



Revelation

Part 2 – A Study of the End Times

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You guys ready for summer to be done and get the kids back to school. All the moms said amen. Speaking of coming back, Jesus is coming back. That's actually the series we're in. We're in a series called *Revelation*. That's singular, not plural. It was a singular revelation given to the apostle John. John was one of the only apostles that we know of that wasn't martyred, instead, he was summoned to the Island of Patmos where God gave him this revelation. The Greek word for revelation is apocalypses, where we get the word Apocalypse. So, we are going to dive in today. Ted looked at the rapture last week and we are going to dive into the tribulation today. I only have Revelation 4 – 18 to cover so no problems there. In all honesty, I'm just going to try to give you a 30,000 ft view. My hope is if you've ever been intimidated by this book as I have, or you think it's way too much, I'm really just trying to give you a macro view of what we're looking at when we look at the tribulation. It's obvious that there are a lot of debates with eschatology, which is just a fancy word for the study of end times.

I'm going to try to make this so easy that if you just walked into woodland hills for the first time ever, you are going to have a better understanding of Revelation, specifically the tribulation, after this. I needed Cliff Notes, I needed Spark notes. They got me through high school. So, I'm going to try to give you the Cliff Notes and Spark notes version. So, what is the tribulation? If you look it up, it's just a season of trouble or suffering. Scripture talks about it being this intense period of suffering and trouble. So, you have to remember that God gives us trials, he doesn't bring wrath on his believers, on his followers. That's going to be important to note. Sometimes you hear tribulation, and it's coupled with the word Great Tribulation. They are actually two different things. Tribulation and Great Tribulation are the same, but they aren't. Let me explain.

Here's the best way I can explain this seven-year period of tribulation. Pretend you and I started a snowball on top of a mountain, and we dropped it on the mountain, and it starts rolling and it gets bigger and bigger and bigger. That's the period of tribulation. So, it's the beginning, which we are going to look right here in the seven seals. You start this ball going down the mountain and halfway down the mountain... So, halfway down the mountain, so after three and a half years of this tribulation, a stick of dynamite. That stick of dynamite is known as the abomination of desolation, or the Temple desecration where idols are set up in the temple and now that dynamite blows up. What happens if you blow up dynamite on a snowy mountain? Now it's an avalanche and it's destroying everything in its path. I want you to have that word picture. It's gradually going to get worse and worse and then boom. Literally, all hell breaks loose. The Great tribulation is simply the last three and a half years of the tribulation period, and that abomination of desecration goes right in the middle of three and a half years and three and a half years. As believers, we start worrying, we're concerned, but I want you to think about this today.

The tribulation is not a cause for fear, but a call for faithfulness. Especially for the follower of Jesus. I've read the entire book. Guess what? Those who are following Jesus, we win. That's all you have to know. We win. Now, if you don't have a relationship with Jesus and you're not following Jesus, then yeah, there's probably some trepidation and fear. God's wrath is real and it's evident from his text.

A sweet lady came up to Ted last week and said these words, *"Things are not falling apart, they are falling into place."* And if you consume your life with social media and news channels, you probably think everything is falling apart. But let me remind you of two verses. It's really important, especially in this political season.

Colossians 1: 16 – 18, ***6 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him*** ¹⁶ ***For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.*** ¹⁷ ***He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.***

So, your favorite Politian isn't holding this thing together. Who wins in November is not holding this thing together. Jesus is holding this thing together... period.

Romans 3: 1 says ***Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.*** So, whether it's a period of sanctification for us or whatever it is, God decides who is the governing authority. Read Romans 13: 1 if you think I'm crazy. So, he's in charge of this. So, when we look at the Book of Revelation and we start worrying and asking questions... When they ask me if I think the end times will be in our lifetime, I tell them, "I know we're closer today than we were yesterday. And we'll be closer tomorrow than we are today."

You hear all these terms throughout scripture, specifically the New Testament from Paul and Jesus, and they use this term *Day of the Lord*. It's important to know here that this isn't a singular day that they are referring to. They are actually referring to a series of events - the tribulation, the millennial Kingdom, the White throne of Judgment, all these things. So, when you see The Day of the Lord and Jesus referring to it, he uses parables to talk about the end times. It's referring to a series of events that is taking place.

Timothy Keller says this about the Day of the Lord – *"The day that God makes everything right, the day that everything sad comes untrue—on that day the same thing will happen to your own hurts and sadness. You will find that the worst things that have ever happened to you will, in the end only enhance your eternal delight. On that day, all of it will be turned inside out and you will know joy beyond the walls of the world. The joy of your glory will be that much greater for every scar you bear. So, live in the light of the resurrection and renewal of this world and of yourself in a glorious, never ending, joyful, dance of grace."*

Young people ask me all the time about the end times and all these things. They say, "Man, I want Jesus to come back, but I just want to wait until I get married. I say, "Sweet young person, if you don't think heaven is much greater than sex, you are greatly mistaken. Heaven is greater than anything you could

ever imagine. As a matter of fact, if you can imagine heaven, that's not it. It's far greater. Not only that, but heaven is all about Jesus and worshipping and praising Jesus, exalting his name. By the way, there will not be any national flags in heaven. There will be one banner – Jehovah Nisi – the Lord our Banner. That's who we worship. And when you walk into heaven and I walk into heaven, Jesus is going to look at you and say, "Where you a democrat or republican?" Not going to happen. "Did you follow me?" Were you a follower of Jesus? I'm just saying He will want to know if you followed him. I think He will be discouraged by the amount of toxic venom that has come out of his followers when it came to political campaigns or presidential races. The Christian that bears heaven doesn't speak like that, doesn't act like that, doesn't talk like that.

So, there's this wrath coming. Here's the snowball. It starts right here. We're looking at Revelation 6: 1- 17, the seven seals. This is the beginning. And it is going to be bad. But don't worry because you're gone. If you love Jesus and you're following Jesus, you don't have to worry about it.

So, first, there's this white horse. This isn't the rider on the white horse that we see in Revelation 19, that's faithful and true, which is Jesus. This is deception. Perhaps the antichrist. This guy shows up on a white horse. I don't think this horse will be heaven. A lot of you ask if your animals will be in heaven. I don't know about your pets, but I do know that there is a horse in heaven because Jesus comes back on it, and he defeats everybody. And then there's going to be war. Worse war than we've ever seen. Worse than World war I, World War II, Vietnam, War Korean War, War in the Middle East. Worst war than we have ever seen. There is going to be war taking place. And see how this keeps accumulating. And then there's going to be a black horse, also known a famine. It's where there is no amount of hard work you can do, no matter how much you can do, where there is going to be enough food. You're going to be hungry if you are still here. Some of you are so worried about storing up bit coin and gold. At that time, you can have your gold, I'll take my bread. If I can figure out how to feed myself, I'm good. You can have all your other stuff that you're storing up in your safe. I just need food.

Then the pale horse. There is going to be pestilence. During this time, a quarter of people are going to be wiped out. On all the face of the earth, a quarter of the people gone, dead, during this pestilence. They're going to starve to death, pests... all the things.

And then there's going to be martyrdom. Now we see the abomination of desolation. The temple is desecrated and we have a great tribulation. Now it's just going to ramp up and intensify like crazy. There are heavenly signs. These are legit heavenly signs. These are really heavy signs that are starting to take place.

And then we see the seven trumpets. The seven trumpet bowls. Revelation 8: 1-12 if you want to read these later. Revelation 9: 1-21, Revelation 11: 15 – 19.

So, green grass and a third of the trees are burned. There is no landscape company that's going to take care of your grass now. It is burnt. Some of you have been trying to water that grass like crazy and this heat is killing your grass, but it doesn't matter because it's all going to burn anyway.

The second one - A third of the sea becomes blood, a third of the ships and sea life are destroyed. This is crazy. And then a third of the water turns bitter. We need water to survive, so it's going to continually

wipe people out. This is like the 10 plagues that we saw in Egypt magnified. Egypt pales in comparison to what is going on now with God's wrath. A third of the sun, moon, and stars do not shine. Locust will... Military power. 200 million man army and one third of mankind killed. So, now we've lost a quarter of mankind and a third of mankind, which means literally half of the world is gone. If that were to happen today, that's four billion people dead. The kingdom of God is declared. So, now, even in the midst of all this, the Kingdom is declared. You have, in Revelation 11, these two witnesses that come out and declare. They are hated, they are ridiculed, they're killed. They come back, they raise the (?)

And then after the seven trumpets, you have the seven bowels – Revelation 16 1-21 - Sores afflict those who accept the mark of the Beast. It will be evident on everything else. they precluded this when the mark of the beast is coming. You won't be able to buy food, you won't be able to buy anything unless you have the mark of the beast, whether it's a chip in your hand, a chip in your head. Nobody knows, but there is going to be this mark of the beast that is evident. The sea turns to blood. All sea creatures die. Every shark, every dolphin, every orca, every octopus. All of them are dead. The ocean is completely dead. And all of my Ozark fishermen friends cry at this next one. Rivers turn to blood. It is gone.

Mankind is scorched by the sun and blasphemes God. They are mad at God. They had an opportunity to trust and follow him and live for him and they decided not to, and now they are mad at God. And the beast seat of government is afflicted. You think our government seats are afflicted now, wait until this goes down. It is afflicted and the beast is here, and he is starting to reign in the government. The Euphrates is dried up - more water taken away. World armies gather to Armageddon. If I tell you heaven is more beautiful than we can imagine, Armageddon is worse than anything you can possibly ever imagine. I'm so thankful I won't be here for any of this.

Think about this. Jesus is grace and mercy for all of us. It's evident for us, but God's wrath and judgment is going to be intense, more intense than any of us can possibly imagine. Jesus went out as a lamb, a slaughtered lamb to take all of our sin. He's coming back as a lion. He's not coming back in grace and mercy. He is coming back to destroy, pour out God's wrath and finally take care of and over everything. For those that don't know him, you're a gazelle with a lion coming to get you. He's coming back as a lion. That wrath is not for his bride. He's the bridegroom. Think about it. I would never pour out wrath on Stephanie; She's my bride and I would never do that. I would warn her, I would protect her, but Jesus is not coming to put wrath on his church, Jesus is coming to put wrath on those who rebuked him, denied him, and blasphemed him. That's who he's coming back to pour his wrath out on, not anyone who followed him, lived for him and surrendered their life for him.

The earth is utterly shaken. Now there are earthquakes. How long does this last? I told you guys... It's really cool when scripture supports scripture. Scripture here supports scripture. Daniel, a prophecy that was written thousands of years earlier actually lines up with a prophecy we see in Revelation. It's really cool when you see scripture support scripture. That's evidence of 2 Timothy 3: 16. All scripture is God breathed. That's how it coincides and connects and doesn't contradict one another.

Hebrews 4: 12 – ***All scripture is living and active.*** The connect. So, we know the length of this from Daniel's 70 weeks, which we find in Daniel 9: 24 – 27.

Ted showed you guys a big map of Revelation last week. I'm going to narrow that in and leave out the Millennial Kingdom in the beginning of it and just show you what we are talking about today. So, this is post rapture, the second coming of Christ when he comes to rule and bring his judgment and all those things.

Here's the snowball. The snowball starts rolling down the mountain, boom – abomination of desecration. Dynamite explodes. Here comes the avalanche, the great tribulation. Much more intensified, much worse than what we saw right here.

So, to explain it another way for you guys, you intense note takers. The first three and a half years will be a time of false peace and prosperity upon the earth, as the antichrist will make a treaty with the people of Israel. At the halfway point, the beast will set up an image in the temple, desecrating it. That's the abomination of desolation. When you hear Jesus talk about it or the desecration of the temple. Daniel 9: 27 said this would happen in the middle of a week, which is seven years. Revelation 11:2, 13:5, and Daniel 12: 1. Look how much scripture supports scripture. Noted that the beast would do for 42 months. This begins the second half of the seven-year tribulation. Once again, the second half is known as the great tribulation. And then God's wrath is poured out until his judgment is completed.

So, to unpack the great tribulation this way... The first thing to know during these last three and a half years is it will be an outpouring of God's wrath. You don't want to be here. You and I have never seen anything like it. These last three and a half years are intensified. God's wrath is coming. I know we are hesitant to ever use hellfire and brimstone to try to get some people to follow Jesus, but Hellfire and brimstone are coming. That's scripture. That's not a scare tactic. I don't want to scare anyone into following Jesus. I would hope that what he's given them and sacrificed for them and acknowledgment of their own sin will lead them to follow Jesus. But the reality is those that don't follow Jesus are going to face God's wrath. Those aren't my words. Those are His words.

The second thing that's important to know here is it will be worse than anything in history. Jesus says this in Matthew 24. It will be worse than anything we've ever seen in history. I want you to think about that for a second. So, I grew up in a broken home. My parents divorced when I was eight. A lot of those formidable years, I was actually raised by my grandfather who was a World War II Veteran. This is his uniform that hangs in the back of my office just to remind me of his service and everything he did for me. Now, granted, just because you served in the military does not mean you have salvation. My grandfather did. I remember sitting at his feet and having a conversation with him in his last years on earth. He had a profound impact on me. He was telling me stories of when he was in Japan and the conversations he would have with his fellow soldiers sitting around at night.

He said some people were like, "Do you think Hitler is the Antichrist? Do you think this is the tribulation." Think about it. They saw some horrific things. Auschwitz for one example. Millions of Jews wiped out. World War II Was horrific and the amount of PTSD we've seen from any of the wars. My grandfather was telling me these stories and we were talking. The reality is this tribulation is even worse than anything we ever saw in World War II. And of the concentration camps, any of the things that took place. Hitler was not the Antichrist. You see all of these things and it's even worse than that. You wonder how anything can be worse than millions of Jews being gas chambered, and millions of Jews being slaughtered, and millions of people just being bombed, and millions of people being nuked at

Hiroshima. You're wondering how anything could be worse than that? It's worse than that, the scripture says

The third thing is this church will escape the wrath. And everybody said... You will escape the wrath. That is great news for you and me. Followers of Jesus, you will escape the wrath. The bridegroom does not bring wrath to his bride. Those who have followed and trusted Jesus, you will escape the wrath. Those that haven't will not escape the wrath. Scripture makes that clear.

The fourth thing is it will be Israel. Jeremiah 30: 7. There are going to be 144 thousand of the 12 tribes, 12 thousand from each of the 12 tribes. They will be restored. And they will come back. The great tribulation.

Fifth thing – it will be for unbelievers. Here's the crazy thing. You could think, I'll just trust Jesus once the tribulation happens. No. You don't want to be here for that suffering. One time I was eating a meal and I was sharing Jesus with my waitress. I just tried to share Jesus with her because I think this wrath is real and I want to save everybody from the wrath. I don't want anyone to face the wrath of God. I just have a heart for evangelism, a heart for discipleship because I want everyone to be in heaven, worshipping Jesus because this sounds bad.

The waitress said just said, "Sex, drugs, and Rock and Roll." I said, "Well, what do you mean." She said, "I'm not worried about heaven – sex, drugs and Rock and Roll." I said, "Let me explain something to you if you don't mind." She said, "Go ahead." I said, "There's not going to be any sex in hell. God designed and created sex. It's his design. He created it for marriage, and he created it to unify and consummate a marriage. So, that's God's design. So, anything that's God's design doesn't exist in hell. You won't get sex in hell, just so you know. There's going to be weeping and gnashing of teeth and it's going to be more painful and more mournful than anything you've ever experienced and there will be sulfur, and it will be hot and it will be non-joyful. It will be the worst pain and suffering you've ever had, and there will be no drugs that can take that away. So, now you have no sex, no drugs. By the way, God designed music. God created music. And while everybody in heaven will be worshipping and praising and singing music to our king, there will be mourning and yelling and moaning in hell. So, there's not going to be any sex, drugs, or rock and roll in hell. She says, "Well, that's what you believe." I said, "Well, actually, that's what the Bible says, but I love you anyway, here's a big tip.

Look what Daniel 12: 1-3 says - ***"At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. 2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.*** So, what do we learn from Daniel 12: 1-3. First thing, unprecedented troubling times are on the way. When are they coming? I don't know. You don't know either. Even Jesus says, "I don't know. Only the Father in heaven knows." But I know I wouldn't play with it. I know I wouldn't play God, and I wouldn't play time. I know I better get serious about this.

The second thing is there will be some who will wake to everlasting life, and it's those who follow and know Jesus, that have surrendered their life to Jesus will wake to everlasting life. There will be no mourning, no crying, and they will not taste or feel the wrath of God.

The third thing is there will be some who will wake to shame and everlasting contempt. This is in six years, which a lot of scholars are thankful that World War II was six years. It was six years and a day. It was September 1, 1929, and it ended September 2, 1945. A lot of people would have tried to say that was the tribulation. But it wasn't. It wasn't six years. There is no escaping this. This is everlasting. This isn't a six-year World War II, this is forever and ever and when you run out of evers, keep saying ever. And it is for ever and ever that you will face this wrath and this suffering and this pain.

The last one – Those who are wise will shine. Who are those that are wise. Those who follow Jesus. I think that's pretty wise in a world that has fallen apart.

Dr. David Jeremiah says this, and this is interesting in and of itself. *“Even during the tribulation, God’s grace is still available. There will be unprecedented revival and recognition of Jesus as the Messiah, particularly among the Jewish people.”*

So, you are still going to see salvation during the end times. So, you say, well I'll just live how I want to live and when the trials start... No, you don't want to be here. You don't understand. That is so foolish to think that way. It will be the worst suffering and the worst pain and starvation and everything you can imagine. The worst thing you ever pictured is going to take place. You don't want to be here. But the salvation will still take place during that time, specifically among those 144 thousand Jews that understand and trust Jesus is who he said he was and he is and he is to come.

So, all this continually culminates and you think of this period of wrath that God is going to pour out and you think of how many people you interact with on a daily basis that don't know Jesus. And you're more consumed with getting a political debate with them than perhaps having a conversation about Jesus. My prayer is that you would just have an ounce of passion that you do with your political parties. That you would just have an ounce of passion that you do for the Kansas City Chiefs. That you would be more consumed with winning souls for the Kingdom than Mahomes getting his third MVP and Super Bowl. That you would be more consumed with Jesus and how you might usher some into the Kingdom than your political party and your viewpoint.

If heaven is real and hell is real, which they both are, it blows my mind that we want to get caught up in arguments that have nothing to do with this wrath or the coming kingdom. I scratch my head and I'm like *Man, there is a real enemy*, your opposite political party is not it. It's the Antichrist. And he wants to destroy. I'm convinced of this – there are only two reasons why Satan behaves the way he does. Theologians will tell you the same thing. One, he's diluted and deceived enough to believe that he can actually win. Somehow, he thinks he can flip the script. Because he knows this book better than you and I. He's been around before the creation of the world, he knows everything. He knows God, he knows his ways, he knows everything.

Or... and I think it's the or. Or, he's so ticked and he's so mad that he knows he can't win. It's like being a padre's fan or a charger's fan. You're just mad because you know you can't win.

So, he's so mad and so angry and so distraught that he wants to take out as many people as he possible can so that they suffer in eternity with him. I'm convinced it's the latter. So, he's like, *If I'm going down, I'm taking as many with me* That's his tactic, but guess what? I've read the whole book and like I told you, we win. We win in the end.

So, this Revelation 4 – Revelation 18 of tribulation... I just walked you through with the great tribulation culminating the worst of God's wrath, which culminates in Revelation 18, which is great news. I'm not going to read all of Revelation 18. I'm going to read enough for you to sing Hallelujah

Revelation 18 - ***After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor.*** Remember it lost it's sunshine, it's moonshine, it's star shine.

2 With a mighty voice he shouted:

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!" He loses. We win. Christ follower, you win.

***She has become a dwelling for demons
and a haunt for every impure spirit,
a haunt for every unclean bird,
a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal.***

3 For all the nations have drunk

***the maddening wine of her adulteries.
The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,
and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries."***

Warning to Escape Babylon's Judgment

4 Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

***"Come out of her, my people,
so that you will not share in her sins,
so that you will not receive any of her plagues;***

5 for her sins are piled up to heaven,

He doesn't remember your inequities for those of you that are in Christ. As a matter of fact, Psalm 103: 12 ***says as far as the east is from the west he removed your sins from you.*** He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our inequities. It's for the follower of Jesus.

So, what now? You can have all your eschatological debates. And you can get all caught up in that and get into arguments. Let me encourage you with this. Keep the main thing the main thing, which is Jesus. The whole book of Revelation was written to provide the believer hope, so you don't have to worry, you don't have to be anxious, you don't have to worry about what's going to happen in November. Jesus ultimately wins. And for the non-believer to pay heed, to take warning, to be aware of what's coming. If you take evaluation of your life and you're like *Man, I don't want to face God's wrath...* I would encourage you to come up after this service and meet with our prayer team and say, "I don't know if I'm a believer. I don't know if I'm destined for God's wrath or not." Jesus wants to have a personal relationship with you. And he wants to usher you into the Kingdom of heaven.

So what now? The first one is trust Christ. If you don't want to face God's wrath, trust Christ.

John 3: 16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever would believe in him will not perish, will not face God's wrath, will not have to go through this whole suffering that we see in the Book of Revelation. Whoever believes will not perish and will have everlasting life.

The second thing I want to tell you is understand. Get wisdom and insight. That doesn't mean you have to be a scholar. This text and trying to cover 14 chapters with you guys had me up at night. There's a lot to cover. This is a heavy text. I've labored over this text. But still get understanding. You can get understanding. When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, John 14: 16, John 14: 26, comes to live inside of you and gives you understanding. So, you can get into God's word and begin to understand for yourself. Not for the purpose of debating and arguing and using some toxic venom to make somebody feel dumb. That you would understand for yourself and then embolden and strengthen your faith. And that you would, in turn, perhaps even share your faith.

The third thing is that you would ready yourself. Ephesians 6 talks about the armor of God, putting on a helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the sword of the Spirit, and your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 1 Peter 3: 14-16 – always be prepared to give a reason for the hope that you believe. A defense, an apologia. But to do it with gentleness and respect. That you would be ready to say why you believe what you believe. Why you follow Jesus. Why you have a hope that's an everlasting hope that can't be taken away from you. It will never be taken away from you.

The Fourth one is Live out your faith. 1 Timothy 6: 12. Live out your faith. Do you know what my prayer is, my legitimate prayer for Woodland Hills, and it has been for years. I've been here for 10 years; it's probably been for 8 years. When I think of you, all of you that 'm looking at right now and online and over in the Chapel and in the courtyard and everywhere else on our campus. This is my prayer for you all. My prayer is that when an agnostic or an atheist or a curious or a non-Christ follower interacts with you out and about in Stone and Taney County, that they would never say this "Man, I'm not a believer, but you see that person that attends woodland hills that is doing the same drugs, treating his wife the same way I'm treating my wife, behaving the same way that I'm behaving, doing all the same things I'm doing, do you see how they act the same way I do, not believing in Christ as they do believing in Christ. What do they have that I don't have?"

My prayer and my passion is that a non-believer in Stone and Taney County and beyond would see your life and they would say, "I don't believe in Jesus, but I just can't explain those folks that go to Woodland Hills Family Church. The way he serves and loves his wife. The way he interacts with the waiter and the waitress, the way he doesn't do road rage. The way he's gentle and respectful. The way she has faith even being fired. The way she interacts with her co-workers. The way they don't gossip about other people. The way they live their life. I don't believe in Jesus, but gosh, that person at Woodland hills makes me scratch my head. There is something they have that I don't. They actually allow me to disagree with them but they disagree with me in love and comfort. They don't just sit there and judge me."

Non-believers are going to act like non-believers. May the follower of Jesus be known how he said they would be known, by the way you love others.

So, if there is a wrath to come and I really believe there is a wrath to come, and you really know that people are going to go that wrath to come, you should never wish that on your worst enemy just because they don't believe what you believe. And just because they do crazy opening ceremonies at Olympics. You should pray that those people come to know Jesus. And you should hope that they see Jesus in you. This is so much greater than what we're facing here on earth. That's my prayer for all of you. That people would see you and say, "I don't believe in Jesus, but I can't figure out those people at Woodland Hills. There's just something different about them and I want what they have. There's just joy radiating from their life. There's just a joy that I can't explain. They're different." Rather than throwing any toxic venom at them because they don't believe what you believe politically, or they don't like your sports team or whatever.

God, we thank you so much for your words and we thank you so much that you give us a future hope and that you are coming back. Lord, your word says you're coming back, and we rest in that. We rest knowing that you are coming back. Lord, I pray if there is anyone in here that doesn't know you, that are going to face your wrath Lord, I pray you would prick their heart. I pray that you would get hold of their heart today. I pray for this country, I pray for our leaders, I pray for everything. And Lord, ultimately, we trust you and we know you are in control, and you hold all things together. You, Lord Jesus, you hold all things together and we proclaim that today, recognizing that no one else but you holds all things together. Jesus, as we trust that to you, we confess our worry, our anxiety and everything else we wrestle with. We give it to you, knowing that you are in control, and you are going to be in control, and you are going to rule for ever and ever.

In your name, Christ, we pray.