't have any problems with it. No, no. No, he's a lovely boy.

Doesn't mess around with girls. He's too involved in sports, golf, all the rest of it. And you've no problem.

Well, yes, we do. We've one problem. I said, what is it? He said, you'd hardly believe it.

Can't get him out of bed in the morning. No, no, no, no. You go and hit him or take a cold water sponge and squeeze it and he'll growl.

He said, the other morning I actually had to take over the bed and tip him up. I said, you brutal father. What do you mean brutal father? You had to go to school.

You told me you didn't make him do anything. You should have gone in and said, what's his name? John, John, John, I'm going to work and mummy's going out and just before you go I want to take your order. What do you want for breakfast, dear? How many eggs? Sunny side up? Toast? Marmalade? This, that? Eleven o'clock.

What do you want? Pesti? Coke? Mountain Dew? Sprite? Okay. What do you want for lunch? He said, are you crazy? I said, no, are you? You don't make him do this, that and the other. But you make him get up and go to school because you're more concerned about his head than you are about his heart.

God says, I'll bless Abraham because he knows how to take care of his children. And how to take care of yours? Do you have a family altar in your home? Do you protect them day by day by your prayers? Are you an example of godliness, father and mother? After all, this is the, you know love, you let your children become rebels all week and expect the church to work a miracle in half an hour in Sunday school, Sunday morning and straighten them out. And it just doesn't work.

Jesus said, remember, love Christ. They were totally given up to materialism in that day. They were given up to idolatry.

You know, a pernicious thing has been creeping over us until now. We're just wondering where we're going. If you're not bewildered, I'll tell you what, the big shots up in Washington are.

The earth was filled with violence in the days of Noah and it was corrupt before God. And of course, we'll just forget all about Nixon and his brood, but we're still not out of the mess. Recently, there was a court case, I guess in West Virginia, about the children and their school books.

I got a report on that. It's from the Tulsa Tribune of February 11th of this year. It says, what in the name of heaven is happening in our beloved land? It can't be that such venom can be spewed out across our nation when we have more Bibles and churches in our country than any other country in the world.

But it is. It is a sure sign that we're rapidly running out of time. And then it quotes from Jenkins Lloyd.

I don't know if you know him at all. Jenkins Lloyd Jones is the brilliant editor of the Tulsa Tribune. He's one of the great smart men of this country.

And he says, when a group of parents in Montgomery County, Maryland circulated a handbill recently protesting books on the public school reading list that included Eldridge Cleavers, Solonite, and Waddle Pummery's Girls and Sex, the editor of the Montgomery Journal described the protest as garbage. Not the books as garbage, the protest as garbage. But when the protesters challenged the editor to carry his newspaper, the Vatim selections in his newspaper, the Vatim selections from the books, he pleaded it would be the height of irresponsibility to produce such material.

In fact, he goes on to say that the four-letter words in your children's textbooks are not legal in newspapers. The TV radio boys asked me, this of course is the other fellow, Max Rafferty of Charleston,

he's something. He was brought to testify in the Dirty Books scandal, and he says this, that when the TV and radio boys asked me what words I objected to, I couldn't reply.

Oh, it wasn't that there weren't a whole slew of old Anglo-Saxon four-letter lavatory wall graffiti expressions crawling through the kiddies' textbooks, like bow-wiggles in a cotton bale. It was just that none of the media would print them, because they're not allowed to do so because of decency codes. It's too shocking for you as adults to read, but it's put there constantly before the eyes of the children.

Webster, in the McGraw-Hill series, he complains, number one, they take the name of the Lord in vain, so often that I lost count. Number two, calls somebody the illegitimate son of a female god. Number three, provides a running dialogue during an episode of sexual intercourse.

Number four, repeatedly advises various characters to take up residence in Hades. Number five, uses degrading epithets. In the Scott Foreman series, number one, it uses human excrement as an oath.

Number two, uses sexual intercourse as an epithet. Number three, mocks Christ's death on the cross. Number four, dwells on human urination.

Number five, describes the best way to crack a safe. You see, there was a rage of sexual impurity. There is a revival in England tonight, do you know that? Do you know what it's a revival of? It's a revival of Spiritism.

Do you know that 85% of the people in the Bay Area know what sign they were born under, and about 75% of them live daily on their horoscopes? Pastor says there's an invasion of the home, there surely is. There's an invasion from hell right now. As I've told you before, there is one hope for America, it's not to put a new bloodline into the dollar.

The only hope for America are England, which is a modern Sodom and Gomorrah. There are no nations from the heaven, bless the world, like England and America. We've given the translation of the Bible to the world.

We've produced more missionaries between us than all the other nations of the world put together. We have written more books on the Bible, we have printed more Bibles. Isn't it awesome that people that print the living word of God, which is a lamp for our feet, they print it and don't read it.

They print our hymn books and don't sing them, they build our churches and don't attend them. And God says that when we reject Jesus Christ, he'll send us false gods. There are 2,000 gurus in America tonight, from India.

One of the little fat pig of a fellow, they say he's 16, another's claiming 32 years of age, and he's gone off a sex binge somewhere. Oh he got a couple of million bucks, he got a Rolls Royce from England, he got a \$45,000 Mercedes Benz from England, he owns three or four mansions, there's a man called Mr. Moon has come in the country, been here two years, got about two million dollars and a vast estate. And God says that when we reject the true Christ, he'll send us false Christs.

And we're following them in our mail, this very night in the nation. God says, I've been looking at this man, I don't like what he's doing. You see what this man did, he said, listen you don't come thumping my mind telling me what to do.

I made a mistake, I know that, but I'll tell you what, here goes. I'll gamble I'm the richest man, I'll be a millionaire before no time out here. So what did he do? It says he pitched this tent towards Sodom.

The next thing he went into Sodom. Bad enough, but Sodom entered into him. He married his daughters to Sodomites, in our language homosexuals.

Do you know there's a legal battle going on to establish homosexuality in the American army? Do you know that two girls that were shifted out of the army, I've got a record here of it, I won't read it. Two girls in the American army that were charged with lesbianism are going to push the thing right to the high court they say. This is a day of terrible breakdown in morality, and yet I tell you as God is my witness again, the greatest tragedy in the world is not Vietnam, it's not Bangladesh, it's not these other calamities, it's not the collapse of the dollar.

The most tragic thing in the world tonight is a sick church in a dying world. The church has no power. Statistically we may be touched, spiritually we may say.

Do you think the boys in Washington tomorrow will sit down and say we better watch our step because the church might come down heavy on us. Was it five, six weeks ago tonight Mrs Ford defended, she said well if my daughter does have an affair with a man, if she starts living, having a sex life before she's married, I hope he's a decent man. Well in God's name, did you ever hear of a decent man having sex relations with a girl before she was married? But a couple of weeks, a week last night was it Miss America defended the same situation.

These are leaders leading us right to hell. But you see as you get older you marvel at many things. I don't marvel, we put a man on the moon so what.

We were up to our knees in moral garbage watching him get there. Five or six weeks ago yesterday Mr Ford signed a thing over in Helsinki. Mr Brezhnev said, Leonardo Brezhnev, I've worked for 30 years to get this signature.

Mr Ford brought the house down because as he finished his speech he said, what we have promised here tonight is not too important. The world won't take any notice of our promises. It will only take notice of what we really do.

And I promise you that this new line that we've made, you see Russia, while you and I were sleeping, happened to steal 20 countries, that's all. At the end of the Vietnam war, communism got 50 million people and the lazy, sleepy, pale, pathetic, powerless prodigies of them, nobody had a night of prayer. There were the folk there without shirts and without clothes.

I watched some people come over the border from China into Hong Kong. Do you know a church in America that was heartbroken over the fact that 50 million people were sold into slavery? And did anybody that protested to Mr Ford, you promised the Russians we'd never try and get those captives back? Did you read Thornton Hinton's classic book? If you didn't read it, do yourself some good, forget Channel 5 and the comics or the Funnies Tomorrow, have a bit of intelligence before you die. Read Thornton Hinton's book, two and a half dollars, it'll make you sick, I hope, make me sick.

In the Gulag archipelago tonight, there are Christians who love Jesus more than I ever loved him, they worship, they adore him. And Russia has smashed their families and destroyed their churches and ruined their Bibles. And Mr Ford says, I want you to know, Mr Brezhnev, we'll never try and liberate anybody in

those hellish prisons.

It was all right for you to steal Latvia and Estonia and all those other countries. After all, you know, we just sat back and watched you rape, what countries did they rape? Hungary and those other countries. We were very sorry.

North England's equally as bad, and I say that when I'm there. See, I have an advantage over you, I wasn't born here. As I said the other day, some of you get mad because my English tongue, it sounds bad to hear somebody talk about America with an English tongue.

I told you about the blonde that came to me after the meeting, she was blazing mad, talking about my country like this. I'm a pure-blooded American. Oh, I said, what reservation are you from? I didn't see a feather in the back of her head, wagging like this as she was talking.

Come on you crossbreed. I'm about as American as you are anyhow, I pay all the taxes you pay, and I keep the speed limit. Most of you don't, I'm one up on you there.

But, oh, it's a bad day we're living in. There is no chance of Almighty God smiling on the earth again, unless the church repents. And people will say to you, remember the great last words of our blessed Lord, go ye into all the world, forget it.

The man that says that needs to go back to Bible school. The last word of Jesus to the church was repent. Over and over and over and over again in the book of Revelation, repent, you've left your love, you've lost your vision, you've lost your power, repent, get back to a place where it will come again.

As I imagine you doing that, let me remind you of the time when Napoleon put his finger, index finger, around the ragged edge of a great country and said to his generals, when he was trying to dominate the world in 1815, listen there lies a sleeping country, let it sleep because if that country ever wakes and harvests its manpower to its mineral power, it will shake the world. What country did he outline? China, that 20 years from now will have a thousand million people in it. And the great headache of America isn't Russia really, the great headache of America and Russia is China.

She's got the atom bomb, what's she going to do with it? A hundred million people. He says there lies a sleeping country, let it sleep if that giant ever wakes and stretches its muscles and begins to thrive. As soon as China does that, he said let the world take notice because she has dominated the world.

Be that as it may, I'll tell you this, the devil puts his finger on the church of Jesus Christ and says the church is asleep, let it sleep because if the church ever awakes to the power of the Holy Ghost and begins to thrive, she'll shake earth and hell. So let it sleep. Yeah, this man had godly example.

This man sees one of the greatest men in history kneel down and offer tithes and offerings to Melchizedek, a type of Jesus Christ. But he went about his business, he made his money and he became more and more important and God didn't like it. Do you know what God did when he was going to burn the city up? Do you know who Lot was? Lot was the mayor of the city.

Lot was the judge of the city because it says he's the gate. And when almighty God was going to send judgment to Sodom and Gomorrah, he did not send the letter down to the mayor of the city. He told the man up there who was praying in secret.

You talk about the coming of Jesus, almost every sign is given to us now. There are more millions in slavery tonight than, uh, who was it, Lincoln ever dreamed of. The greatest prison house in history, Russia is there and we can't break it.

Hell is let loose. Morality has reached an all-time low. Spirituality has reached an all-time low.

The dollar is sick. Everything's sick. Morality is sick.

It says one of the signs of the end of the age, they were married and given in marriage. In the Hebrew it says they were, they, they were married and continue to marry and remarry. People say isn't it awful? You know, divorces lead to broken homes.

You got it wrong, brother. You got the boot on the wrong foot. It's broken homes that lead to divorces.

Before there's a divorce, the house is already broken up. I remember when we were at Queen's Island and kids used to come along. Kids sat in pentecostal churches in the choir.

Kids whose daddies and mummies were, um, preachers and missionaries. And you'd hear the sad, sad story. The bad example in the home.

And David Wilson used to say we blame the kids. Listen, who do you think publishes Playboy? A bunch of schoolboys? Who do you think makes the lousy, dirty, rotten films that you can't show publicly? Who produces the whiskey? Tool Boy? Who produces all the girly magazines? Teenagers? Who runs Las Vegas? Teenagers? It's the adults that produce all the filth and sell it to the kids. Who produces the drugs? Children? No, they become the victims.

They become the pushers. They spend their time in jail. We don't even try to smash that rotten system.

We could if we tried. We don't. Somebody's getting a big rip-off from it, as they are with liquor and everything else.

God says I can't put up with this anymore. Abraham? Here I am. But I want to inform you what I'm going to do.

Again, let me step back a minute. Is it interesting that God never went to the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the Temple and told them that Jesus was coming? Who welcomed Jesus to earth the first time? Doctors of Divinity? Sadducees? Pharisees? Shepherds? Panics? Poor people? Do you think somebody will preach on the second coming in Westminster Abbey tonight? Still not. Their eyes are dark and heavy.

Dim. Well, I may have to hide from Sodom and the other rest what I'm going to do, but after all, Abraham is my friend, and I can't break the, uh, I can't, I can't break the laws of friendship, God says. You know, God's always a gentleman.

Abraham? Yes, Lord. I'm going to rain fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah. Do you know why Jesus said, remember Lot's wife? Do you know why? Why? Well, why? Because she was one of the most privileged people in history.

God interfered in her life, but she hardened her neck and she was cut off suddenly and without remedy. She was going to run her own life and not take much notice of anybody else. Can't you see this young

man, Lot, coming in one day and saying, Uncle Abraham, Uncle Abraham? I'm going to tell you something.

This person you told me, you've fallen in love. Oh yes, but I mean not an ordinary woman. In fact, I wonder if she's an angel.

I'm beginning to wonder. She is gorgeous. She is so talented.

Such a lovely personality. Have you noticed how often men in the Old Testament found a wife by the well where they were busy, active. He comes in and says, I've seen this beautiful girl.

Uncle Abram, I want to testify. Well, no man goes looking for a witch. He may get one, but he didn't look for one.

I mean, if he gets one, it's by accident. But Uncle Abram, you never saw anybody like this. She's just wonderful.

Listen, son, I'm going to tell you something. She belongs to heathen people. And what part of heathen believe us with an incident? Oh yes, love is a tremendous emotion.

It's an exciting thing. That pastor and I and other pastors happened to deal with folk that were cast on the side of the road after a little while. When the emotion dies off, when the thrill of sex life dies off and you face reality and discover you're married to somebody without any character, you are unequally yoked.

God tried to interfere. Take no notice. God stops him on the way and says, you'd better just take a little bit of notice here.

And he says, no, sir, I'm going to do what I want. All right, now let's go back. Abraham, Abraham.

As I said a few minutes ago, you know what this tells me? The total prayerlessness of the church. You know any churches where they have prayer meetings four, five, six, seven, eight hours? The little man at the other side of this lake, maybe he's dying now, he's a friend of mine, he's ninety years of age, he hasn't been to bed one night for thirty years. What do you think about that? In modern sophisticated America, while the jets go bzzz through the sky and everybody's fighting on the road, that little American, every night for thirty years has gone to his prayer chamber at ten o'clock and prayed till five or six in the morning.

He's worth more than Rockefeller and the DuPonts and all the rest of them put together. He's a multi, multi, multimillionaire in money? No, sir, he hasn't a decent shirt to his back. But oh, boy, oh, boy, oh, boy, I tell you when that man prays, hell shakes.

I tell you when that man gets down there and he kneels on that old rug and sheds his tears night after night, alone, for thirty years. Boy, that takes some stamina, that takes some willpower, that takes some stripping down for materialism. There's a man up on the mountain there, a funny old man by the name of Abraham.

He's a nice man, never tells you a lie, never tells you any rotten cattle. He's not like that sharpie, his nephew. And God says, Abraham.

And I can hear Lot saying to his wife, you know what, sweetheart, I was just thinking today, I was looking around, you know, we've built that new shopping centre there, and I was just thinking, you know, we

haven't seen unto Abraham, maybe for nine or ten months, beautiful day, would you like to go up? Yeah, yeah. I'd like to go see him, but I'd have to get trimmed up, you know, as ladies do, poor thing. They have to go to beauty parlours, we men don't have to go, it's a natural advantage.

But they have to go get repaired every weekend, and she decided to put a little bit of this on and that and something else, and she goes up the hill and says, listen, did you hear that? Sweetheart, you're getting nervous, what? I heard a voice, I, I, I'm sure it was Uncle Abraham. Sweetie, come on, maybe one of the cattle, it was Uncle Abraham and he was crying, crying. OK, sweetheart, let's sit down on the bank here and listen.

Come on, we'll, let's, wait a minute, we need a bit of fresh air, we need to rest. Suddenly the hair had come out. You see, this woman was often reproved that she hardened her neck and suddenly she was cut off and without remedy.

She not only had many privileges, she lived at the side of one of the greatest men in history, because Abraham came out of her of the Chaldees, therefore he was the first missionary the world ever had. And she was a member of the first missionary party, but she perished. You could live at the side of the godliest wife in the world and burn in hell for a thousand, million, billion years.

You may say, my God, he was a wonderful preacher of this, that, so what, so what wonderful thing for you, any more than your father sitting down eating a meal and you can starve while you watch him. I'm sure it was Uncle Abraham, OK, sweetie, let's sit down. And suddenly they heard a cry, they heard a prayer.

It was not a prayer, it was one of the greatest prayers that God ever heard. I'll utterly destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. And the man said, please, please, please, will you do something for me.

Peradventure they lacked, well, well, let me see, what if I find 50 in Sodom and 50 in Gomorrah, 25 in each great city. All right, you find, you find 50 writers, I won't destroy them, they're the salt of the earth. I'll spare other people for their sake.

Well, supposing they are here, I lack 10 of the 50, for the lack of 10 will you destroy them? No. Hmm, fine. And he goes down and down till finally he says, Lord, Lord, will you, will you listen just one, have you ever noticed, it wasn't God that walked away from Abraham, it was Abraham that quit praying.

Peradventure they lack 10. Supposing I can find 10 in this city, that meant 5 in Sodom and 5 in Gomorrah. Now if Abraham was a righteous man and his wife was righteous, that made 2, and their daughters, that made 4, and they were married to sons-in-law, that made 6. Almighty God is only asking for other 4 outside of their family.

And yet they couldn't muster up a corporal's guard of 5 in this city or 5 in that city. But I'll tell you what, if you can find them I withhold my judgment. How merciful God is.

Mrs. Lott made up her mind, come hell or high water she wasn't going to change her style of living and get it mixed up with some kind of religion like that old boy living up on the hill there. And so Almighty God says, you won't take notice of my servants, alright, and he sent an angel. The angel knocked on the door.

Lott opened the door. Come on, get out. As soon as you get over the boundary of the city, the first time you put your foot there and the second time you go you'll trigger judgment and pull the switch in eternity and the cities will burn.

Well please, let me go across the road and tell my sons-in-law, my daughters-in-law. You see when he started in Sodom and Gomorrah he was a homeless, wifeless, childless, penniless, positionless, possessionless man. And you know what? He climbed to the highest rung of the ladder and became maybe the richest man in the world but he ended up in a cave, wifeless, childless, almost penniless, homeless, useless.

Side 2 So near, so far, rags to riches, nothing for somebody. Please, hold your fire. Let me go across the road.

And he knocked at the door of his sons-in-law and said, Hi, man alive. Cattle were selling good. Did you know this gold was up to date? Read the Dow Jones.

And he said, Listen, forget everything. Get out of the city quickly. It's going to rain fire sometimes.

And you know what he said? They laughed him to scorn. I say in God's name lose anything. Lose your job, lose your family.

Pardon me, lose your job, lose your money. Lose your freedom if need be but don't lose control of your family. Don't let your children ever laugh in your face and say, My God, you weren't too worried about it until you felt the roof was coming in and the walls were going out.

Laughed him to scorn. And his wife said, You know what? I said, Oh, his daughters were married well off in society but they were both sodomites. Dirty, filthy rascals that they were.

And God in mercy plucked them, the wife, by the hand now. The angel said, Aren't you coming? No, no, not yet. And the angel got her by the wrist and smacked her by the hand and dragged her out of the city.

Isn't God merciful? Remember when you thought you were dying and on your deathbed you said, Lord, if I ever get well, I'll never miss church and I'll give more than I've ever given to missions and all the rest and you got better and you forgot everything you said to God. Remember the time some of you women were having a baby and the doctor said the odds were heavy against you and if you get one it might be this or you might not get through and you made a vow to God and you never kept it anyhow. Yes to thee, we sing my country to thee and it's a great country.

I wouldn't stay here. I don't stay here because I have to, I stay here because I want to. Stay here because I still believe there is more potential in this country.

If you could only get the thing cleaned up, if God will come. As I said in my book Revival, remember this, that Sodom had no preachers. Sodom had no Bible school.

Sodom had no broadcast. Sodom had nobody to pray for it. And even though they had no preachers and no prayer meetings and nobody sat and prayed and presented them to God, they perished.

And what you're thinking, God's name, God's going to do much longer for America. We have 5,500 broadcasting stations in this country I think and every day one of them broadcasts the gospel. We have more Bible schools in one state than the whole of Europe has.

We're the most privileged nation on earth, what are we doing with it? Our first obligation isn't even for the government, our first obligation is for God. Sure I'm jealous for America but first of all I'm more jealous for God. Get out of the kitchen.

Come on lox wife. And reluctantly she goes. Inwardly, outwardly she was following, inwardly she was quacking.

Well I don't think this angel is too smart anyhow. And at least if I don't go back, I'm going to look back. I'm going to look at the country club, I'm going to look at the place where I always had my hair done or where I bought my dresses.

And she's going out, the angel takes hold of her and it doesn't say she turned back, it says she looked back and in that moment judgment fell and she became a pillar of salt. And Jesus says to her, men listen, you're asking about my coming. As the lightning that comes out of the one part of the heavens shines, it takes lightning a fifth of a second to go through the world.

And Jesus is coming, it will be as quick as that. Sodom had no Bible. Sodom had no priesthood.

Sodom had no church. Sodom had no bread. Broadcast.

Sodom had no priesthood. Sodom perished. And again I remind you the man that started homeless, penniless, lifeless, childless, positionless, possessionless, went up and up and up and up and up and the more materialistic he got, the more proud he did vision of God.

And one day God said I'll pull the one from under you and he ended up in a cave, lifeless, childless as regards his sons-in-law, homeless, positionless, possessionless. You see I may disagree with you on this and after all it's nothing to do with salvation. The trouble is if you differ with anybody theologically they want to separate you off into a thing, into another little tent, corral them somewhere.

I don't believe Jesus is coming tonight. I don't believe Jesus may come before you get home. Forget it.

Why? Well there are three reasons why. Number one, the gospel must first be preached to all nations and it isn't. Number two, Jesus is coming for, let me see, it begins with D. What is it? That's right.

That is right. He's coming for a bride. He's not coming for a church that's toppling to its grave.

If he doesn't hurry up he'll be just here in time to pronounce the funeral service. He's coming for a bride. A bride is usually radiant and she's dressed in white and we need a reticle of whiteness which is purity, which is holiness.

The church is filthy right now. Carnality. Thoughts progress.

As in an area not long ago a fellow showed me a handbook. He says this is the logo of such and such church. What do you think of it? And there was a picture of an ice cream cone on the church bulletin.

And he said, next Sunday when you come to church if you bring one person you'll get one ice cream cone. If you bring two you get an ice cream cone with two, what do you call them on the top? Blobs. Two.

All right. And if you bring three members you'll get three, you know, to increase your gluttony. He said, what do you think to that? Giving ice cream away.

I said, that church isn't worth a lick. As I've said during this week, you know what, you'll never have to advertise a fire. I love this church.

I told the pastor last night to his wife, I've learned to love them this week and I mean that. If I love people I'll go a long way to do much for them. And I'll spend some time fasting, fasting and praying.

Sure, some people came a hundred miles this week. One man traveled from Cincinnati on the bus. He's a preacher, Pentecostal church I suppose, you know, they keep you poor while God keeps you humble.

And so he had to come by bus. I told the pastor today, I come a hundred miles every Sunday, one way to a church like this where God is to be honored, where the word of God is preached, where a man is jealous for the glory. I'd go.

I'd like to see people, you see, you can forget your TV program and all the other things as far as I'm concerned. You know what, if you spread the banquet here, spiritual banquet, people come a hundred. Do you know the greatest famine in the world tonight? We talk about famine in Bangladesh, ten million people may die in North Africa.

Horrible. The greatest famine tonight is the famine of the word of God. All right, let's just look for a few minutes here.

That's lost. What about Noah? Noah built an ark. That was a silly thing, wasn't it? It maybe was the first ship ever built.

There's no evidence any ship ever existed before that. And then he told the people that there were going to be holes in the sky and holes in the ground and the water above would meet the water below. What do you think they did? The last of him, what do you think? They never seen it rain.

It had never rained from creation. God watered the earth with a dew. I like that man Noah, but you know what, he's been building that moldy old ark for the last 60 years.

I used to go when I was a kid before I was married and I'd take my children to see and there he is, working away, praising the Lord, the rain is going to come. He's nuts. All he does is beat the hammer and sing, give me that old time religion, give me that.

And you know you can't shift him, I mean he's nuts. Well he needed the nuts, he's going to have monkeys in the ark. You know what, if you'd gone and heard that man sawing with that tinder, ripping that wood, you'd have heard the groaning of his spirit louder than the ripping of that.

If you'd watched him there beating the nails in, you'd have heard the beat of his heart, you'd have seen the tears dropping from his eyes. My God, my God, my God. These men are helping me build this fantastic ark, what was it, 750 feet long or something massive.

It was the Queen Mary of its day. And these men are going to watch from the outside and they're going to be left to perish. How hard do you get this ark built? When are you doing it? Really? You mean all those animals you've cut out, you're going to put in that? Is it air conditioned? No.

Won't it smell? No. No? Why not? The type of the millennium I think. The lion lay down with the lamb.

It was the type of the gospel. Why? There was only one door in the ark, there was only one door by which any man can enter and be fed. There was only one light in the roof of the ark, because there was only one light of the world.

And the people watched and they sang and the elephants came and tooted the toot, you know, all the rest of it. Boy, that was great. Well, bon voyage.

I just got a telegram from heaven. Gabriel just flipped down, bought me a note. And I was reading it and it said, Noah, you built the ark, you've been a very good boy.

You've done everything I've told you, got all that's in the ark. But there's one thing I can do, you can't do it. Do you remember the one thing he couldn't do? Shut the door.

God said, that's my prerogative, I'll shut it. And when I shut the door, no man can open it. When I open the door, no man can shut it.

And he went out and he said, friend, I just got news from heaven. We're not sailing tomorrow. Didn't I tell you that? Now you owe me, you know what you owe me? You made a bet.

You bet he would, wouldn't you? I bet he would, you bet he would, I bet he wouldn't. He's not going. And I got news for you, he never will.

How do you think he's going to get that thing, full of all those animals, off that hill, in the water? Couldn't do it. Oh, that would take some patience, I mean, they've laughed at him for the 120 years, but I guess the last 10 days were the hottest. Hey, old boy, when are you going? Need any nuts for the monkeys? Running out of bananas? What would you like? When are you going? Oh, 10 days.

Well, business is booming, we'll have to go, but we, we want to see you go. So they come the last day. Do you know what he did the last day? He lined his family up there, and he said, now, you know how to swivel your hips, don't you? You know how to wriggle this way, tap your hands? Because the world is doomed and damned, and we're going to sing to it something good is going to happen to you, happen to you, this very day, something good.

I've just got books, I don't have any records, really, but... Could you imagine Noah standing on the ark? I can imagine him saying, listen, something bad is going to happen, the door is open, you've about 3 hours to get in, get in! The man that thinks that's the biggest idiot in the world, something good is going to happen. Do you think if he stood on TV and said, America is going to be judged and damned in a few years, a few months, he'd get any support? The biggest lie. If it was a joke, it'd be the biggest joke, bigger than hope that anybody else ever said.

But Orville Roberts says it week after week. I remember when that man's ministry was prophetic, now it's pathetic. Something good is going to happen.

We tread God's laws down, that we'll all divorce people tomorrow night in America than there are at this moment. We'll use the name of Jesus a million times in blasphemy tomorrow. Read public dirty magazines, you can go down and see all the filth.

Isn't it amazing that China says she has completely obliterated prostitution? And the very same Monty said it, we legalized it in Nevada. They don't happen to have any God repressed on their coins, we do. All right.

The animals are in, no pathetic, the last chance. And suddenly the doors shut. Ooh, the doors shut.

Don't worry, maybe an elephant turning around didn't have enough room, he just hit it with his rump. You know, you don't believe there's going to be a flood, I mean, you're not as silly as that, nobody's fooling you,

are they? No, they're not. What is this? Look, hey, look at the waters.

No, no, no, open. Never happened. Before long they were climbing trees and grabbing their children and screaming, have mercy.

But you see, God had already said, my spirit shall not always thrive with man, and you only laugh at God so long, you only deny his laws so long, he only puts up with iniquity of individuals and nations so long. Then he cuts them off. No, went into the earth.

And the thing pitched and rolled, but it never sank. People say, I don't think the church will go through the tribulation. Well, ask him if he went through it, will you? People say, remember the man built his house on the sand and it went down, and the man on the rock, it stayed up, but he went through the tribulation, didn't he? Isn't it just true that being established on the rock, which is a type of Christ, come hell or high water, you can still survive? The wrath of God is going to be revealed against all ungovernedness.

You know, sometimes I think that the one thing that we don't learn from history, the very thing that we don't learn from history. I'm so old I remember the declaration of World War I. I remember it ended at eleven o'clock in the morning on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, eleven months from the signing of the armistice with Turkey and eleven months from Allenby entered into Jerusalem, which is a sequence of five elevenths. Do you think God was telling us in 1918 that the human race was entering the last hour? So that's what it did.

Eleven o'clock, God says. Do you notice the time they signed it? Eleven o'clock in the morning on the eleventh day, the eleventh month, eleven months from the signing of the armistice with Turkey, eleven months from Allenby entering into Jerusalem. He should have done it in triumph on the back of a horse.

He said you can't rise through a city like that, and he broke the laws of military etiquette. He took his hat off and he walked through the One sign is that knowledge should increase. And look what we're doing now.

Again, we've sent a piece of hardware up in the sky. It's going to arrive, we hope, the fourth of July next year. May miss it.

It's only going five hundred million miles, which isn't too far anyhow. Not as we got today, because today's internet. Knowledge should increase.

I told you this week they've already proved that there are sixteen million different perfumes in the world. I saw an experiment recently where you set a dial. You know you dial a prayer, you dial everything.

You dial a language. Did you see that? You speak English into it, you set the dial, you want your letter to become French or Spanish, you set the dial for Spanish or French, and your letter comes out. Suddenly the speech comes out, translated.

You talk English in, out of that loudspeaker comes the language of your choice. They've got a typewriter now. And you can speak to the typewriter and it types your letters for you.

Possibilities of science. Why, after all that God had ever made, he put man as the topstone of creation. And he made him a little lower than the angels.

And we've enough genius in us, if we'd spent all the money we'd spent in the war, since the Korean War and then the Vietnam War, and it's all right, we put World War II in. Do you know if we'd given all that

money to people in America you could all have a Rolls Royce and two acres of land and not have to do a thing all the days of your life. We put so much money in it.

What have we done with it all? Go back a minute. The man is in the ark. Why? Because he did as God told him.

He's safe. He's safe in the ark. Everybody else is destroyed.

Oh it's a great, great, great Sunday, great day we're living in. If you knew the time on God's clock tonight, if I could show you God's time on the clock of the ages, I'm going to tell you this, I believe you'd be terrified. All the laws have gone by the board.

Do you think God sits on his throne and does nothing about it? Do you think he's sleeping? Do you think he's indifferent? Or is it that the cup of iniquity gets up and up and up, and when it gets there God says, listen you've just about so far to go. Seven more days and that amazes me. You disagree if you like, but I believe America and England are living on those seven days of grace after World War II.

Spirit will not always thrive. Jesus is coming for what? Well he's coming for a bride. I've seen some brides in my day.

Fair ones and dark ones, fat ones and thin ones, rich ones and poor ones. I was part of a wedding a while ago, the daughter of the only child of a multi, multi millionaire, beautiful girl. Didn't stay at home, she wasn't dumb.

She's earned her degrees, studying Greek, studying a lot of things. And as she came down the aisle I looked and thought, my what a beautiful girl. I said to her, Daddy don't give me the bill for that wedding dress.

My it was something. She looked lovely. And as she came I thought, you know this girl's worth millions and she's an only child, sort of all her privileges.

And I began to think about other brides, and then I began to think about the bride, and Jesus. I don't think she'd be very rich. But you know what I noticed about all brides, whether they have a dress of Brussels lace, one of our princesses had a dress of Brussels lace, it looked gorgeous.

I wasn't at the wedding but I saw it in the newspaper. And another girl comes down the aisle with a wedding dress she bought at, in a sale, a penny. I've seen girls come down the aisle in wedding dresses they've made themselves.

They're not all the same size, brides, they're not all as wide as others, you know, some are wider and wider. And some are rich and some are poor. But I noticed one thing about every bride I've ever seen, they're always clean and beautiful.

Can you imagine the girl, you know, she's been living for this day, she never thought she'd catch him and she's got him, and she's going to the church to, you know, put a ring on his hand so she can keep him under her thumb all her life. And she goes down and she says, Mother, Mother, I'm so excited, I think I'll fall over this long dress. And you know, and Mother says, Sweetheart, no, no, listen, just before you go, take some coffee.

And I said, Mum, Mum, I don't have time. Well, sweetie, take it in the automobile and I'll be with you. All right, Mum, here's a hot dog, what do you want on it? You know, cinnamon, mustard, ketchup, a few other things, and give me a little, just one of those little, what do you call them, telephone cups with some coffee in.

I'll put it under the seat, you know, before I get to the stage. And she's going down the street and suddenly the car, oh, the car lurks and she looks and, oh boy, tomato juice, mustard, coffee. And he's standing there staring, I think, oh, she's coming.

Oh, she'll be gorgeous, she'll wear that favourite perfume, her hair will be gorgeous, she'll be so white and lovely and he looks at her and he goes, yes. You've got mustard all down your dress. Coffee.

Oh, wow. She says, well, you don't bother, I knew you wouldn't mind. I mean, you've never been so particular, have you? You wouldn't expect that, would you? And he tells her a true story.

You won't find any books of illustrations that preachers have. Because it happened in England in the war time, not far from where I live. There was a young fellow there who didn't have to go to war, so he understood.

He was courting a very fine girl, a Christian girl. But one day he was telling her to go to war. He told his girl at night, he said, you know, a dreadful thing happened.

I've got to go to war. In fact, I've only about thirty-six hours at home. She began to weep.

He says, now, sweetheart, I don't have to work tomorrow. Let's go down. You said you were going to buy your wedding dress and your shoes and all the other things.

Let me go down with you. So they went down to the store and got all the lovely things. And the last thing he did, he held her tight, gave her a kiss and said, you know, sweetheart, the next time I come home, we're going to get married.

He wrote to her every day for about three years, and suddenly the letters stopped. No letters, no letters, no letters. Two years there were no letters.

The fellow down the street kept saying to Mary, Mary, you know, his mother got a letter from the war office saying that he was missing in action and presumed dead. He's dead. He won't come back.

Why don't you let me marry you? I've got money. I will never have to go to war. And I really love you.

And, you know, sometimes she thought, yeah, I wouldn't have to get a bus in the morning and go across town and put up with a rough boss. I, I, uh, no, no, no. And she, she got upstairs and read his last letter, his love letter, you know, and she had a picture of him.

She put her arm around it, cradled the picture, and then read the letter. He came home from work one night. Her mother said, you don't look well.

She said, no, I should go to church. It's Wednesday night. I won't go.

And mother, I'm going upstairs and, um, I'll, uh, well, I won't be coming down till morning. I'll come down for breakfast. I don't want to answer any phone calls.

I don't want to see anybody. I, I had a rough day and I feel real bad. And I keep wondering if George is really alive.

Mother said, well, Mary, I can understand. I know the pressure and I know your emotions and I know all the other things. So, uh, okay, don't think.

Mary had been upstairs a couple of hours. There was a knock at the door. Mother opened the door.

There was a soldier in uniform. I'd, I'd been a prisoner of war for more than two years. Uh, Mary, is, is she, oh, oh, it's church night.

Is she at church? No. She, she, she didn't marry again? No. Is she in hospital? No.

Is she awake? No. Where is she? Um, well, she's upstairs. She's not feeling so good and she said she didn't want to see anybody till morning unless it was important.

He said, do you think it's important? Oh, yeah. When Mary got upstairs, she felt the bottom of the world had dropped out, you know, and she thought, well, I don't know. And then she said, you know what? He promised he'd come back.

In the last letter I have, he says, darling, I'll be home one day. You just be ready when I come and, and when, when, when I come, we'll get married, get a special license, get married. So, she got a wedding dress out, she put a wedding dress on, she sat by the vanity mirror there and she got a picture in one arm like this, looked at the picture of this very handsome man, and she read his letter.

She'd read the letter and kiss with him. Read the letter. She wasn't barking at him, but she felt happy, you know, and, and she kept doing this.

And then she, she held the picture up like this. And the mother said to the soldier, go upstairs and you can go in the room on the left. I've just been up.

The mother didn't say what she saw. Mother looked through the keyhole. In England our keyholes are so big you can almost walk through them, but, mother looked through the keyhole.

What, what's this? Mary all right. She didn't say a word. She said, just go upstairs and open the door gently.

It's a bit rusty, you know, sometimes it's, eh, so, so quiet. So he went up and he opened the door very cautiously and she was standing here by the mirror and looking at his picture. Oh, the man she loved so much.

And he opened the door. Oh, it's poor in all her bridal attire. And as he did, he pushed the door, the door ground, and she looked in the mirror.

She turned round, she said, hi John. Do you think she did? Do you think she just said, hi John? He said, oh. She said, oh.

And she made one leap and she was in his arms. He said, you know darling, I've read, sometimes I've struck a match and read your love letter with all your love in it. And she said, you know.

No, she said, I've read your letter so many times. And he said, sweetheart, I've read your letter so many times. And you know what gave me hope? No.

It said at the bottom, George, I don't care whether you come at night or morning, I want to tell you something. When you come I'll be ready. But he said, you know, I didn't think you'd be so ready.

All right, you believe he may come tonight. Are you really ready for his coming? Do you know what the book of the revelation says? The bride, do you know what it says? Hath made herself ready. Not that he's made the bride ready.

She has purified herself. She's quit flirting with the world. She's walking in holiness.

She's obedient, she loves him and if you love me you keep my commandments. You know that girl for about four years, every time she saw a soldier, she took a second look, it might be him coming. But when he did come, there she was pure, there she was excited.

And they ran together and prayed. The bride hath made herself ready. I think, I don't, I'm not as smart as your pastor, I get away with it, but I'm not as smart as him.

But I think the scripture says, just one prayer of the Holy Ghost in the Bible. Isn't that? What does it say? The spirit and the bride say come. Honest before God, would the most exciting thing in the world for you tonight, to be to know, if I could really tell you, that at seven minutes to twelve tonight, Jesus Christ is coming.

He'll leave you wall to wall, carpeting your home and everything, and you're going to be caught up. Because you know what? He is despised and rejected of men tonight. But He's coming and all the signs are flashing tonight.

We're very near to His appearance. And either that will make us feel, oh I don't want Him to come, or you'll say, oh I can't wait for it. I wish when I was asleep tonight that something was, I broke the door and suddenly I look in the sky.

He's brighter than a noonday sun. No, no, no, no. I still feel the church will go through tribulation.

The church is going through the tribulation in China and Russia. Why should we get about? We've been living like kings in the last few years. With the loveliest homes, our refrigerators are full.

We don't know anything about starvation and poverty and hunger and anguish. And they've been going through hell. Jesus says, remember the lost wife, she was warned and warned and warned, but she missed it.

Remember as it was in the days of Noah and they saw the signs and they laughed. And the day came when the door was shut. And I tell you whenever that rapture may take place, when God finally sends His judgment, I believe the church will go through the tribulation, but not through the wrath of God.

And when He pulls the strings, yes they swim nude on the beaches in this century. Don't worry, don't worry. The only thing that's holding America together tonight is not the government or the air force, it's the church of the living God as weak as it is.

But when God removes the church, you can have, there'll be no Sabbath observations. There'll be no church Sabbath. There'll be no laws of marriage.

There'll be all the impurity you want. Sexual freedom, any other freedom. Live like hell.

That's what it'll be. I'm glad tonight I've got my name on the register. I'm glad I'm looking for His appearance.

Okay, let's sing one chorale. Let's stand and really sing it, as though you mean it, as though you're happy about it. Marvellous message we bring, glorious carol we sing.

Marvellous message we bring, glorious carol we sing. One little word of the King, give us this coming again, coming again, coming again. Marvellous message we bring, glorious carol we sing.

One little word of the King, give us this coming again, coming again. Maybe morning, maybe noon, maybe evening and maybe soon, coming again, coming again. Oh, what a glorious message we bring, glorious carol we sing.

One little word of the King, give us this coming again, coming again. Forest and flower extreme, mountain and meadow the Come in again, come in again Maybe morning, maybe noon, maybe evening Good, come in again, come in again Oh, what a wonderful day Jesus is coming again Standing before Him at last Triumphs and troubles pass Crowned at His feet we will stand Jesus is coming again Come in again, maybe morning, maybe noon, maybe evening Come in again, come in again Oh, what a wonderful day Jesus is coming again Jesus is coming again Thank God for a few honest people Some of you cheated, that's all right We're going to sing the chorus again Even if you cheated, you're still a chance to meet God Those who are standing, if you'd like to do it, I want you to come to the altar and meet God Others of you should come, you lied tonight, not to me, but to God Sing the chorus, sing it joyfully Jesus is coming again, coming again If you want to come, come to the altar And straighten things out and get cleaned up and be ready for His appearing Coming again, coming again Maybe morning, maybe noon, maybe evening Come on, you come too, come on Again, come on Coming again Oh, what a wonderful day Jesus is coming again Let's do a bow, darling, please, one more time Anyone else who'd like to come? For our last night of the meeting Would you like to join me? Shall we just wait briefly? Praise God Would you stand, please? Those on the altar, pray as long as you like We'll be there to pray with you in just a moment I'd like to ask you for a favor as you leave This is a very sacred place, always While we're a friendly congregation, when we have people in the altar And we dismiss the service, we ask you please not to talk in the sanctuary at all There are lobby areas back there for you to speak in If you're a visitor, you can make your way through any part of the building that you like It's open to you But please don't speak in the sanctuary Father, I thank you for this sacred, sacred moment Thank you for those who've come And as they leave this place tonight, whenever that may be May it be with an absolute assurance That it is well It is well with their souls Thank you for honoring us with your presence tonight Amen But as if you would like to kneel and pray, the altars are open for you Good night, God bless

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/20/SID20538.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/leonard-ravenhill/the-2nd-coming-of-christ/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net