

Apostasy/healing/prosperity?

by Zac Poonen

Zac Poonen addresses the dangers of apostasy in the church, emphasizing the need for a return to the gospel of holiness over prosperity and the importance of self-honesty in spiritual growth.

Duration: 3:47

Scripture: Proverbs 28:13, Matthew 6:33, Mark 8:36, John 8:32, John 14:6, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 2 Timothy 4:3-4, James 4:4, 1 John 1:8

Topics: "Apostasy Warning", "False Prosperity"

Description

This sermon delves into 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, emphasizing the warning about the last days and the deception that will lead many Christians astray. It highlights the danger of prioritizing earthly prosperity over holiness and seeking physical healing above deliverance from sin, which is considered a falling away from the true faith. The speaker challenges the prevalent focus on material wealth and physical healing in modern Christianity, contrasting it with the teachings of Jesus and the apostles.

Transcript

Let me show you that verse, 2nd Thessalonians chapter 2. This is how we miss certain sections of scripture, and then if you're a leader, it gets missing in your church as well. 2nd Thessalonians chapter 2 we read. It says here about the last days, he's talking about the coming of Jesus Christ in the first verse, and the days immediately preceding it.

And it says in verse 3, don't be deceived, before that day two things are to happen before Jesus comes again. One is many Christians are going to fall away from the true faith. That doesn't mean they'll denounce Jesus Christ.

No, they will not seek a gospel of holiness, they'll seek a gospel of earthly prosperity. That is a falling away. It definitely is a falling away.

If you're more interested in holiness, if you're more interested in money than in holiness, if you're more interested in healing from physical sickness than you are from deliverance from sin, you've already fallen away. You may not realize it, but it is a falling away. And I see all around me, Christians have fallen away from the gospel that Jesus and the apostles preached.

Now, if you don't believe me, take some time to read the New Testament and read the gospels and read the epistles and see how much did the Jesus and the apostles teach people how they could become

materially rich. Show me one verse. You don't have to show me two or three, show me one.

And show me how many sermons they preached on physical healing. Shall I surprise you that Jesus never preached a single sermon on physical healing? People ask me, Brother Zach, why don't you preach on physical healing? I say, show me one sermon Jesus preached on physical healing. Then I'll do that.

Not even one. He healed thousands, but he never preached one sermon on healing. Today we have thousands of sermons and books on healing and very few people really healed.

It's a deception what's going on. Those who have the gift of healing will heal the sick, they won't preach sermons on it. Jesus did not, those who have the gift of miracles will do miracles, they won't preach sermons about it.

This is the deception going on today in the world. And multitudes of Christians sit there with their mouths open and they are thoroughly fooled by all this. I'm not fooled, I see through the whole thing.

It's deception. And I'll tell you something, if you want to know how I got light, personally, I haven't got light on everything, but how I got the little bit of light I have, which I have shared with you in these last 31 years, it is through one reason. Whenever God has shown me anything about myself, the corruption in my flesh, I've said, yes, Lord, it's true.

I have never, never tried to justify myself and say, no, no, no, no, no, it was not because of that. Sometimes God has shown me that thing about myself in my relationship with other people. Sometimes I've seen selfishness in myself, in my relationship with my wife.

And the Lord says, that was very selfish the way you did that or didn't do that. And I say, yes, Lord, absolutely right. Sometimes it's been in relation with my fellow elders and other brothers.

I get light on myself and I say, Lord, that's right. I got some light in that situation. I, God is my witness that for 30 years, I have loved the truth about myself.

And God has protected me from a lot of deception. He's given me light on the areas where people are being deceived left, right and center in Christendom today. You can get that light too.

God is not partial. He does not love me more than he loves you. He'll give you the same light if you love the truth about yourself when God shows it to you.

And don't try to justify yourself.

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