

George Duhaime - Spoiler Alert

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Spoiler alert. I'm not sure when I selected the topic, how many had ever heard that expression, spoiler alert. It's something which is actually quite commonly used today, mainly because there are so many works of fiction that are presented in serial form and there are so many people making reviews and commentary on these bits of fiction that when they do so and they analyze their assessment of the success of the various chapters of fiction, they will usually, out of a desire to not upset the reader, issue what's called a spoiler alert, and a spoiler alert is letting people know that if you listen to what I had to say about chapter one or episode one and you haven't read it yet, it's going to reveal some secrets, some details about this item of fiction that you may not want to know and you may want to be surprised. Different people have a different approach to, to matters of, of fiction and mystery.

Some want to go to the end of the book and determine how it ends, and that doesn't detract at all from their experience of the, of the movie or the book. Others, if they have someone in a crowd that happens to reveal some detail about the story, it ruins it for them. So spoiler alerts have been become part of our national dialogue now so that people who don't want to be, who do want to be surprised upon hearing that there's a spoiler alert will be careful to not listen to any details that one might have have revealed. I know that there are some in the Chicago class who work in the library sciences.

There was an account of a, a librarian who, upon receiving a book back that was one of these whodunit murder mysteries, saw that someone had underlined the name of the murderer from the very beginning of the book all the way through, and as you can imagine, that would have ruined the, the experience for those who wanted to perhaps use their ability to make an assessment of the various clues within the framework of the book to make their assessment as to who the murderer was, and in the case of other circumstances, sometimes spoilers have been, here's another word, weaponized spoilers have been used, and of late, I'm not certain how many are aware of the issues surrounding the author, J.K. Rowling, who wrote the Harry Potter series.

But she has fallen on the wrong side of some cultural issues, and the people on the other side of these cultural issues, in an effort to undermine the effectiveness of her stories, are releasing spoilers about some new work of fiction associated with her writings which have been weaponized in order to take away from her work. So a spoiler is usually offered in an A spoiler alert is usually offered in an effort to enhance the experience of the viewer or the reader when watching or reading a piece of fiction. When they want you to be surprised by a plot twist. Spoiler alerts aren't so much of a matter in nonfiction.

In nonfiction, we want to know as much as we can, and in the spiritual sense, some scriptural statements do reveal a dimension of understanding not commonly seen by the casual reader, and we thought that this morning we would take a look at some of these circumstances in which the hidden dimension, if you will, the added dimension available to those who study the Word of God would be a spoiler alert, and it would enlighten us regarding an additional set of facts and a greater level of understanding that might come that would not come to someone who is just a casual observer. So we would like to take for an example a well known, at least scripture to Bible students would be First Timothy 2, 4 and 6.

That's First Timothy, chapter 2, verses 4 through 6 says, who will have all men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the truth? For there is one God and one Mediator between God and

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men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time. Now, in this verse, the spoiler would be that last phrase to be testified in due time. The casual reader, if they did not focus on that last bit, would not have the dimension of understanding that we have as Bible students relative to the elements of God's plan, and so therefore it would be a spoiler.

It would say that, you know, unlike the general public or the general reading public who are looking at scriptures and talking about the ransom, there's an element to the application of the ransom merit which is not meant to occur all at once, but that it's meant to occur in due time. There are some cases in Scripture wherein even the participants in the scriptural setting are unaware of the spoiler until it's revealed to them. An example of that would be in the case of Elijah, would be the case of Elijah in First Kings 19:13 through 18. That's First Kings chapter 19, verses 13 through 18, and it was so when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entering of the cave.

And behold, there came a voice unto him and said, what does thou here, Elijah? And he said, I've been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts, because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with a sword, and I, even I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away, and then the Lord responded to him, and he said, go return thy way to the wilderness of Damascus, and when thou comest anoint Hazeiel to be king over Syria, and Jehu the son of Nimshi, shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel.

And Elisha the son of Shaphat, of Abelma, of Abemela shall thou anoint to be prophet in thy room, and it shall come to pass that him that escapeth the sword of Hazel shall Jehu slay, and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elijah slay. Yet I have left thee 7,000 in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto baal, and every mouth which has not missed him. So there's a spoiler for Elijah.

Elijah, upon entering into this discussion or this dialogue with the Lord, said that I'm the only one left, and yet he was not, and our Lord made it clear to him that he was missing an important dimension of his understanding of his circumstances, and that would have been a spoiler that would have changed his perspective. If time permits, we'd like to examine this last set of Scriptures more closely for their contemporary lessons in connection with our experiences at this end of the age.

Those who grew up listening to Paul Harding on the radio remember the expression the rest of the story, and as students of Scripture, we want to understand the full and complete lesson that the Lord had intended for us in His Word.

Another example of a scriptural spoiler is seen in cases wherein the casual reader glosses over or doesn't notice an important element of the scriptural lesson, and we'd like to examine one of these cases first, this morning, and that case is found In Ephesians, chapter 6, verses 10 through 18, and again, brethren, I apologize for the roughness of my voice. That's Ephesians, chapter 6, verses 10 through 18.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand, stand.

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Therefore, having your loins gird about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked, and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints brethren. When we think of the Scriptures in Ephesians, chapter six, dealing with the armor of God, it's often viewed as, and studied as an element of Scripture as a theme for instruction in personal growth and development. We in our young people's camps and seminars and studies often relate to the armor of God, and because it presents an opportunity for us to lay hands on some tactile elements of the world in connection with the various elements of this of the armor, and more often than not, it's used as an instruction of personal growth.

But upon closer reading, we can see that there's an important spoiler contained within these verses which expands our scriptural understanding beyond the lesson that is most commonly the application of these verses. The key to understanding this element of Paul's teaching is found in verses 11 and 12. Put on the whole armor of God yet, that you may be able to withstand the wiles of the adversary of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against, excuse me, principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places. The apostle Paul is making it quite clear that our primary enemy in connection with this battle, this battle for which we need to be fully equipped with the armor of God, is not a battle against other people, is not a battle against self.

It's not a battle against the entrenched evil within our hearts, in our our flesh. It's not a battle against those other human beings that would oppose us, that our battle is taking place on a much higher level, and that our primary enemy, in connection with this battle, our primary opponent, are strong, powerful spiritual entities that are at play within the earth.

The apostle Paul, in writing these lines to the Ephesus Ecclesia, had clearly before his mind his experiences as recorded in Acts 16, verses 16 through 24.

That's Acts 16, 16 through 24.

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying. The same followed Paul and us and cried, saying, these men are servants of the most high God. Which show unto us the way of salvation, and this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the Spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.

And he came out of her the same hour, and when her masses saw that the hopes of their financial gain was gone, they caught Paul and Silas and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers and brought them to the magistrates, saying, these men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city and teach customs which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans, and the multitude rose up together against them, and the magistrates rent off their clothes and commanded, excuse me, to beat them. Pardon me, brother.

When they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely, who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks. So the Apostle Paul related to us in Ephesians 6 the experience that he had when he was striving to. To promote the word of God. When he was promoting the word of God and preaching, he was being opposed, and he was being opposed by the spirit beings that had

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taken over this damsel who was used for soothsaying and for making financial gain for the people who were her managers, if you will, and the Apostle Paul recognized that even though the managers and the Romans and those about him who opposed his message were in opposition to him, the real focal point of this opposition to the message was as a result of the work of the spiritual powers that existed.

And so in giving us this message of the whole armor of God, he made it his point to let us know that we needed this armor of God in order to withstand the wiles of the adversary, and that our battle was not so much with the human entities that we face on a daily basis, but that they were. That these human entities that oppose us are. Are being orchestrated and they're focusing their energies upon us by. Through the spiritual realm of evil that has come to control this current evil world.

And as we get towards the. The end of this age, the. The efforts that are going to be put forth by these spiritual entities, the power that they will exert, and their opposition to the Lord's people, we can expect will become greater and greater. So what are these principalities? What are these powers and the rulers of the darkness of this world?

And what is the spiritual wickedness in high places? Well, we know from our studies of the divine plan of the ages that each of the three major dispensations or worlds have associated with them a heavens and an earth. Second Peter, chapter 2, verses 4 through 5. For if God spared not the angels that sin, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved unto judgment, and spared not the old world, but saved Noah, the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly, and it came to pass In Genesis, chapter 1, verses 1 through 13, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were fair, and they took to them wives of all which they chose.

And the Lord said, my spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh, yet his day shall be 120 years. There were giants or Nephilim in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bear children unto them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown, and God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of this heart was only evil continuously. So, brethren, we know that prior to the flood that there was a certain degree of control that was given over to the angels which kept not their first estate in connection with their workings within the heavenly realms. We know that from our examination of Genesis 6 that these angels, which kept not their first estate, looked upon the human creation, and they were positively impressed by what they saw with regards to the human creation.

The angels had not the ability to procreate as did the human family, and they, looking upon the the effects of sin and degradation upon the human family, thought that perhaps, to the best of our knowledge, we don't know exactly what they thought, but some of them thought that perhaps they might be able to bring about a rejuvenation of the human race, and so they materialized and they they bore offspring with the daughters of men, and these offspring are known as Nephilim, and these were mighty men, men of renown during the period of time from the expulsion from the garden up until the flood, and in fact there are elements of archaeology and mythology and history which speak to these times when these mighty men of old, who were the offspring of the gods and the human family, roamed about the earth and did their various their various things.

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And these things continued up until the flood. But this was not something that the Lord had intended should be the case. This was an aberrant effort on the part of these fallen angels to bring about more control within the framework of the heavens of that first world, and the Lord looked upon the circumstances that that existed just prior to the flood, and he saw that Noah and his family were the only ones that were clear and free from this influence.

And he brought about the flood, which destroyed all in whose nostrils was the breath of life, with the exception of Noah and his children and the animals taken upon the ark, and because the Nephilim were a hybrid race, because they had not just the.

The genetic makeup of their fathers, the angels, but also the genetic makeup of their mothers, the damn. The. The women of the earth, they were required to be there, and so they were destroyed within the flood, and the.

The angels that kept not their first estate, as we read, they were held in chains of darkness until the judgment of the great day. So during the period of time from the flood up until the judgment of the great day, which would begin at our Lord's return, we have a circumstance in which these fallen angels are restricted from materializing, and it's during this time that the adversary has taken on his greatest degree of power and influence within the world, and the scriptures are replete with references to the manner in which the adversary has been affecting the. The history of the world.

We know that there have, in periods of time in the past, their scriptures refer to the. The Prince of Persia. We know that the adversary is the God of this world. We know that when our Lord Jesus went into the wilderness to fast for 40 days, that the adversary offered to him all the kingdoms of the world, and our Lord did not argue that that was something within the purview of the adversary to give to him.

So there was a general recognition that the adversary had control over the kingdoms of the world, and that the adversary, by exercising his power along with those fallen ones who joined with him, have been able to bring about a circumstance wherein they control the world. It doesn't take much, brethren, for us to look around us and to see the extent to which mankind is held captive by the adversary's influence within the world. Excuse me again, brother.

We need only to look at the extent to which the. The common culture within our society is degraded by the influence of the. Of the adversary as he plays upon the. The unholy desires of fallen man, and we can see that the.

That the effects of these powers and principalities and the rulers in high places are in control, and it's these that are after the true church. It's these that present, if you will, the most subtle and the most powerful of our opponents. Granted, the elements of the armor of God are very important for us to take unto ourselves, and yet we take these onto ourselves in order to withstand the wiles of the adversary so that we can stand in this evil day.

In Jude 6, we say, we read that the angels, which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, they reserved an everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of this great day, and thus throughout the gospel age, we can see that the. That the angels have had to utilize surreptitious means to communicate. They have not been able to. To materialize the same way that they were able to materialize prior to the flood.

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And so they communicate with men through seances and in dark places and with candles and what have you, and yet we would expect, excuse me. That now that we have entered into the period of time of the judgment of the great day, that their efforts to be more potent in terms of their abilities to communicate might become much more deceptive to the world at large, and we're warned in Scripture that their deceiving efforts might in fact come about to perhaps even deceive the most elect, and we in the past 20 years have seen such a rise in terms of technology and video editing and what have you available that there it would not be any surprise to us that the efforts put forth by these fallen angels, we would be much more of a challenge to the.

To the brethren and to the holy ones than they were in these seances. That their influence would be much more widespread, that their control of the dominant culture within society would be much more of a perverting influence within the world, and that's something that we do in fact, see.

The nations are now subject to the spiritual powers and the rulers of this dark world.

Brethren, it doesn't take too much effort upon reviewing elements of current events to see that much of the world is just in a tizzy regarding understanding what's going on. The stability that existed for centuries is disintegrating before our eyes, and the. The wars and rumors of wars, the difficulties and troubles which are coming upon the earth are causing men's hearts to fail them. Because these.

The foundation upon which they had previously functioned are falling apart from them. The economic world, the social world, the educational world, all of those elements of the world which had previously, although under the control of Satan and being far from righteous, are falling apart around the people of the world, and we can see that the adversary and these fallen angels are very much in control of what's going on, and we know also from our Scriptural studies that the adversary has had the world in his hand throughout the entire time of evil. The adversary is not primarily interested in obtaining an access to control the world, but he's focused on the seed of Abraham.

And so it should not surprise us that as we proceed further and further into this. This darkness, that the energies put forth by the adversary and by these fallen angels through the instrumentalities that they have in the governments and financial powers of the world will be focused more and more upon the true church and upon the nation of Israel. These wicked spirits have been plotting against the divine plan and trying to. To thwart it throughout the age, and brethren, we're no match intellectually for these spirits.

We need the help and protection that we get from God's word. These spirits have lived for thousands of years. They know human nature inside and out. They know how to effectuate diversions from our faithfulness more effectively than we can ever oppose, and yet we're given the promise that by taking unto ourselves this whole armor of God that we might be able to withstand the wiles of the adversary.

You know, who is sufficient for such an unequal contest with the principal. With the Prince of Darkness in all the hosts of sin. Confidence in ourselves would be unwise in these circumstances. But we need to place our confidence in God and stay close to his word so that we have the ability to stand fast in these evil days. If we entertain the thought and the expectation that perhaps we would be able to stand against the adversary, then brethren, that is the first step in our falling away from the strength and power given to us by the Lord.

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We cannot stand against the adversary on our own. But only by joining together with the brethren and by staying firm and close to his word, are we able to understand the wiles of the adversary and to withstand his influences in this evil day.

So we can see then that governments and religions, business, media, politics, entertain the entertainment industry, the self interest and selfishness, the inequality and pride, the envying, the self righteousness, the anger, the pain, the lessening of the value of human life. These are all coming in crescendo at the end of the age, and they're coming to a crescendo because they are the. The. The.

Because the efforts of these fallen spiritual creatures to undermine this. This is a world and to attack the true church is coming forward, and we know, brethren, that the. At the end of the age the. The three world are presenting to us a circumstance wherein the rulership of the heavens will be transferred from the adversary to our Lord and his Holy saints.

And the adversary knows that when this transfer of power occurs that he will have a. He will see an end to his rulership in this world, and that as this circumstance comes closer and closer, he will put forward stronger and stronger delusions to be brought to bear against the Lord's people, and so, brethren, keeping in mind then the spoiler alert that the works of the adversary, that the works of the fallen angels are those things for which we are to be prepared by the armor of God, we need to keep in mind daily that. That our opposition is set in the heavens, and that our opposition, the focal point of those who are seeking to undo our faith and to divert us from the service of the Lord is.

Are being coordinated, they're being exercised, and they're being put forth by strong, powerful, fabulously experienced and intelligent spiritual beings, and that the armor of God is there for us to resist the wiles of the adversary.

You probably heard the expression that they're not after me, they're after you. I'm just in the way where. Well, that's the case in connection with the. With the adversary, is that he's after the spiritual seed of Abraham. Let's take a look for a moment at Genesis, chapter three, verses 14 and 15.

That's Genesis three, chapter three, verses 14 and 15.

And the Lord said unto the serpent, because thou has done this, thou art cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field. Upon thy belly shalt thou go, and thus shalt thou eat all the days of thy life, and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed. It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel, and then Genesis 22, verses 15 through 18.

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of the heavens the second time and said, by myself have I sworn, saith the Lord. For because thou has done this thing and has not withheld thy son, thou thine only son, that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is upon the seashore, and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Brethren, it's not difficult for us as students of Scripture to recognize that the plan of God lays out in tremendous detail the purpose of the ages, intervening between the creation of men and the establishment of God's kingdom. It's for the development of the seed of Abraham and the seed of Abraham would be of two parts. The spiritual seed, which would be those who have, during the gospel age, become part of the body of Christ, and the earthly seed, the promise that had been

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given to Abraham of having a nation come from his loins, and we know from Scripture that there would be a time in which the spiritual seed of Abraham would bruise the serpent's head, that the church would be instrumental in bringing about the destruction of the adversary.

And yet we're told also that the serpent would bruise the heel of the seed, and along the lines of what we had previously seen with regards to the opposition coming to the true church, that we can anticipate that as the adversary comes closer and closer to seeing his powers and his abilities and his freedoms restricted, that he would rage more, more vehemently against both the spiritual seed and the fleshly seed, and we've seen this in history in connection with the opposition certainly, that the adversary has brought against the nation of Israel. We've seen various times in history in which the adversary has striven to utilize his control of the earthly powers to destroy the nation of Israel, and we've seen throughout history the efforts put forth, particularly during the gospel age, of the adversary's use of his power through the apostate church, to bring about the destruction of the spiritual seed of Israel.

And we can anticipate that as we get closer and closer to the end, that the efforts will be focused more and more, more and more sharply upon both the nation of Israel and the faithful earthly seed of Abraham, and upon the church and the faithful spiritual seed of Israel. Foreign we'd like to look now at Matthew 10, 24 and 25. That's Matthew, chapter 10, verses 24 and 25.

The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his Lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master and the servant as his Lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call him of their household?

Well, brethren, if we look at the degree to which opposition was brought against our Lord Jesus, we also have these verses in Matthew that our Lord forewarns us that the time would come wherein those who are affiliated with our Lord Jesus would be viewed in the same light or even worse than they would be viewed than those who had viewed our Lord Jesus. If they'd call the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall we be spoken against? How much more shall we be blasphemed against that our stand is viewed as being in opposition to the standards that the adversary would like to see placed across the entire world, and so there's another spoiler alert that if we are anticipating that we would be able to just gently go into the next age on beds of ease, it's not likely to occur. But that we have our Lord's words, that the opposition that we are going to be expected to see would become greater and greater as we come towards the end of the.

Of this age, and that as there were blasphemies brought against our Lord Jesus, we can expect that there would be similar or even more severe blasphemies brought against his church because we do not have the same degree of natural nobility, and that as they call the ken star lore, they had nothing to claim against him except the words of truth that he spake. We have not just the words of truth that we're speaking, but we also have our natural weaknesses, and so we can expect that the.

That the opposition that will come to play against us would be even greater in some respects than our Lord, and in certain respects, because it's more deserved because of our own spirit, our own human weaknesses, that we would come under the opposition of the adversary.

We'd like to look back, look now at Revelation, chapter seven, verses one through four. That's Revelation, chapter seven, verses one through four.

And after these things, I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree, and I

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saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God, and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was given to hurt the earth and see, saying, hurt not the earth, neither the sea nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of God in their foreheads, and I heard the number of them which were sealed, and they were sealed in 140 and 4000 of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Brethren, from our study of. Of prophecy, we realize that there are elements within the world today that are. That are gearing up, if you will, for the final culmination of this battle that will result in a dissolution of the kingdoms of this world, and yet we're told that. That there's an effort being put forth to hold back on the final culmination of this diff of these, this disruption of the.

The current, the present evil world, until the saints are sealed in their forehead, and these are referred to as the four winds, and the four angels standing on the four corners of the earth. Now there are. For those of us who are living within the framework of the, the current culture, sometimes we overlook the fact that there are other portions of the world, and Brother Tom alluded to these in speaking of the harvest going on in Africa and India, that we're living in a culture which. It's so topsy turvy right now that the, that the holding back of this particular element of the four winds, it's.

We see a rapid degeneration of, of our social structure. There are also, though, other elements within the world, in other portions of the world which are experiencing their, their own experience with the, the dissolution of their culture. We look at the world that, that exists within the framework of the Eastern European bloc and the Soviet Union. We look at Africa and India, we look at South America, we look at Asia, and some of these, these elements. We don't have a general understanding of what's going on.

All we can do is to see what we are able to draw from the dynamics culturally and politically and spiritually as they come to us through the media that is presented to us in the West. There are philosophers and political scientists, I don't know if any of you have ever heard of Alexander Dugan, who is spoken of as the Putin whisperer, who is speaking about a major cultural development within the Soviet Union, and those who have listened recently to the, to the, the yearly address of Vladimir Putin in which he's speaking about the role of the Orthodox Church within the framework of the Russian Empire, about the extent to which he sees himself and Russia as standing in opposition to the disillusion and the degradation coming to Western society in connection with some of the cultural issues that are facing the world. So there are things going on within this world that are greater than those which we are exposed to within the framework of the Western experience, and these four winds, however they're defined, are being kept at bay until the time has come that all the saints have been sealed in their forehead, and then we can expect that there will be the leasing of these four winds and the culmination of our, of our time.

We'd like to go back and take a look now at the Scriptures that we looked at briefly before in connection with Elijah, and that's from First Kings, chapter 19, verses 13 through 18. That's First Kings, chapter 19, verses 13 through 18.

And it was so when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entering of the cave. Behold, there came a voice unto him and said, what Dost thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts, because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with a sword, and I, even I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away, and Lord said unto him, go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus.

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And when thou comest anoint Hazel to be king over Syria, and Jehu the son of Nimshi, shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shafat of Abema, shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room, and that shall come to pass that him that escapeth the sword of Hazel and shall Jehu slay, and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet have yet I have left me 7,000 in Israel, all the knees of which have not bowed unto BAAL in every mouth which has not.

Well, brethren, we can see from this verse that Elijah, who's a picture of the church, had in his mind that he was the only one who was faithful to the Lord. He saw himself as being alone. He saw himself as having stood up for the Lord and now sequestered away from all of his enemies, that there was no one standing there with him, and he had done what the Lord asked him to do, and that that was the end of his work. But we can see from our Lord's response to him that Elijah was mistaken, that the that the work that was given to him to do was significant at the end of the age, that he was going to play a significant role in connection with some of the final elements of the closing out of those nations, and just so sometimes we think that as Bible students, we've come to the end of the series of, of tasks that are set before us and we're alone, we have no one on our side.

And the Lord made it clear to Elijah that such was not the case. The Lord made it clear to Elijah that. That there was work for him to do, and not only was there work for him to do, but that there were associated with him 7,000 others who had not bowed the knee to Baal. Here Elisha was under the mistaken perspective that he was the only one left, and yet we can see that from the Lord's perspective who knew the hearts of all of his servants, that there were many others, 7,000 who would not bow the knee to Baal, who had not worshiped at the altar of Baal, who had not chosen to sacrifice their children at the altar of prosperity, but that they were there prepared to serve as joint servants with Elijah in connection with the ending of these events.

And so too we find that at the end of the age, occasionally we come across. In fact, quite frequently we come across those who express attitudes that are quite in alignment with our expectations of the future, that even though we sometimes view ourselves as being left alone without. Without much to do but to wait and watch things dissolve, upon a closer examination, we see that there are those who are in alignment with our viewpoint on where things need to be in connection with the transition from this current evil world into the next world, and our Lord chose and strove to set Elijah's mind at ease that there were those who were still in alignment with our Lord's way of looking at the progression of historical events and with the duties that they had to be faithful to Him. Sometimes we look at things as, you know, in connection with, with our, our spiritual efforts that we wonder how much more can be done.

Are we just trying to fill seats on. On a train that. That's not really going anywhere? But the Lord has indicated that there is much to be done and that these, and that these elements of.

Of society are going to join in and take part in connection with the opposition to the powers of baal.

I see, brother, that we're running out of time. Now just. We do have a few more quickly. I'd just like to take a look at Luke 8:17 and Matthew 10:26. Luke 8, 16, 18.

No man, when he has lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or put it, putteth it under a bed, but seeth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see it. For nothing is secret that shall not be made manifest, neither anything hid that shall not be made known, and come abroad. Take me, therefore, how ye here. For whosoever hath to him shall be given, and whosoever hath not from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

George Duhaime - Spoiler Alert

So, brother, there are so many elements of, of. Of our current world that we're in total blindness to. There are elements. There are things that pop up repeatedly on a daily basis that we wonder, well, what's the truth in this circumstance? There's such a polarization and there's, there's such a paucity of reliable sources of information on, on elements of cultural historical events, things that are taking place or who's the villain?

Who are the heroes that, that we can be left with our minds spinning, and yet we have this Scripture that tells us that there is nothing hidden that will not be made known. That all these questions that we have regarding regarding which news to look at, which news is more accurate than the other news, which poll of this, this polarized perspective on, on the world is the Lord will bless or the one that will fall apart in connection with the dissolution of this world, and we have the promise of our lord in verse 17 of chapter 8 of Luke that there's nothing hid that will not be made known, and so rather than getting drawn into argumentation on which is accurate and which is inaccurate, we have the ability to sit back and wait and the Lord will let us know what is accurate.

And so brethren, we don't have time to go through the rest of these spoiler alerts, but there are contained within Scripture, as we can see, some additional dimensions to our expectations where a closer reading of these verses indicate that there's a lot at play that is well beyond just what would be gained by a cursory examination of the outward Scriptures that even something as clear as the armor of God carries with it. As the Apostle Paul points out, dispensational elements that point to greater powers than we maybe are aware of. When we awake in the morning and look at those things around us, certainly we look at the role of the flesh in drawing us away from the Lord, and yet the Apostle Paul and these other Scriptures would have us be aware that there is a spoiler, that there are some bigger elements at play, and we would trust that the Lord would would bless these thoughts and help us to recognize and focus on these.

And may the Lord add his blessing.