

Rev 26-06-03a

Greetings, this is Wednesday night at Grace & Truth Bible Church. It is the 3rd of June, 2026. We are continuing our study in the book of Revelation.

We are in chapter 19, and we are looking at the culminating judgment that has been detailed in chapters 17 and 18, not only on Babylon, but preparation for the judgment on the beast himself, what his stratagems are, what his final play will be in endeavoring to rule the world, to thwart the plans and purposes of God and substitute his own. Let's ask God's blessing on our time of fellowship and investigation, and we'll begin. Father, thank you for the gift of your word, the presence and power of your spirit, to understand it, to remember it, and to apply it.

We thank you most of all for the Lord Jesus, our savior, his almost unfathomable work on our behalf in securing our redemption, reconciliation, propitiation, accomplishing atonement, fulfilling your purpose, conquering sin and death, and the sway of the being who holds that power in this world. We thank you that we have this opportunity to spend time together in mutual encouragement and fellowship around your word. We pray that your spirit will bless it to our hearts.

May we live in a way that pleases you and glorifies the Lord Jesus. We ask it in his name, amen. Amen.

Looking first quickly at our context in Revelation chapter 19, after these things, this is the two chapter description of the mystery that is Babylon. The woman who rides the beast, her clothing, her cup full of fornications, her relationship to the kings of the earth and to the merchants of the earth, her ultimate overthrow by the 10 horns who are a mysterious kind of power that doesn't need a kingdom to operate. And God will put it in their hearts, put it in their mind to act in unison to overthrow and unseat and destroy, tear to pieces and consume this entity represented by the scarlet harlot.

This is the time that Satan will drop all pretense, drop the proxy control that he has exerted through false religion, false spirituality, false philosophies, all of the puppets that he has operated throughout history that are represented in this woman, that is going to drop away and the naked presence of Satan himself is going to emerge. This, I think, is presaged. I think the foundation may be laid in recent decades by a combination of an evolutionary Darwinian explanation for life on the earth in the minds of so many, eliminating the need for a creator and therefore any consideration of revelation that purports to be from that creator.

We don't need a creator. We don't need to pay any attention to words that purport to be from him or that create any kind of moral responsibility. And that happened some 175 years ago, give or take, it's been progressing ever since Charles Darwin published his origin of species and has grown in breadth and scope and attractive persuasive power to those who have made science

their religion and evolution their blind and pitiless God.

That, however, is not enough to explain the worship of the first beast that is sponsored by the second beast at the behest of the dragon. We have seen this in recent chapters of revelation as the unholy trinity, Satan in the place of God the Father, the first beast popularly called the Antichrist, although never so in revelation, as the visible false Christ, false savior on the earth, enabled, empowered, supported by the second beast, which is a false Holy Spirit. And this has become unmasked and is pretty much open to view once the false religions of the world are swept away.

Now, as a thought experiment and supported by the movie slash documentary slash hypothetical scenario, which we, most of us watched together this last weekend called the Age of Disclosure, its subject is UFOs, as they were called up until recently. Now, UAPs, Unidentified Anomalous Presences, or whatever that stands for, Unidentified Flying Objects, Unidentified Phenomena, Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena, Aerial Anomalous, they're not always flying when they purport to find them. As good a case as can be made for that is probably represented in this thing or a couple of things that preceded it.

Ancient Aliens is another similar, a bit earlier treatment. The reason we are addressing this is there has been an increasing call for government classified materials related to this subject to be released. And the first tranche of those materials was just released a couple of weeks ago.

There is the promise that more such material is on the way. Do we care? We might initially say, no, I don't, but I would like to offer you a plausible reason for paying attention to this and being prepared for it. Let's just talk about a tiny subset of this subject.

Much of this subject is fraught with material that doesn't even pertain. I would estimate personally, and with the authority of those who have looked into this in detail, better than 90% of unexplained phenomena are explicable in reasonably common terms. We are gonna talk about what is not explicable and what may potentially be revealed in the near future because it pertains to our study.

I'm gonna limit our investigation to two things, not Bigfoot, not lights, not abductions, not, oh, I saw a sphere hovering over a missile silo. These depend on the credibility of witnesses who have no other evidence than this is what I saw. It isn't always a good idea to dismiss out-of-hand eyewitness testimony.

The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and his post-resurrection appearances were testified to by witnesses, and we take that for fact, for reasons. That's a different discussion. Here's what we're going to talk about.

Allegedly, there are crashed vehicles that are made of stuff, not of this earth, representing technology and advanced abilities to travel that are nowhere near any technology that exists at

present. Supposedly, these have crashed and have been recovered. There is, according to the documentary, a government agency or agencies that are tasked with watching for these, listening, keeping their ear to the ground.

If somebody sees something strange, they immediately deploy, try to find this stuff, collect it, and disappear it into the bowels of great secrecy. Just for the sake of argument, that is either true or it isn't. And there is a sense in which, as you will see, the verity or veracity of that may not actually matter.

It is the belief that these exist that has great power. If they can produce it and support that belief, that's going to just amplify the concept. Secondly, in and among some of these crashes, there is the claim that there is biological life that is non-human, non-terrestrial, represents an alien species or multiple species.

There are repeated affirmations that there are a minimum of two of these. And it is shocking to the average human mind to contemplate the claim that we are not alone in the universe in a material sense. Believers know that we're not alone in the universe in a spiritual sense.

We understand biblical revelation that there is another creation that God instigated. These individuals have access to our creation without us being able to detect or see them. That's a given.

We are talking about physical evidence that there are things that have appeared in the last, say, 80 years that are not of this earth, operated, created, and inhabited by creatures. That are not of this earth. So that is the central thing we are going to look at from a biblical point of view, amazingly enough.

I don't care about anything else right now. Separate subjects, talk about it another time. There either are or are not alien spacecraft operated, created, and inhabited by creatures that are not of this earth.

Biological life forms that they've recovered. I would assume all of them are dead. If there's any of them alive, that is neither here nor there in terms of our subject.

So why do we care about this? Would it shake our faith? As I mentioned, Sunday surveys have been done, and most religious people say, even if there's life on other planets and you can prove it, it doesn't really trouble me in terms of my biblical faith, my Islamic faith, my Buddhist faith. People of faith believe what they believe. And if new information comes along, you incorporate it in.

If it seems to be factual, evidentiary, part of creation in some way, I may need to rethink some of my assumptions or my less closely held conclusions from the word of God, if this is the case. It's a big universe. Is God big enough to do stuff on more than one planet, run more than one

project? What are the implications? Did those creatures sin? Did Jesus go to more than one planet to die on a cross? That's not something we have to worry about, but it is within the realm of possibility without in any way shaking the foundations of our faith that God is allowed to do what God does, which is create and operate in places other than this one planet, this one solar system, this one galaxy amongst what appear to be trillions of galaxies in our ever expanding universe.

That's not the issue. We are not fending off the idea that if they reveal and scientifically document and elaborate and demonstrate that there is life from other planets that has crashed here, it's world ending in terms of biblical faith. We're not worried about that.

Here's what is of interest. And here is the biblical foundation for it. This is, those of you that have seen this, and if you haven't, I encourage you to watch it.

Think what you will. I have it on good authority that there are some people who want their two hours back after having watched it. But I think you may realize why it's worthwhile in terms of keeping your eye on the sky.

The Lord Jesus said, you need to see the signs of the times. And these times are unique, although there are historical precedents. So the Bible doesn't talk about little green men or flying saucers, although there are some who look at Ezekiel and say, you know, wheels within a wheel, come on.

That sounds like a flying saucer to me. But let's look at something more pertinent, which is the beast, Satan, and his divine claims as proxied and perpetrated through the first beast and the second beast in the latter days. So if you have your Bible there, which I know you do, turn to Revelation chapter 13, and looking at the first eight verses, looking at the dragon in verse 17 of the previous chapter, 12, 17, the dragon was enraged with the woman and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring.

Then he, in 13, one, stood on the sand of the sea and I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, seven heads, 10 horns on his horns, 10 crowns on his heads, a blasphemous name. It was like a leopard, feet like a bear, mouth like a lion, dragon gives him power, throne, great authority. One of his heads mortally wounded, deadly wound was healed.

You remember Zechariah 11, 17, if you haven't written that in your margin, you should. That's the idle shepherd or the worthless shepherd who is struck with a sword in his right eye and his right arm or hand, and wound was healed. All the world marveled, followed the beast.

They worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast and they worshiped the beast saying, who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him? This is historically unprecedented. You look at the Greeks and the Persians, you look at the history of warfare and even small forces think they can go up against big forces. It is rare for someone to say, well, this is a power nobody can even begin to make war against.

Jonathan and his armor bearer go against a host of Philistines. Gideon and his 300 prevail. There are any number of historical examples in secular records of small forces going up against large ones and in many cases prevailing.

Superior strategy, element of surprise, cutting off logistics and so on. Better weapons. So to say there is no power that can oppose this entity in a day of nuclear weapons and drones and the kind of technology that is available, to say this is a power beyond approach, beyond opposition is saying something.

So hold that thought. Who is able to make war with him? Giving him out, speaking great things and blasphemies. Blasphemies are words that directly impugn God.

It isn't, I'm a great guy. I'm the best that ever was. Blasphemies are a direct contradiction and interdiction of divine power, authority, and revelation.

This is a direct assault on faith in the God of the Bible, blasphemies. You can say God is dead. You can say there is no God.

You can persecute people who worship God, but to obviate the concept of God is at a higher level. He does this for 42 months. This is three and a half years, 36 plus six, 42 months, three and a half years.

And this is, we think, the latter portion of the 70th week. He opens his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, his tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. You think, pick a current world leader of a gigantic state, nation, whatever, Russia, China, Iran, name your world power, and say, I know these guys don't cotton to the whole idea of God, probably dismiss Bible belief as old-fashioned, mythical, ignorant, backward, benighted, whatever.

Bunch of Luddites, you know, what's the matter with you? Don't you know science? Don't you know there is no need for this ancient, tattered, dusty, goat-herd-originated set of concepts? That's not this. Look at it. This individual opens his mouth in blasphemy against God, blasphemes his name, his tabernacle, which is the place of meeting between men and God, right, and those who dwell in heaven.

All of this is a part of his propaganda campaign, and remember, the rapture has already taken place, so what is the point of this blasphemy? There are those who are going to turn to God and turn to faith in him as the last generation of Old Testament saints under those covenants. As we know, you're gonna have 144,000 witness, servants of God sealed in their foreheads and so on, but out of the world population, 144,000 is hardly a threat. Why the emphasis on this blasphemy? Hold that thought.

Granted him to make war with the saints and to overcome them authorities given him over every tribe, tongue, nation, and people. All who dwell on the earth will worship him. All who dwell on the

earth, they don't just listen to him.

They don't just agree with him. They are worshiping, treating him as a deity. It is not the God of heaven.

It is not the God of creation. It is not the God of the tabernacle. It is not the God who has his redeemed creation and unfallen creation in heaven.

All of that is bunkum in verse six, and those who dwell on the earth in verse eight, worship him whose names have not been written in the book of life of the lamb, slain from the foundation of the world. I've talked about that earlier. So what do we know about this first beast? He receives his power from Satan directly.

He appears to suffer a mortal wound and recover. We have such wonderful modern medical technology that people that have been clinically dead for minutes on end, they do compressions and mouth to mouth for 45 minutes, an hour, an hour and 15 minutes with no sinus rhythm and then suddenly they come back. This is not extraordinary.

This is something so extraordinary that it dazzles the world and they worship this individual. This is not your average recovery or even an extraordinary recovery from a mortal wound. This is unprecedented.

This so impresses everyone in the world that they are going to treat this individual like Jesus Christ, like God himself. Our response to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to be imitated. And the resurrection of the Lord Jesus is unique.

He wasn't resuscitated like Lazarus or any number of other individuals to pass away some years later. He is alive forevermore. He is obviously divine.

He has supernatural power. He is able to perform miracles and so on. And this is of that order.

And the world, despite its tolerance and inurement to technology, and well, what will they think of next? Drones, energy, directed energy weapons, lasers and phasers and warping space. Okay, we've heard it in science fiction. Now it's coming true.

Okay, great. Artificial intelligence. Yeah, we saw that coming.

This is going to dazzle the world to the point of worshiping this individual as God. What is of that order and magnitude? So the beast here, the first beast, is powered by the dragon, is unveiled and released and presented as something more than merely human. He can claim and does claim, according to the Bible, to be a God, an ascended being, something transcendent to what the earth produces.

A representative, perhaps, of an extraterrestrial civilization. Think Superman, planet Krypton,

come to this planet. I'm miraculous, right? Could also be presented as the culmination of an evolution process that maybe took place elsewhere.

Evolution got further along. Richard Dawkins has posited this. It's not his first choice of hypotheses, but life on earth, it is so improbable that he has proposed that evolved beings somewhere else may have done panspermia and created life here.

It doesn't solve the problem of where they came from, but it does solve the problem of the amazingness of life here. So, that's our first passage, Revelation 13, one through eight. Second passage, second point.

This beast is going to be seated as God. 2 Thessalonians 2, 3, and 4. You can flip back to it if you have a second. 2 Thessalonians 2, 3, and 4. Let no one deceive you by any means.

That day will not come unless the apostasia, the standing away, comes first. Some think this is a great falling away from the faith. My belief, as you know, is that this is the rapture.

We stand away. Stasis, to stand, apa, away from. And Paul is arguing, you shouldn't be concerned that the day of the Lord is here and you're in it.

I've told you before, it can't happen until you're gone. Comfort one another with these words. Can't come unless the apostasia comes first and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition.

Read verse four, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God. The scarlet harlot is wiped away. All that is called God or that is worshiped, ancient, intermediate, modern, saints in the Catholic Church, entities in the pantheons of empires past, all that is called God, this individual is able to supersede and perhaps explain, as a misunderstanding, these earlier mythological or scriptural allusions.

Exalts himself and opposes, actively extinguishes legitimacy for these earlier things. Anything that's called God or that is worshiped so that he sits as God in the temple of God. If you're gonna worship something, you worship him because he has explained everything previous and he's the one with the knowledge.

He's the one with signs and wonders. He's the one who can even resurrect himself from a mortal wound or be resurrected by his parent civilization, showing himself and saying to people, he's God. Did you wonder what all of these past expressions, adumbrations were? Well, that's us, that's me.

So I am an advanced cosmic being. I am humanity's creator. I represent those who seeded life on earth.

I am an extraterrestrial super being and appearance of me or others like me in the past explains all of your religious myths and past beliefs. Miracles, to the extent that they happened, that was

us. That was me.

Oh, so the Bible is just a misguided misunderstanding as are all of the other accounts and mythologies. Again, these ideas are not explicit in the Bible, but when you look at the direction in which the attention and the persuasion of the world's population is, the more the notion of the reality of extraterrestrial life and technology takes hold, the easier it is for someone to come in legitimately or illegitimately and say, I am that. Number three, Revelation 13, 13, the false prophet calls fire from heaven.

He does great wonders. He makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. This surpasses any known technology, any known weapon design.

So this can be presented as rather than, hi there, I'm Satan and these are my demons. Hi there, I am a super being and these are my fellow super beings. This is the technology that I bring from my far away origins.

Number four, Satan masquerades as something that he is not. Second Corinthians 11, 14, Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. We are here to save humanity from itself.

You all can't quit having wars. Here I am, here's my guy riding the white horse with a bow, going forth conquering and to conquer. First seal, Revelation chapter six.

Matthew 24, 24, there shall arise false messiahs, false prophets showing great signs and wonders. Ultimately, this is the final ultimate biggest expression, a giant false Christ that's almost impossible not to believe in if you're secular and materialist and you haven't gone the route of faith in Christ, belief in the Bible. So demons have historically impersonated gods and presented themselves as gods.

We know this from the Old Testament. In a technological age, they could represent themselves as extraterrestrials. It's in the same way that there used to be snake oil 150 years ago and Carter's little liver pills and other wonderful patent medicines that fooled people.

We have the same thing. It's just upscaled, it's technological, it's wrapped in science. And if you eat collagen, you will produce and have the appearance of lots of collagen.

If you see people hawking collagen, take, oh, this is seven different kinds of collagen. Take this and your wrinkles will disappear and you'll be young and vibrant. No, you won't.

Eating a thing doesn't make you that thing. If you eat Tootsie Rolls, you don't suddenly start looking like a Tootsie Roll. You may develop rolls, but they are not Tootsie.

And look at, I mean, use your common sense, but people are willing to believe an attractive lie. So end times deception, this deception in 17, 18, and even 19, when this dragon appears and deceives the world, can be of this sort. Humanity may perceive Satan, and these are lying signs.

This doesn't have to be an actual extraterrestrial civilization, but if they can produce some kind of organic material, remember angels were involved in Genesis chapter six with some sort of corporeal flesh that was capable of copulation and reproduction, taking wives of the daughters of men. And if that technology has, or that ability has somehow gotten into the hands of Satan, or if part of the unsealing and release of Satan involves letting him do what he has been prevented from doing up to that point, and his argument in heaven is, you haven't let me really exploit my strategy to the max, just as the argument was, let me touch Job himself. He doesn't care about his family.

And God may say, okay, fine, you wanna strew a few quote unquote alien bodies around and some alien technology to convince the world who is disbelieving and let them believe the lie. God may allow that in the same way that there are other occasions. God allowed Satan to test the Lord Jesus for 40 days.

So it could be for 42 months. There is a new ability exercised by Satan that has been prohibited up to that point. So in the coming down from heaven, the fifth point here, coming down from heaven, Revelation 12, there is war in heaven.

Revelation 13, that we already saw. Revelation nine, when the abyss is opened and angelic beings emerge, is the abyss actually located in the depths of planet earth or is it a dimensional abyss that is actually around us and beyond us? Revelation 16, 13, and 14, demonic spirits performing signs and wonders. Number six, this beast evidently is something other than human because remember it's fate.

The beast and the false prophet are the first to go into the lake of fire and they are said to be there sometime later when Satan is cast in. Revelation 17, eight, the beast that you saw that was and is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit. This quote unquote antichrist seems to be of a type that is beyond merely human.

Revelation 17, 11, the beast is the eighth and is of the seven. So there are a lot of theories about this. Is it a revived empire? Is it a revived ruler? Is it demonic possession? Is it a resurrection counterfeit? Is it a supernatural incarnation of evil? But it could also partake of and build on these expectations having to do with extraterrestrial life, extraterrestrial technology.

Oh, it's Krypton, they're so advanced. Look at them, space travel, bending space time, covering huge distances, able to bring life back from the dead. That explains everything.

And it is blasphemy to say that wasn't God. It's not him raising the dead. He's not unique.

He's not the creator. His son, the Lord Jesus Christ is not the savior. It's all technology.

We saw this coming, science fiction anticipated it. So 2 Thessalonians 2, this is our seventh point. Love heaven, seven points.

Strong delusion, 2 Thessalonians 2, nine through 11. The coming of this individual is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. And God will send them strong delusion in the same way that he lets the 10 horns unseat and destroy the scarlet harlot.

God will send them strong delusion that they should believe this lie. And this global extraterrestrial narrative could well be that lie in my view. So there have been interpretations and reinterpretations of the beast all down through history.

Early church thought it's one or another of the Roman emperors, Nero 66. Could be the papacy and the excesses and crimes of the Roman Catholic church. People thought it was Napoleon.

They thought it was Hitler. They thought it was communism. Thought it was one world government.

Thought it was AI and now extraterrestrials. So to be fair, this is the latest in a long line of speculations about what form this is going to take. However, none of those predecessors seems to fulfill the biblical description quite as well and fully as what we've just described.

The characteristics are blasphemous self-exaltation, counterfeit signs and wonders, meaning they are performed and they are ascribed to something that isn't really true. It may not be an advanced extraterrestrial civilization. It is the power of Satan and the power of demons masquerading as such.

You remember that Satan has been a liar from the beginning and is the father of lies. Angels had been associated with extraterrestriality from the beginning. Job 38, seven, the morning star sang together.

The sons of God shouted for joy. Revelation 12, four, the dragon's tail draws a third part of the stars, understood to be angels. And so if they represent themselves as from the stars, it is consistent with everything we know from scripture.

Ezekiel's vision in chapter one, wheels within wheels, living creatures, flashing fire, brilliant light, movement in multiple directions, a throne above the creatures. Ancient astronaut writers frequently allude to this passage as coming from an alien encounter or experience rather than recognizing that the reality of what is happening in heaven is going to be counterfeited by Satan. And biblical accounts will be explained away just the way these UFOlogists do.

Don't forget Genesis chapter six, the Nephilim, sons of God, daughters of men, sons are born to them, demigods, and so on. So what this would lead to is recasting the incarnation of Jesus Christ and explaining him away. He was miraculous.

He was special. He was, in a way, a demigod, but that's because he was Clark Kent, going by the name of Jesus of Nazareth, actually not from here. Jesus was an extraterrestrial emissary.

Angels are extraterrestrials to the extent that they've been legitimately seen and interacted with. The resurrection was advanced technology. Whatever body the Lord Jesus was using to travel among men was crucified.

The technicians came and re-energized it. Heaven is just another dimension or another star system, something beyond this planet. And this directly undermines.

The blasphemy angle is you obviate and undermine and, in some ways, eviscerate in the minds of secular people claims about creation, about sin, about incarnation, about redemption and the need for it, and resurrection. So an extraterrestrial explanation appears scientific, for one, and science appeals. Science gave me my smartphone.

Secondly, it can reinterpret religious history and make sense of it. And you say, oh, that's what that was. Thirdly, it can unite diverse belief systems because they come together and agree, oh, so that's what our Buddhism, our Indian beliefs, and our pseudo-Christian beliefs, and so on.

That's what that was. It provides a rationale for global authority. This civilization, this entity is so advanced, so far ahead of us, we should bow the knee and let them solve our problems.

We're not able to do it. Look at us still killing each other. And it could explain away biblical supernatural events while preserving them as historical memories.

You could see the compromise. Okay, I still believe my Bible. I just understand now what that was.

And it wasn't the God that we place our faith in who sent his son, the Lord Jesus Christ, with a redemptive mission and reminding us of moral accountability. All of that goes away if it's just beings from another planet. So in conclusion, ran a little bit long, but in conclusion, to the extent, whether real or not, even if they are real, even if these technologies, craft beings are legitimately not from here, I would submit to you that it is a ploy.

It is a foundation being laid by Satan that will give affirmation and credibility to his unveiling of the beast and his explanation of reality that is essentially blasphemy and presenting himself as God. What you thought was God was me slash us. Whether it takes tangible form or just has so much belief behind it that it is, you know, it's so hard to know now what's disinformation, misinformation, what is actual information? Can I actually go get a microscope and look at this biology? Can I see firsthand the DNA that says it's not from around here? Ultimately, everybody is taking the word of somebody about most of these things.

You know, we don't carbon date ourselves and decide, well, these dinosaur bones are really old, but it will be so persuasive that it will convince the world whatever this pseudo revelation is, this great lie, this big deception, it is going to have the power to persuade the world to explain history and explain the present appearance of the beast. And the false prophet is going to perpetrate this

narrative and you need to worship this. You need to submit and subjugate your goals and values and priorities to this agenda because this is the real deal.

It is advanced beyond anything we're going to attain anytime in the near future. So let's do what this guy says. This is how I think, and as you watch, if more and more material is released from the classified archives, I would submit that it is fully consonant and harmonious with what revelation says about the end times and the explanatory power that Satan is going to use in a deceptive manner to blaspheme God, substitute himself and his proxies in God's place.

So that's my take on it. I think it fits the biblical evidence, Old Testament and new, as well or better than any alternative. It has great explanatory power and that's one of the merits of a good hypothesis.

So I leave you with that and encourage you to remember what the application is for us. Because Satan is the father of lies, we are warned about the possibility of being deceived ourselves, the way he is going to successfully deceive the world. 24, four and five of Matthew, Matthew 24, four and five, I've quoted it so many times.

"Take heed that no man deceive you," Jesus says. "Many shall come in my name saying, 'I am Christ,' and shall deceive many." And both senses of that sentence are true. I am Christ, I was Christ, or that Jesus was one of us.

It works either way. You don't have to resolve the ambiguity. Are they saying, I myself am Christ, or saying the Jesus of Nazareth that's recorded in scripture? He's the real deal and here's why.

Not that he was sent from heaven to redeem humanity, he's one of us. "Many false prophets shall rise and deceive many," Matthew 24, 11. 24, 24 of Matthew, "There shall arise false messiahs, false prophets.

"They will show great signs and wonders "in so much that if it were possible, "they would deceive the very elect." How can you disprove that that's all that was? Highly persuasive deception. What is the solution? Matthew 26, 41, "Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation." Mark 13, 33, "Take heed, watch and pray." Luke 21, 36, "Watch therefore and pray always." It is repeated in the gospels because it is important. There is a danger that we fall away, that we get distracted, that we are deceived and led astray.

The difference between building your house on the rock or on the sand, you have that in Luke chapter eight. "The iniquity is going to abound in the latter days "and the love of many shall wax cold." Matthew 24, 12. Think the first church in Revelation chapter two, Ephesus.

Paul warns believers in Acts chapter 20, verses 30 and 31. "Also of your own selves shall men arise "speaking perverse things to draw away disciples "after them, therefore watch." Deception takes many forms. First Corinthians 10, 12, "Let him that thinks he stands be careful lest he fall."

Take heed, lest he fall.

Galatians 1, 6, Paul tells the people in that region, "I marvel that you are so soon removed "from the one who called you. "Though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel." Think how pregnant those words are. "Even if I or an angel from heaven "preach any other gospel unto you, let him be accursed." That's Galatians 1, 8. Paul anticipates an angel, a messenger from heaven or from the heavens or someone who claims to be extraterrestrial preaches a different corruption, a different kind of good news than the gospel itself.

Second Corinthians 11, 3, "The serpent beguiled Eve through his craftiness." So your minds can be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. Watch out for it, don't let it happen. First Timothy 4, 1, "The Spirit says expressly, emphatically, "that in the latter times, some will depart from the faith, "giving heed to seducing spirits "and the doctrines of demons." First Timothy 4, 1. Second Timothy 4, 3, "The time will come when they will not endure "sound doctrine." They won't hold to it, they won't stick with it.

Next verse, "They shall turn away their ears from the truth "and shall be turned aside to fables." Paul says in Second Timothy 2, 26, "There is such a thing as the snare of the devil, "the trap." So in Hebrews 3, 12, "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you "an evil heart of faithlessness, "departing from the living God, "entering into the seduction, the deception, "the blasphemy." So Hebrews 3, 13, "We should encourage and exhort each other daily, "otherwise we can be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." Hebrews 3, 13. "The deception, the proliferation can ruin us, "can neutralize us." So Hebrews 2, 1, "We should give the more earnest heed, "lest at any time we should let these truths slip away. "Focus, concentrate, watch, pray, "spend time in fellowship with other believers, "encourage one another to love and good works, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together." So, you know that theme? There are many other verses I could adduce, but seeing that this is going to happen in the future is presented to us so that we can make application in the present.

We've seen that theme here in recent days. That is our lengthy one-session class. We will close in a word of prayer, and then we'll open up the floor for first hour special music, and then discussion and comment and reaction to the Age of Disclosure documentary.

Let's close in a word of prayer. Father, thank you that we are forewarned and forearmed. Whatever may develop in the world, in secular humanism and philosophy and science, and even direct incursions by Satan with lying signs and wonders, we are kept by the power of your promises, your word, your spirit, the Lord Jesus Christ himself.

We're grateful for that. We thank you for it, and we pray that we can see the pertinence and application as we contemplate what will happen in future days after we depart, just as we contemplate what happened in the historical past before we came on the scene. We pray that as we reflect and as we endeavor to apply truth in our circumstances and situations, that God the

Holy Spirit will enable the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ who reflects your glory to shine in our lives.

We ask it in Jesus' name, amen.