

## "Church" or Kingdom? Strange Fire, Part 16

Preached first on 10/13/2019 on [www.molibertyradio.us](http://www.molibertyradio.us)

Good morning and thank you for taking time to listen to our broadcast this morning.

Before we get started this morning, I want to remind you again of Kingdom Conference 2020! The dates are March 26-29, 2020. There is more information on the website at [www.godsendusmen.com](http://www.godsendusmen.com). We hope you have it on your calendar and are making plans to attend.

You know, numbers of people listening are not why I preach. Given this opportunity to preach on the radio each week and have it streamed out on the Internet - I would preach if only 1 person was listening. But, I want to report to you this morning that this is not the case. The numbers of listeners that we see is growing each week - and knowing what the subject matter is - this is encouraging to me. Also, the statistics for the downloads from the archives is growing each month and that's exciting.

I hear from new people by email - people that I did not know were listening - in fact I heard from someone not long ago that said they were on their second time through listening to the Matthew 24 Series. I get that. My messages are nearly 100% opposite of what most people have heard their entire lives - and if a cord is struck - it still takes a while to just to begin to unravel what has been for many - a lifetime of error.

I remain steadfast in my statement that the reality is that in America - in 2019 - as well as around the world - because of the overwhelming amount of teaching of the Word of God has been from a futurist perspective that the King and the Kingdom have not yet come - very few people have ever even heard the Gospel.

You and I and everyone else knows - things are getting worse and worse - not just in America - but worldwide. But if you listen to the quote unquote 501(c)(3) government "preacher" he'll tell you that the gospel message is everywhere. There's a quote unquote "church" building on nearly every street corner in America - but the reality is - the gospel message that has been preached in America for at least as long as I can remember - nearly 60 years now - has given us the society in which we now live.

The way civilizations conduct themselves is a direct correlation to the gods they serve. The culture in America today is the direct result of the way people perceive their responsibility to God - whether big G or little g - and the little g god has way overpowered the influence of the big G God - and we all know it.

And the "churchians" who are the perceived voice of God in society is the number one reason why we are in the shape we are in. I am trying to reach "churchians" and turn them into Christians. I am trying to reach Christians and help them to be better equipped to bring the "churchians" out of darkness and into the truth of what it means to truly be a follower of Christ.

And for our numbers of listeners to continue to grow each week is very very encouraging to me - especially knowing that what I teach from the Word of God each week can be so very difficult to swallow.

By now, you are fully aware of what I teach as the truth of God's Word concerning the fact that All Bible Prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus, in Yeshua in the first century. He said to His disciples, and friends, I don't know how He could have said it any plainer, Luke 21:22

For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

Couldn't He have just said, "These be the days of vengeance when most things which are written may be fulfilled?" Or, "some of the prophecies will be fulfilled now, and the rest later?" But that's not what He said.

For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

Verily, I say unto you, (Jesus to His disciples, face to face, man to man - His lips to their ears) - This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

Are these really difficult passages to understand? I had someone tell me this week that I really have not made myself clear on the teaching of Fulfilled Bible Prophecy. But these are the passages that I have preached on week after week and have written books about and have pointed people to over and over. My conclusion is this, the argument is not with me - it's with the One Who made the statements.

Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom. Matthew 16:27-28

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

To turn around and say that Christ's Words here in Matthew 16 are not the same exact Words of Matthew 24 is either a matter of uncomprehension of simple English skills - or it is simply a refusal to believe the Words of Christ as He spoke them - to Whom He spoke them to - and the implications thereof.

This past week, I was speaking with someone, I can't even remember who it was, but they mentioned they had heard a message in which the speaker was trying to say that the word generation in Matthew 24:34 meant something other than the period or the people. This quote unquote "preacher" had done exactly what C.I. Scofield did in his reference Bible notes. He said the word generation is from the Greek genea - but then proceeded to give the definition for the Greek word genos - which is not the same as genea. There is no reason why in 2019, with the Internet, with Strong's Concordance, with all sorts of Bible aids available - that when someone says, "No, that's not true and here's the evidence" then when the evidence is laid out for all to see - to continue to promote that lie - knowing the devastating effects it has on the Gospel of the Kingdom - one can only surmise that this is done to promote an agenda which is contrary to the Kingdom of God.

I was a snot-nosed 21 year old, fresh out of quote unquote Bible college, and was doing my own Bible study and I took out my Strong's Concordance and looked at the word generation as found in Matthew 24. If I discovered that as a 21 year old kid - then someone needs to tell me why men supposedly preaching and studying the Word for way longer - will continue to tell people the word is genea - then give the definition of genos - knowing that very few people will actually go and see for themselves.

I have pleaded with people for over 35 years now to simply take a Strong's concordance and look for themselves. Look at the word genea - which is the Greek word for generation in Matthew 24. Compare it's usage throughout the rest of the 27 books of the Old Covenant - where the word genos is used and you will see the major difference.

Listen, friends, the Baptists and other Zionists of that persuasion deceive people with the slight of hand switching of genos for genea because they use that to sway people into believing that Jesus was saying, "The Jewish people will not pass away, till all these things be fulfilled."

C.I. Scofield was the foremost religious leader of his day being used by the Zionist

agenda to bring about the formation of a Jewish nation in the Middle East. The official push began in 1914 with the Balfour Declaration and culminated in 1948 with the official declaration from the United Nations and had it not been for the religious influence of the "churchmen" the whole thing may have never happened.

Scotfield Reference Bible, 1906, footnotes on the word generation from Matthew 24: *1 Greek, genea, the primary definition of which is, "race, kind, family, stock, breed." (So all lexicons.)*

Sorry. That's a lie. And saying that all the lexicons agree doesn't make it any less a lie. Race, kind, family, stock, breed is the definition of *genos* - it is not the definition of *genea*. The definition of *genea* is from a presumed derivative of 1085 (which is *genos*); but it has its own definition and it is, a generation, by implication an age, the period or the persons; age, generation, nation, time. It's the exact same Greek word used from Hebrews where the Scripture says I was grieved with that generation for 40 years. It does not mean a race of people - it is a time period - or the people of that time period.

If you do nothing else from this message today - look that up and see for yourself.

Continuing with Scotfield's notes on the word generation.

*That the word is used in this sense here is sure because none of "these things," i.e., the world-wide preaching of the Kingdom, the great tribulation, the return of the Lord in visible glory, and the regathering of the elect, occurred at the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus, AD70.*

Reading this again is absolutely hysterical. It's as if I had caught one of my children at the age of 6 with their hand in the cookie jar and they are trying to come up with every reason why they shouldn't be in trouble when they got caught. "Well, Jason had one, too. I thought maybe you wanted one, Mom and I was just bringing you one, I wasn't getting it for myself."

Ridiculous. At 21 years old, I read his notes and immediately recalled Colossians 1:6 and Colossians 1:23. Really? We know that the word generation here means something different than it really is - I mean the whole world knows the word is from *genea* - but it must really mean *genos* because the world-wide preaching of the Kingdom has never occurred. Colossians 1:6

We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for

you,

[4] Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

[5] For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

[6] Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

[7] As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;

### Verse 23

If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

I don't know how anyone could conclude that having the very Son of God walking on earth, performing His miracles, raising people from the dead, He Himself crucified and risen from the dead - could someone really conclude that the Gospel of the Kingdom would not have been preached to the whole world back then?

Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 10:23

But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.

I've known preachers that are 30 years older than I am who refuse to yield to the simple truths found in the verses I just quoted. We know - we are sure - that genes should somehow miraculously be turned into genos because the Gospel has never been preached to the whole world - yet - before the ink was dry on the pages - Paul wrote that the Gospel had not only been preached throughout the Roman empire - which was the prophecy from Matthew 24:14 - but that the Gospel had been preached to every creature which is under heaven. No doubt in my mind that the Apostles preached with all boldness - in the face of all sorts of persecutions and stumblingblocks - the Kingdom of God. That's what happens when you meet the King! That's what happens when the King gets a hold of you.

Scofield had a Zionist agenda. That's been proven. He was a deceiver. Scofield's critics say this:

***"The Scofield Reference Bible is a widely circulated annotated study Bible that was edited and annotated by lawyer, failed politician, bribery convict, and Bible scholar Cyrus I. Scofield.***

***This edition of the Bible first appeared in 1909, and was revised in 1917. The first editions of this Bible were published by the Oxford University Press. The original version of the Bible contained the traditional King James Version text of the Bible itself."***

Friends if you are not aware of the damnable influence that Rhodes' Scholars have had all over this world since the early 1900s, you need to read my book, They All Call Him King, which is freely downloadable from my website, [www.godsendusmen.com](http://www.godsendusmen.com)

Rhodes' Scholars are indoctrinated at the same university where the Scofield Reference Bible is published. I have personally spoken with Joseph Canfield, author of a biography of C.I. Scofield called, The Incredible Scofield and his Book. Mr. Canfield - without hesitation, without the slightest bit of hesitation, confirmed to me the connection between C.I. Scofield, Cecil Rhodes and Andrew Carnegie - all of which had the Zionist agenda of a one world government set up and ruled by Zionists from Jerusalem.

This is not conspiracy theory. It is absolute fact and if you do not believe me, go read the Last Will and Testament of Cecil Rhodes for yourself. He did not hide his agenda. He wrote it out and left his fortunes for the purpose of accomplishing his agenda and he enlisted C.I. Scofield to aid in the religious deception because he knew the only way to bring about his goal was through religious indoctrination.

Scofield concludes his notes on Matthew 24 with this:

*The promise is, therefore, that the generation - nation, or family of Israel - will be preserved unto "these things"; a promise that is wonderfully fulfilled to this day.*

You need to understand that the Zionist agenda - with each accomplishment they made - was peddled to a naive world as the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. And because just like today - people are so easy to believe what they are told without checking it out for themselves - they believed the false teacher and the bill of goods he sold.

I challenge each and every man, woman, boy and girl who listens to my preaching - to go and check out for yourselves to see if what is said is true. Paul was happy with the Bereans because they searched the Scriptures themselves whether such things were true.

I absolutely believe that Scofield was a wolf in sheep's clothing. I absolutely believe that he was working for the elite to accomplish an evil agenda - and agenda that is still in

the works today affecting our lives - drawing people away from the truth of the Kingdom of God. I absolutely believe this to be true.

Do I believe that all the quote unquote "preachers" out there preaching Scofield's garbage are evil men with an agenda? No, I do not. But sincerity, kindness, cleanliness - no amount of any positive traits - can overcome false teaching and false doctrine.

The quote unquote "preachers" in this world for the last 200 years have given us a false doctrine that has produced the society in which we now live. What we see around us today is the result of the teaching of the so-called "church." Futurism is the mainstream religion. A future kingdom, a future king, the present day mentality of the divine right of earthly kings - those messages and understandings - have produced our society. That's the reason we are in the shape we are in.

It's about time we try the truth! Because what we've been believin' is not working.

I want you to turn with me to Exodus 24 and we'll begin reading in verse 9. Verse 9:

Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel:

Now watch verse 10;

**[10]** And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.

**[11]** And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.

This is one of the most astonishing passages of Scripture in the whole Bible. Seventy four men of Israel - saw the God of Israel - and they lived to tell it. Of those 74 men, four were mentioned by name. Moses, Aaron, Nadab and Abihu. Nadab and Abihu were the sons of Aaron. They were chosen for the priesthood and apparently had such a notable standing in Israel that day, they were only 2 of 4 mentioned by name as those that saw Yahweh.

Later we find in Exodus 28 and 29 that Nadab and Abihu were specifically appointed and consecrated to the priest's office as a perpetual statute. These two held high office in Israel.

Leviticus chapter 9 records the first national sacrifice in Israel and Nadab and Abihu were present and participating in that sacrifice. That sacrifice was performed in strict adherence to the guidelines and manner in which Yahweh had instructed it to be done. As a result:

There came a fire out from before Yahweh, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

It was done in accordance of the manner prescribed by Yahweh, and Yahweh participated.

Many people wonder today why Yahweh does not appear to be participating much in our society. Lessons are to be learned the story of Nadab and Abihu.

Sadly, we did not learn from what happened to Nadab and Abihu and we are still doing what they did - and we are suffering because of it. Look at Leviticus 10 and we will begin in verse 1.

[1] And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before Yahweh, which he commanded them not.

[2] And there went out fire from Yahweh, and devoured them, and they died before Yahweh.

Remember, please, that just a very short time prior to this event, these two men were among only 74 people who had ever seen Yahweh. Now, they are dead - and dead at the hand of Yahweh. Dead at the hand of Yahweh as an example for every single man, woman, boy and girl to come - from generation to generation. What did they do? What did Nadab and Abihu do that was so bad that the direct punishment of God fell on them immediately?

The Law of God concerning the method in which the sacrifices were to be done was provided in great detail. Who did what, when it was done, how it was done, all was specifically laid out in the Law. Nadab and Abihu did things they were not commanded to do - in relation to the sacrifice - and they were killed instantly. They offered strange fire before Yahweh, which He commanded them not.

We do this and more - and we somehow think that we are above or unique or special - over and above someone who actually saw Yahweh.

Nadab and Abihu did things that were not commanded by Yahweh and they died for it.

Yahweh told Moses this is how I want things to be done. He was very specific, He was detailed and He made it clear that He did not want His plan changed. The Scriptures do not seem to indicate malice in the hearts of Nadab and Abihu. The Scriptures do not seem to indicate rebellion in the hearts of Nadab and Abihu - but I certainly would not rule that out because there are other instances in Old Covenant Israel where Yahweh killed men instantly because of their rebellion - think about Saul as an example.

But Nadab and Abihu failed to explicitly obey the Laws of Yahweh - for whatever reason - apparently in this instance it didn't matter - they did not follow the prescribed plan of Yahweh and He killed them for it.

They offered strange fire before Yahweh, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from Yahweh, and devoured them, and they died before Yahweh.

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We have in many ways, developed our own complete system of theology that in no way resembles what is taught in the books of the Bible - then we sit back in wonder as to why we are in the shape we are in.

Nadab and Abihu were on their way towards creating and developing their own way of offering sacrifices - and Yahweh put an immediate stop to it.

No where - no where in the Scriptures are God's people told to build quote unquote "churches" - buildings that are built for every other purpose than what was commanded by Yahweh. Show me one quote unquote "church" building in America today - that was built without going to man for permission - either via building permits, zoning permits, occupancy permits, etc. Show me one quote unquote "church" building in America where men and women, boys and girls are taught that Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords - that all other quote unquote "governments" are in place to subvert the Kingdom of Christ and keep people out of the Kingdom of God - you can't do it - you know it - I know it. It doesn't exist.

It's because "church" is not the Kingdom. "Church" is not the Ecclesia of God.

The significance of Nadab and Abihu for us is staggering - if you really spend some time thinking about it.

"Church" is, many times, warm and fuzzy. I admit it, I have fond memories, many fond memories of people and activities and fellowship and singing and even some preaching. But friends, it is strange fire. You can be warmed even by strange fire - but it is still strange fire. It is not acceptable by Yahweh. It is not commanded by Yahweh. It is strange fire and even though you can be warmed by it - it's going to kill you. We have the evidence of what "church" has given us today.

"Church" has given us futurism. "Church" has given us false teachings on Romans 13, I Peter 2, Luke 20. "Churches" today are filled with sodomites and the sodomite agenda is advanced through quote unquote "church." And I'm not talking about the quote unquote "catholic church." I'm talking about the Baptists, the Assemblies of God, they are filled with sodomites and the sodomite agenda is advanced in those places.

In the Ecclesia it is not so. Because in the Ecclesia, the Laws of God are preached and adhered to and the sodomite wouldn't dare expose himself in that Light. No way, not a chance.

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I was heading in a little bit different direction this morning, but I'm led to speak about another issue for a few minutes.

I'm under some scrutiny right now because of what I preach about the Feast Days of the Old Covenant and I think in light of what we are talking about concerning strange fire - I'm going to address another issue. My main purpose of teaching on strange fire this morning is in continuing with the study of quote unquote "church." "Church" in America today and in most parts of the world - is producing strange fire. Lots of people are warmed by it - it's entertaining - there's some great music coming from inside those walls - but it is strange fire - and Yahweh hates it.

Turn with me to Leviticus 23 for a few minutes and then we'll try to get back on track. If not, there'll be another opportunity to preach - unless Yahweh calls me home between now and next weekend. But I'll assure you this - there will be no rapture - there will be no second - which would really be a third coming - there will be a next weekend. I can't speak for myself - but for the rest of Yahweh's creation - there will be a next weekend.

Leviticus 23 we'll read the first 15 verses. The similarities between the rest of the feast days are covered in these first 15 verses:

And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying,

[2] Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of Yahweh, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

[3] Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of Yahweh in all your dwellings.

[4] These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

[5] In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahweh's passover.

[6] And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto Yahweh: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

[7] In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

[8] But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

[9] And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying,

[10] Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

[11] And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.

[12] And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto Yahweh.

[13] And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto Yawheh for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin.

As we read this text, I ask you, is Yahweh being clear on how the feasts are to be done? Is He detailed in what He is telling the Israelites to do? Each and every feast described in detail in Leviticus 23 requires a burnt sacrifice of an animal.

If you are telling people that Yahweh commands the Feast Days today - then you get some idea that you can modify the way He said to do it - to make it fit better with your theology or your way of life - you are doing exactly what Nadab and Abihu did and you are making and playing with strange fire.

If Yahweh commands the Feast Days today - then you better be doing it exactly the way He said it was to be done.

But Charlie, look at verse 41:

And ye shall keep it a feast unto Yahweh seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

[42] Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

[43] That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your God.

[44] And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of Yahweh.

Once again, let me say it. If you believe the Feast Days are required in the New Covenant World - then you better be doing them exactly the way He told Moses to do them. If you aren't - you are doing exactly what Nadab and Abihu did. And you are fooling yourselves if you think you are somehow different than someone who saw Yahweh. Nadab and Abihu were special in the sight of Yahweh. They were called nobles in Israel. Yet Yahweh killed them because they did not do things the way Yahweh said to do them.

Listen to me very clearly, if a man refuses to believe that all Bible Prophecy was fulfilled in Christ, in the first century - that man is not going to be able to understand the Scriptures - and eventually - if he is honest - will have to conclude that the sacrifices are still in existence today. Hey, there's already the majority of "church" people who say that it is the PLAN OF GOD to rebuild a physical temple. The sacrifices are just one physical temple away from being implemented.

There is but one way for - listen now - forever - a statute forever in your generations - to come to an end. And I'm telling you that the forever - the statute forever - ended because the Old Covenant World came to an end. The "foreverness" of the statute for the Feasts - for the feasts that Yahweh demanded sacrifices during - it ended when the Old Covenant World came to an end at AD70.

A New World began. A New Covenant. A New Heavens and a New Earth came with the Messiah - and the sacrifices are not in the New World.

Listen to the Words of Christ very carefully from Matthew 5:17-18:

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

[18] For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle - not so much as the smallest part of the alphabet of the Law will pass - till all be fulfilled.

Don't try and tell me that the Law He was speaking here concerning did not include the Laws concerning sacrifices. Not the smallest, most insignificant part of the Law would be fulfilled - until heaven and earth passed. The Laws concerning sacrifices in the Old Covenant World were huge - you can't call them jots or tittles. When Christ was speaking in Matthew 5 - he was speaking concerning the Laws of God including sacrifices.

Well, friends, the heaven and the earth DID PASS. The language concerning the passing of the heavens and the earth, the end of the world, the elements melting with fervent heat - those are all symbolic language of the passing of the Old Covenant World.

For those who you speak with who refuse to see this symbolic language, show them another passage. Look at II Peter 2, beginning in verse 1:

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying

the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

[2] And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

[3] And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

[4] For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

[5] 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;

Here is language again concerning the days before Noah's flood. The Bible calls them the Old World. And in Genesis 9:11 God said He destroyed the earth:

And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth...

But guess what, after He destroyed it - it was still there. He destroyed the Old World during Noah's age - but it was still there.

The passing of the heavens and the earth that Christ was speaking about in Matthew 5:18 was the passing of the Old Covenant World. And indeed, at AD70 in a raging fire - the elements melted with a fervent heat - and the Old World passed away thus removing every single thing that had anything to do with a sacrifice because the book of Hebrews declares that the sacrificial system of the Old Covenant World was not good enough - not good enough to take away the sins of men - so Yahweh replaced it with a new and better way. And a physical temple and a physical sacrifice is not in the New World.

The forever statutes regarding the sacrificial system of the Old Covenant World - ended when the Old Covenant World came to an end.

The only way to make these things rhyme and reason with Scripture is to see them in light of the Messiah's coming in the first century and with His Fulfillment of All the Prophecies.

If a man refuses to see that the Messiah fulfilled all the prophecies - then that man better get busy with sacrificing and keeping the Law exactly the way it was prescribed - or that man is making and playing with strange fire.

Friends, that's the story of Nadab and Abihu. And that's why I refuse to play "church." And that's why I won't yield to people telling me that Yahweh commands the Feast Days in the New Covenant.

I said it last week - am I opposed to fellowship? Of course not. I crave it - just like everyone else. But there are prescribed methods that Yahweh has laid out in His Word and we do not have the authority from God to make up our own religions. And when we do - we make strange fire - and Yahweh hates it. That's why we have the example of Nadab and Abihu. We're supposed to learn the Mind and Will of God for His creation and implement it into our lives.

Now let's see how much time we have to get back on track with today's message.

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Many years ago, I came across the New Haven Colony Covenant of 1639. As I read the document, I realized that what I was reading was exactly what Christ was establishing in the first century when He said He would build His Ecclesia - as you know - wrongly translated as quote unquote "church." These New Haven Colonists were doing exactly what Christ wanted to be done. It was done in those people's generation - I am not talking about the generation before them - or the generation after them - I'm talking about in their generation 1639. When you read what they did - what they agreed to - you will see that America - was - at least in that generation - great.

As a result of what they did in their generation - I believe the blessing of God was poured out upon them in such a great and mighty way - that the blessing lasted way beyond even their generation and even when subsequent generations left the faith of their fathers - the foundation upon which their fathers had laid yielded tremendous fruit for many years to follow.

I've got several ways to view this document on my website. I retyped it in an easier to read format and I put a link to see an actual reprint from the 1800s. I have never seen an original. I have seen what purports to be an original that has been retyped, but I've never seen the original document.

The New Haven Colony Covenant is an Ecclesia in the proper Biblical understanding and should still be a model for us today. When they came to settle and build their community, this is what they agreed to:

### **Fundamental Agreement, or Original Constitution of the Colony of New Haven, June 4, 1639**

THE 4th day of the 4th month, called June, 1639, all the free planters assembled together in a general meeting, to consult about settling civil government, according to God, and the nomination of persons that might be found, by consent of all, fittest in all respects for the foundation work of a church, which was intended to be gathered in Quinipiack.

Of course, we have to stop here because, they used the word "church." Their usage of the word "church" here in no way changes my position on the truth that we should not be using that word. At this time, the English language was - for lack of a better word - evolving. It was changing dramatically. These people had not even had a complete English version of the Bible in their hands for very long. I want to remind you that Tyndale Bible had only been around for a little more than a hundred years - and that Bible did not have the word "church" in it anywhere. The complete Geneva Bible had not been around for 100 years yet. What should be noted more importantly than anything here is that the settling of civil government according to God - was what they called a quote unquote "church." Their understanding of quote unquote "church" and the understanding of the word today - are as far apart as night and day. "Church" to these people in 1639 was understood to be Civil Government.

I also want to let you know that I found records from the 1800s that said the Connecticut legislature had taken the liberty to change some of the words in the original. It claimed that it only changed some punctuation and two words, but it didn't say what those 2 words were. When I looked at the retyped original, one of the three times the word "church" was supposedly used, one of them was incomplete. Who knows?

Let's keep reading.

After solemn invocation of the name of God, in prayer for the presence and help of his spirit and grace, in those weighty businesses, they were reminded of the business whereabout they met, (viz.) for the establishment of such civil order as might be most pleasing unto God, and for the choosing the fittest men for the foundation work of a church to be gathered.

Once again, the purpose of the assembly that day was for the establishment of such Civil Order as might be most pleasing unto God and to choose the fittest men to establish the foundation of their Civil Order. They were establishing Government - and there was no misunderstanding about it, that Government was one that would only be pleasing unto God. Find me a quote unquote "church" anywhere today who assembles for the purpose of setting up Civil Government in their community. It does not exist. That's not what quote unquote "church" does today. What we are reading about today is a group of people committed to following the blueprint laid from the Word of God. What we see today is strange fire. Continuing.

For the better enabling them to discern the mind of God, and to agree accordingly concerning the establishment of civil order, Mr. John Davenport propounded divers queries to them publicly, praying them to consider seriously in the presence and fear of God, the weight of the business they met about, and

not to be rash or slight in giving their votes to things they understood not; but to digest fully and thoroughly what should be propounded to them, and without respect to men, as they should be satisfied and persuaded in their own minds, to give their answers in such sort as they would be willing should stand upon record for posterity.

This being earnestly pressed by Mr. Davenport, Mr. Robert Newman was intreated to write, in characters, and to read distinctly and audibly in the hearing of all the people, what was propounded and accorded on, that it might appear, that all consented to matters propounded, according to words written by him.

Here again. There is no mistake that this covenant was for the purpose of establishing Civil Government in their new community. Now let's look at the nuts and bolts of the issues they were getting ready to vote on. Here is the first issue they discussed.

Query I. WHETHER the scriptures do hold forth a perfect rule for the direction and government of all men in all duties which they are to perform to God and men, as well in families and commonwealth, as in matters of the church ? This was assented unto by all, no man dissenting, as was expressed by holding up of hands. Afterwards it was read over to them, that they might see in what words their vote was expressed. They again expressed their consent by holding up their hands, no man dissenting.

This should be absolutely eye-opening for anyone reading this today. I wish I had a dime for every time over the last 30 years where a professing "Christian" has told me there is no way the Bible can cover every aspect of life all by itself. I've been told we need CONstitutions and laws and statutes in addition to the Bible. Well, that's not what these people believed. They voted on whether or not they believed the Scriptures hold forth perfect rule for the direction and government of all men in all duties which they were to perform to God and to each other. They all publicly voted yes - then it was read to them again and they confirmed it by voting yes a second time. This was serious business and they wanted to make sure that there was no misunderstanding as to what they were agreeing to.

I want you to keep in mind as we read this - there is absolutely NO appeal to any earthly king - ever - in the establishing of this community. Contrast this to documents written years later when quote unquote "states" were established. Almost all of them appealed to the quote unquote king of England for the authority to create their states. But in this document - it is noticeably absent - any reference to any earthly power to do what they did. To do so, would have been to produce strange fire. Look at Query II.

Query II. WHEREAS there was a covenant solemnly made by the whole assembly of free planters of this plantation, the first day of extraordinary humiliation, which we had after we came together, that as in matters that concern the gathering and ordering of a church (of civil government), so likewise in all public officers which concern civil order, as choice of magistrates and officers, making and repealing laws, dividing allotments of inheritance, and all things of like nature, we would all of us be ordered by those rules which the scripture holds forth to US; this covenant was called a plantation covenant, to distinguish it from a church covenant. which could not at that time be made a church not being then gathered, but was deferred till a church might be gathered, according to God.

I am assuming here that they were now talking about a building or a meeting place for their assemblies. I don't want anyone to ever misunderstand what I am saying in regards to quote unquote "church." I am not saying that people - God's people - should not get together for fellowship, for eating together, even for playing together - singing, preaching, etc., I've never said we should not be doing that. What I am saying is that fellowship, singing, preaching, etc., is not Ecclesia. And if we try to fool ourselves into believing that we can trade Ecclesia for fellowship, singing, preaching, etc., then we are doing exactly what Nadab and Abihu did - and it's strange fire.

Fellowship, singing, preaching, etc., without an Ecclesia is like playing with fire. We better be careful. I have never discouraged fellowship for those seeking to build an Ecclesia - but I will be the first to discourage fellowship when those fellowshiping have no desire or understanding for Ecclesia - for the King and His Kingdom.

Fellowship, singing, preaching, etc., without Ecclesia or the goal of Ecclesia - is a scary thing.

Men did not have the authority to create something called futurism - we don't have the authority to create something called "church." We do not have the authority to do things that God has not commanded. The principles from the story of Nadab and Abihu are as applicable today as they were in the day that Yahweh struck them down for their disobedience. Continuing with New Haven.

It was demanded whether all the free planters do hold themselves bound by that covenant, in all businesses of that nature which are expressed in the covenant, to submit themselves to be ordered by the rules held forth in the scripture t

This was not quote unquote "church." Whatever they were distinguishing further from their Civil Government - and I have my doubts that it was "church" but whatever it was

- by their own admission it hadn't been addressed yet. They were establishing Civil Government and they all agreed that they would submit themselves to be ordered by the rules held forth in the Scripture. Continuing.

THIS also was assented unto by all, and no man gainsayed it; and they did testify the same by holding up their hands, both when it was first propounded, and confirmed the same by holding up their hands when it was read unto them in public. John Clark being absent, when the covenant was made, doth now manifest his consent to it. Also Richard Beach, Andrew Law, Goodman Banister, Arthur Halbridge, John Potter, Robert Hill, John Brocket, and John Johnson, these persons, being not admitted planters when the covenant was made, do now express their consent to it.

I want you to take note that this vote was not a secret ballot. This was a public vote where everyone in the community knew where everyone else stood on the issue. This alone is hugely different from the way we do things today. Do you think they had a problem with identity fraud or voter fraud in this community? No, because the voting was done in accordance with Scripture. The private vote is against the Law of God. Nothing is done in secret that will not be exposed, Christ said. Men love darkness rather than light - why? - because their deeds are evil. We just don't get it - because unlike these people that actually founded America - they agreed among themselves that the Scripture do hold forth the perfect rule for how to conduct themselves in Government and among each other. Continuing, Query 3.

Query III. THOSE who have desired to be received as free planters, and are settled in the plantation, with a purpose, resolution and desire, that they may be admitted into church fellowship, according to CHRIST, as soon as God shall fit them "hereunto, were desired to express it by holding up hands. According all did express this to be their desire and purpose by holding up their hands twice (viz.) at the proposal of it, and after when these written words were read unto them.

Again, after my research, I still question that they actually used the word "church" in their document. If they did, it is still totally clear that their understanding of "church" was the Civil Government for their community. Query 4.

END OF MESSAGE.

Query IV. All the free planters were called upon to express, whether they held themselves bound to establish such civil order as might best conduce to the securing of the purity and peace of the ordinance to themselves and their posterity according to God In answer hereunto they expressed by holding up their hands twice as before, that they held themselves bound to establish such civil order as might best conduce to the ends aforesaid.

THEN Mr. Davenport declared unto them, by the scripture, what kind of persons might best be trusted with matters of government; and by sundry arguments from scripture proved that such men as were described in Exod. xviii. 2, Deut. 1. 13, with Deut. xvii. A, and 1 Cor. vi. 1, 6, 7, ought to be intrusted by them, seeing they were free to cast themselves into that mould and form of commonwealth which appeared best for them in reference to the securing. the peace and peaceable improvement of all CHRIST his ordinances in the church (Civil Government) according to God, whereunto they have bound themselves, as hath been acknowledged.

HAVING thus said he sat down praying the company freely to consider, whether they would have it voted at this time or not. After some space of silence, Mr. Theophilus Eaton answered it might be voted, and some others also spake to the same purpose, none at all opposing it. Then it was propounded to vote.

Query V. WHETHER free burgesses shall be chosen out of the church members,

It certainly appears by all accounts that their use of the word "church" applies to those who have voted in their community that they Civil Government was to be established according to the Scriptures. The free burgesses were men who were Biblically qualified to act as judged in the affairs of the community. They were not paid to do their work, that's what they were called free burgesses.

they that are in the foundation work of the church being actually free burgesses, and to choose to themselves out of the like estate of church fellowship, and the power of choosing magistrates and officers from among themselves, and the power of making and repealing laws, according to the word, and the dividing of inheritances, and deciding of differences that may arise, and all the businesses of like nature are to be transacted by those free burgesses.

The notable thing here is that their judges could only come from a pool of men that were Biblically qualified who would judge according to the Word of God. This is what Ecclesia is. And we do not have this in America and have not had it for a long time. This is what Christ wants for His people. This is what we should be striving for, talking about, pursuing.

This was put to vote and agreed unto by lifting up of hands twice, as in the former it was done. Then one man stood up and expressed his dissenting from the rest in part; yet granting, 1. That magistrates should be men fearing God. 2. That the church is the company where, ordinarily, such men may be expected.

Now in this instance, their use of the word "church" is becoming a little clearer and to this end - I certainly have no problem. An Ecclesia, a Christian community was established, now a common place of meeting, of assembly is in order. And when the people agree to assemble, men should be there. Judges should be there. This is a place where people are taught the Laws of God. This is the place where men are taught to obey the King of kings.

In my further research of the New Haven Colony Covenant, they had a place where disputes were resolved. They had a place where civil disputes were settled and they had a place where criminal acts were resolved. You can go online and read for yourself, too, that there was very little crime. Go online and read for yourself. Their court cases for at least 10 years or so after 1639 are available to read. The people that choose the magistrates;

3. That they that choose them ought to be men fearing God; only at this he stuck, that free planters ought not to give this power out of their hands. Another stood up and answered, that nothing was done, but with their consent. The former answered, that all the free planters ought to resume this power into their own hands again, if things were not orderly carried.

They said it should never be relinquished that only men who feared God should be allowed to choose the free burgesses and the magistrates. You'd be laughed into oblivion today if this was suggested in America. But I'm telling you this is the prescribed Godly plan and what we've been doing in America for a long long time is strange fire. Yeah, you can be warmed by strange fire - but it will lead to death.

Mr. Theophilus Eaton answered, that in all places they choose committees in like manner. The companies in London choose the liveries by whom the public magistrates are chosen. In this the rest are not wronged, because they expect, in time, to be of the livery themselves, and to have the same power. Some others intreated the former to give his arguments and reasons whereupon he dissented. He refused to do it, and said, they might not rationally demand it, seeing he let the vote pass on freely and did not speak till after it was past, because he would not hinder what they agreed upon. Then Mr. Davenport, after a short relation of some former passages between them two about this question, prayed the company that nothing might be concluded by them on this weighty question, but what themselves were persuaded to be agreeing with the mind of God, and they had heard what had been said since the voting; he intreated them again to

consider of it, and put it again to vote as before. Again all of them, by holding up their hands, did show their consent as before. And some of them confessed that, whereas they did waver before they came to the assembly, they were now fully convinced, that it is the mind of God. One of them said that in the morning before he came reading Deut. xvii. 15, he was convinced at home. Another said, that he came doubting to the assembly, but he blessed God, by what had been said, he was now fully satisfied, that the choice of burgesses out of church members and to intrust those with the power before spoken of is according to the mind of God revealed in the scriptures. All having spoken their apprehensions it was agreed upon, and Mr. Robert Newman was desired to write it as an order whereunto every one, that hereafter should be admitted here as planters, should submit, and testify the same by subscribing their names to the order: Namely, that church members only shall be free burgesses, and that they only shall choose magistrates and officers among themselves, to have power of transacting all the public civil affairs of this plantation; of making and repealing laws, dividing of inheritances, deciding of differences that may arise, and doing all things and businesses of like nature.

THIS being thus settled, as a fundamental agreement concerning civil government, Mr. Davenport proceeded to propound something to consideration about the gathering of a church' and to prevent the blemishing of the first beginnings of the church work, Mr. Davenport advised, that the names of such as were to be admitted might be publicly propounded, to the end that they who were most approved might be chosen; for the town being cast into several private meetings, wherein they that lived nearest together gave their accounts one to another of God's gracious world upon them, and prayed together and conferred to their mutual edification, sundry of them had knowledge one of another, and in every meeting some one was more approved of all than any other; for this reason and to prevent scandals, the whole company was intreated to consider whom they found fittest to nominate for this work.

Query VI. WHETHER are you all willing and do agree in this, that twelve men be chosen, that their fitness for the foundation work may be tried; however there may be more named yet it may be in their power who are chosen to reduce them to twelve, and that it be in the power of those twelve to choose out of themselves seven, that shall be most approved of by the major part, to begin the church (the Civil Government).

THIS was agreed upon by consent of all, as was expressed by holding up of hands, and that so many as should be thought fit for the foundation work of the church, shall be propounded by the plantation, and written down and pass without exception, unless they had given public scandal or offence. Yet so as in case of public scandal or offense, every one should have liberty to propound their exception, at that time, publicly against any man, that should be

nominated, when all their names should be writ down. But if the offence were private, that mens names might be tendered, so many as were offended were intreated to deal with the offender privately, and if he gave not satisfaction to bring the matter to the twelve, that they might consider of it impartially and in the fear of God.

Friends, this is what an Ecclesia looks like. All you and I have ever known is something called quote unquote "church" and it doesn't look anything like the New Haven Colony Covenant.

Until we are able to tear down the lie of futurism, tear down the lie of "church" - we will not be able to begin replacing those things with the Godly foundations of Ecclesia. We've got our work cut out for us. The deception is huge, I don't have to tell you that. But we need to get busy. Jesus is not coming back here riding on a white horse to do what we have failed to do. It is not His fault. And, I need to be very careful about how I say this, but in many ways it's not our fault. Many sincere people, people sincerely seeking the ways of God and wanting to know God and wanting God to be real in their lives - have fallen victim to the lies and deceptions of the enemies of the Kingdom of God. They've fallen for lies of the likes of C.I. Scofield and others of that ilk. I have hope that maybe it's a sleeping giant out there. And when or if we can get them to wake up, they'll see the error of their ways and see the reasons for why we are in the shape we are in, and turn to the Scriptures believing that the Scriptures do hold forth the perfect rule for our lives.