

EASTER SESSION I

Vic Hall, Word for Easter Seminar 2025
Transcription of recording, slightly edited

Good morning, everyone and a particularly warm welcome to the large number on the live stream today. We have a huge number, many more than we have here with us today. I will go a bit slower with everything and I have given my speaking notes today in this little paper called *Understanding Offering* (and they will be on lampstand as well). I am actually going to speak on 'the sign of the prophet Jonah' today. If you have your notes in front of you, come to page 10 in your little A5 speaking notes. I am going to read the Scriptures first on this and we are going to take our time reading the Scriptures. I have also handwritten a few more things yesterday and today. As with each day, I wait to hear what the Spirit is saying. Let us turn first of all to Matthew chapter 12 verses 39 and 40. The overview of everything I have to say is in the notes. Tomorrow 'the seed' will be my speaking notes as well.

These are an overview statement. I can come back to and read them but just think of them as having been read. I could speak straight *from* them (they are speaking notes), but I would rather speak *to* them now and go back to the Scriptures and let us unpack it out of the word itself. What I am about to speak about here (the sign of the prophet Jonah) is the most important thing that you are going to need to appropriate in this coming season. [This will be] particularly once the Father takes His seat, because there will be many other false christs and false prophets. They will be proclaiming and demonstrating many other signs. The signs will be so dramatic that they will deceive the very elect if that is possible.

It will be good to get started here in Matthew chapter 12 and I am also going to read from Luke, to deal with the question of being deceived. Verse 38 of Matthew 12: 'Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered,

saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." "We want to see a sign from you..."'

Now if you go with Paul, (Paul pursues this; John pursues this) and he [Paul] begins Corinthians and says, '[The Jews] seek a sign.' And the equivalent of the Jewish sign is that the Greeks or the Gentiles seek philosophy or religion, or the science of interpretation - everything tied to the intellectual mind; nothing to the illumination of the Spirit. 1Co 1:22. 'We would see a sign from you.' You can see where Paul is coming from with this.

'...But He [Jesus] answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up in judgement with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah."'

We will also go from here to Luke 11:30 and we will read the same story here. I am leaving you to do your own further study on this. I am sure the Sunday School children (nearly all of them) will be up to speed on Jonah. Luke 11:29 and 30: 'And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, "This is an evil generation."'

This generation you are now living in is the most evil of all the generations since the dawn of history. 'This is an evil generation...' Let that sink into you. You are dealing with amazing evil in our day on an international and full worldly scale. '...This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it...' In that generation and in every generation, this is the sign. Jesus speaks to that generation, and '...no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.' As *Jonah* became a sign, (just note

that Jonah became a sign) and you are to become the same sign. You are not looking for a sign - *you* are the sign.

The children whom God has given Christ are for signs and for wonders in the earth. Isa 8:18. You are the sign. As Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also is the Son of Man. Christ is to be the same Sign, for He is the full sum of the sign of the prophet Jonah. We will see what that means. Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so the Son of Man will be to *this* generation. 'The queen of the South will rise up in judgement with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.' Mat 12:42.

'The men of Nineveh will rise up in judgement with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed, a greater than Jonah is here.' Mat 12:41. Note, Christ did not say, 'The men of Nineveh are going to rise up against this generation and condemn it because the Lord is going to do a great work in the earth.' Come with me to Matthew 24 and we will see this sign. I will give a brief and quick statement to that and then come back, and we will keep unpacking it.

We can come back further in Matthew 24. I will draw your attention again to the question of dealing with deception as Jesus speaks about the destruction of the temple and of the end of the world, He labours heavily on the issue of not being deceived. More than anything else, the most important thing to you is not all that is coming upon the earth, but [it is about] not being deceived. That is the most important thing that you need to hear this weekend from me. (Then, you need to hear about the seed, of course.) 'When they sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples privately asked Him, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will

be the sign [what will be the sign] of Your coming, and the end of the age?"'

He is talking about the *sign* of the prophet Jonah. He is talking about the *sign* of the Son of Man. Before He gets to that here, He says, 'And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you."' I do not care whether it is your father, your mother, your grandfather, your uncle, your aunt, or the Prime Minister of Latvia or somewhere — '...that no man, no one deceive you.' The onus is on you to hear and receive; be illuminated and believe. It is not on anyone else.

There are many seeds being scattered abroad. Many gospels, many theories, many philosophies are being proclaimed. But there is only one seed and that is the seed (or the word) of your name that you need to hear and receive that you may become a son of God and then become a sign *yourself*. The sign has to be in you. If you cannot testify that it is, you are on very, very slippery ground. You need to get a hold of that now in this your day, for the Father has not yet taken His seat.

'For many will come [many, multitudes will come] in My name, saying, "I am the Christ" and will deceive many...' We can go across to another phase here — 'nation against nation'; 'pestilence'; the whole of church history before us. '...Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended and will betray one another and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.' We have many false prophets; many coming in the name of Christ saying that they are Christ.

We proceed to 'many false prophets' and then we can go across to verse 22. Christ is talking about 'shortening the days for the elect' and this is around the time of the fifth and the sixth seal. He is going to shorten the

days for the elect's sake. Unless He did that, there would be no one saved. Verse 23: 'Then if anyone says to you, "Here is Christ!" or "There!" do not believe it. [You are getting these together now] ...False christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. If they tell you that He is in the desert, do not go out. Or [if they tell you] He is in the inner room, do not believe it [He is talking about the physical coming of Christ. He will not be there, or there, or there]. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.' He only will be physically visible on this earth when He comes to raise the dead at the end of the Great Tribulation.

Before that, we have something else. We have the *sign* of the Son of Man in the heavens; and you are to be that sign. He says, 'Immediately after the tribulation... [He is talking about the fifth seal] ...a tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light; and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the physical heaven will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of a Man will appear in heaven.' Now He is talking about the heaven of heavens (the spiritual heaven); the great sign - a woman clothed with the sun.

But now we are talking of another sign. We are talking about the sign of a son of God. That sign is the sign of the prophet Jonah. It is the sign of his death, his burial and his resurrection. That is the sign of Christ Himself. This sign is in you - you are to be that sign. This is called *exanastasis* - His resurrection life in our mortal bodies.

Let us go to look at this further and connect that sign of the prophet Jonah to Philippians chapter 3. This is Paul's complete preoccupation. This is his complete desire. Your desire is the same as this. Php 3 verse 8: 'Yet indeed I also account all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ

Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him.'

Here is the sign of the prophet Jonah in relation to you. This should be your prayer - your statement: 'That I may know Him.' It is as simple as this. This is how you will survive everything by knowing Him. That is how the apostle John sums all of this up in his first epistle: '...whom to know is life eternal.' '...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection.' That is the power outflowing from His resurrection - His *anastasis* when He was raised from the dead on the third day. '...the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings [the seven wounding events that He endured from Gethsemane until *His* ministry was finished] being conformed to His death [your life being conformed to *His* death], if by any means I may attain to [the special word 'out- resurrection' or *exanastasis*], the out resurrection.' This means His resurrection life manifest in a mortal body. This is the sign of the prophet Jonah for us who are living in this generation and in the generation that is to come.

Come with me to the book of Jonah and we will look at a few points here. We will start at verse one. It is always good if you are going to talk about Jonah, to start in the very first verse. Jonah came from somewhere near Nazareth. 'Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah [it is the word of the Lord that came to Jonah] the son of Amittai saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; [hear this: in verse one it does not tell him what to cry out; but go there, and cry out against it. Why does he have to cry out against it?] for their wickedness has come up before Me." ' God says, 'Head for Nineveh', and Jonah headed for Tarshish in the

opposite direction. We will talk more about that. Come now to chapter three. After Jonah has finally agreed, he has himself become the sign. He is now (and it is called probably all through Nineveh), 'the sign of the prophet Jonah'. He himself is the sign. 'Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you." ' Now for most of us, there is always a second time; and this is the second time for Jonah. But between your first time (maybe as a called person), and the second time, you have to meet fully and completely the sign of the prophet Jonah, which is the sum of what your baptism is. The word comes the second time. ' "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose, went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord.' That is a little bit better than the first statement. He is the man doing the word of the Lord. He is off according to the word of the Lord. It is not judgement; it is 'according to the word of the Lord' first. It is the obedience of the messenger obeying the word of the Lord, trotting off to do the word that belonged to his name 'according to the word of the Lord'.

'Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent. And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out...' He is now crying out because its wickedness has come right up (ascended) to heaven. This is a bit like what happened with Sodom and Gomorrah. It had ascended up into heaven. And right now, when we look at this, wickedness is now ascending up into heaven. The wickedness is being known right up to the throne of the Son and the Father. '...Then he cried out and said, "Yet 40 days and Nineveh shall be [and take this word] *overthrown*." ' The word of the Lord is beginning to come as we begin to understand the word for the seventh world order.

Dave Baker has much in his book (and you had former teaching on this) that this world order in which we now live is facing a massive collapse. It is soon to be overthrown. It is about to collapse and its whole economy is about to fall. This is pertinent to us - to be overthrown. Now Jonah goes preaching and what do we discover? The whole place repented. A massive revival took place. The same thing that is going to take place in our day. When the Father takes His seat and judgement is proclaimed, there is going to be a massive revival.

I am going to read it to you. This displeased Jonah. We go to chapter four. 'But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry, so he prayed to the Lord and said... [Typical Israelite, 'Ah, Ah'. I love the way it says it in the Hebrew, 'Ah'. I cannot say it very well, but you can get the pathetic in this. It really is coming from the other law] ... "Ah, Lord, was not this what I said? [Here is a smart prophet] Was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish. For I know that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, who relents from doing harm. Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live! [Well, what a strange prophet] Then the Lord said to him, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it, till he might see what would become of the city.' He did not even believe the impact of his own ministry.

That is a pretty sad thing. God gives you a name and a ministry. Then there is this massive revival, and you do not even want to see a good outcome from what took place here. Anyway, we will not stay there. I thought that it is important we read these points to get the feel of the book of Jonah.

I am going to read to you a brief summary, and then we will go to the epistle of John. I

want to find what I wrote this morning, and it is hiding from me in my notes. Here is a little summary of all we have said. A man called Jonah was called by God to speak as a prophet to the Assyrian nation who lived in the city of Nineveh. His work was to cry out against it because its wickedness, God said, had 'come up before Him'. This reminds me a bit of Capernaum. It was exalted to heaven because of the ministry of Jesus. Jesus began His whole ministry in Capernaum and that city then was brought down into hell because it did not repent. But this city *did* repent. We have this story of how revival (and how the word) will come. Jesus said that they repented at the prophesying of Jonah, but Capernaum did not. Jesus had made Capernaum His base for the whole of His three-and-a-half-year ministry. Imagine a city that was His base, and yet it did not repent. I have been to Capernaum, and I have seen what happened to that city. It was completely and totally destroyed. It was brought down into hell.

God said that Nineveh's wickedness had come up before Him. The wickedness of Nineveh was an affront to God in heaven. The same is now true of the nations in our day. This is the seventh world order. Jonah was to proclaim the sign of the Son of Man, which was Christ's death, burial and resurrection. Jesus identified that it was that 'as Jonah was three days and three nights in the heart of the great fish, so Christ would be three days, three nights in the heart of the earth' - a death, a burial, and a resurrection. Jonah was connected to the sign which was Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and it was made *his* sign. It is called 'the sign of Jonah'.

We are making the point that if it is the sign of Jonah, it is *your* sign. What is your name? Can you say that your sign is the sign of Tom, Mary, Jane or whoever you are? Are you going to answer me today and say, 'This is my sign?' It is no longer Jonah's sign. This is

my sign. This is the sign of Victor Hall; the sign of the prophet Jonah which was the sign of Jesus Christ. Take a hold of that. This is your sign. If you do not get a firm grip of this, you can be deceived. You must know this in yourself.

Jonah was to proclaim the sign of the Son of Man. We have not read that verse. We will go to that in a moment. Let us go to Matthew 24:29 and we will quickly read this one, because many of you, I believe, will be the expression of this sign from the heavenly places. 'Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, ... and the physical heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn [in repentance].' 'They will mourn because of Him.' That is what Revelation says. 'All tribes of the earth shall mourn because of Him.' Rev 1:7. 'And they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven.' That is the administrations of His church with power and great glory.

Jonah was to proclaim the sign of the Son of Man to this city. This sign or message will be proclaimed from heaven in the time of the end to the whole earth, to every nation, people, kindred and tongue. For Jonah to proclaim this sign, he had to become this sign. This sign has also been given to us to proclaim. This sign is our fellowship with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. It is a fellowship. The sign is a fellowship in His offering journey. How many are going to say, 'Yes,' to that? You are already by water joined to that fellowship, and the Father, when He baptised you into the body, joins you to that fellowship. That is the sign. This message or sign that will come from heaven is that God the Father will soon take His seat and reign over the affairs of the seventh world order - the kingdom (or the world order) in which we now live.

His message is judgement and the overthrowing of this world kingdom. When

He takes His seat, the white horse and its rider go forth. Their message is judgement and the overthrowing of this world kingdom. This is going to invoke great opposition and persecution. This judgement will be accomplished by the four horsemen that ride forth in judgement sent from the administration of Christ, the Lamb of God. But mercy will ride with judgement, depicted as the white horse and its rider. More than half the world's population will repent as Nineveh did. They will choose to become sons of God and face great persecution, but they will be saved out of it because of the shepherding capacity of Christ. This is the area that David Baker is speaking to us on.

Turn with me and we are going to go a little further with this. I am going to look at this same message as is preached to us by the apostle John in the first epistle of John and we will just mine it together. Come with me now to 1 John chapters 4 and 5.

I will turn it up and I am going to quote from 1 Timothy 3.16. You do not actually have these notes written so we can look at them here. I am going to read from my notes. I scribbled these yesterday afternoon and last night. Now you all know this. I am calling this the 'witness of water, blood and Spirit', which is the same as Christ's death, burial and resurrection. This is how John the apostle speaks of the sign of the prophet Jonah. It is the witness of God. He does not call it a sign here; he calls it a witness. A witness and a sign are different aspects (or points) of emphasis of the same message.

This is not too hard; it is quite easy enough. We are called into the kingdom of the Son (of His love; the Father's love), and then by water baptism we are identified for the whole of our lives with Christ's death, burial and resurrection. For the whole of your life. Water baptism joins you to that. You are linked to it when you are baptised in water. The Father is the One who births you with the divine nature and makes you a son of

God, then He baptises you into the body of Christ. That is that baptism. That is the baptism in the name of the Father.

This one is in the name of the Son. The sign of the prophet Jonah is Christ's baptism. He said, 'I have a baptism to be baptised with. How I am straitened in Myself till it is accomplished.' Luk 12:50. You have this same baptism, and you are being straitened in yourself until it is accomplished in you as you are joined to His death, burial and resurrection. But all the way along, as happened for Jesus at each wounding event, *exanastasis* (that is resurrection life) met Him in that. It met Him in the garden of Gethsemane. The Holy Spirit brought resurrection life. He would have died as He sweated great drops of blood. He was strengthened by Eternal Spirit, and He was able to intercede fully and completely and begin to bring forth every name. *Exanastasis* (or out-resurrection) was part of Christ's suffering journey - not just *the* resurrection. That is true for you. That is what Paul says: '...knowing Him and the power of His resurrection...' Php 3:10. It is what is flowing out of you in your life from day to day.

In the hall of Caiaphas it says, 'Not a bone of His would be broken.' Psa 40:20. Those great big bodyguards of the high priests, seven foot six tall or something, whatever they were. I met a chap over in Israel that big and I asked him where he came from. He said he was a Jew. He was fully blown. He was massive. The bodyguard of the high priest. They buffeted Christ's face when they bashed and beat His jaw to break it. They would have smashed every bone in His face except for *exanastasis*. Only His flesh was bruised and bloodied, but not a bone was broken. That is *exanastasis*. When He was beaten with rods, at that point the rod should have killed Him. More than 39 stripes. They could not bow Him or humble Him to the ground. Though they beat Him with rods, they could not break the bones of His body either. That is

when we became part of His body - the chastisement for our peace. That is when He made us part of His body. In the house of Caiaphas, He dealt with your self-projected fallen image. We have taught you all on this - *exanastasis* at each wounding event. He made that available to you. It flowed almost *out* from His resurrection back to you. But it actually flowed from the garden of Gethsemane, *forward* to you and to me all the way till three days and three nights after which He was raised from the dead. 'The end from the beginning and the beginning from the end.' That is what He called Himself - 'the Alpha and the Omega'. That is who He was in His offering journey. Let us keep reading here. Christ's death, burial and resurrection is the sign that He is Yahweh Son and also the only begotten Son of God the Father who has become the Son of Man.

There is a sign; you watch it; you are seeing Yahweh Son who emptied Himself to the bosom of the Father to become the Father's Son, who emptied Himself to the womb of the virgin Mary to become the Son of David. He is now becoming the Son of Man - son of God in the flesh - Man in the image and likeness of God. This is the sign of that - His death, burial and resurrection. Christ's death, burial and resurrection is the sign that He, Yahweh Son and also the only begotten Son of God the Father has become the Son of Man.

This whole work (or sign) was the demonstration of the 'mystery of godliness'" which is expressed by Paul in 1 Timothy 3:16. 'God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, and received up into glory.' That is a massive sign. God (the Creator) manifest in the flesh. He is being manifest as our Redeemer and as Man in the image and likeness of God. The tabernacle of God is now with men. The dwelling place of God is with men.

Now turn with me to John chapter 4 and verse 9 and we will do a little statement here. I will pick the point of the sign out of what John says, because John is talking all about what I am telling you. In five chapters, that is what he is doing from beginning to end and he is weaving every element into it. I want to pick the sign element up. We will start in chapter 5 and verse 10 where we are talking about the sign, then we will go back and digest it out of here.

'He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself.' Let us say it again another way: he who believes in the Son of God has the *sign* in himself. We are going to go back and step through how John does this sign: blood, water, and Spirit. 'He has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.' The testimony that God gives of His Son is His death, His burial, and His resurrection. That is His testimony.

We will go through and come back now to 1 John 4 and verse 9. 'In this, the love of God was manifested toward us.' Now who is love? I will say two things here. God is love. How many would say 'yes' to that? By the way, God is Spirit. God is love and God is also Spirit. All Three live in the fellowship of one life *zoë*. God is love, life and *zoë* life. That is the unique life that belongs to Them. That life is always (at all times) resurrection life. It has power to lay itself down to an end point and it is given power to take it again. It is always *zoë*. It is resurrection life. Your biological life does not have that capacity, but He is giving to you that kind of life when you are born of Him - *zoë* life. And that gives you the capacity to make offering. Without that *zoë* life, you cannot make offering because you have to lay it down to a death - the death of the cross. That sign has to be in your flesh.

I will read it again, 1 John 4:9: 'In this the love of God was manifested toward us

[manifested in that sign - His death, burial and resurrection].’ ‘God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.’ Joh 3:16. ‘In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him’ - that we might get *zoë* life *from* Him and *through* Him. Then he goes on amplifying it. I am just picking. You need to do this yourself. ‘...through Him.’

Let us go down to verse 14. I will read it from my notes, and you can follow me if you want to. I will read my ‘fill out’ with it, so that I can get through here. The apostle John called this whole work or operation ‘the testimony of God’. Where did this testimony of God come from? It came from heaven. It came down from heaven. Jesus said, ‘I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.’ Joh 6:37. This is the sign of the Son of Man. It came down from there and it will finally be proclaimed coming down among us to bring forth a great multitude.

In 1 John 4:9 John said, ‘In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live [or have *zoë* life] through Him.’ That gives us the capacity for offering and to join the sign of the Son of Man - His death, burial and resurrection. In verse 14, John is speaking as an eyewitness. He has now come back to chapter 1 again. He is now an eyewitness. He is speaking as an eyewitness and a messenger, saying, ‘We have seen and testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.’ Then in chapter 5 and verse 6, further in the dialogue, John said, ‘This is He [the One sent] this is He who came by water and blood [and so you do not get confused about it] - Jesus Christ.’ ‘This is He who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.’ Now you can follow this all the way through Christ’s

seven wounding events. The Spirit keeps affirming; the Spirit is truth. ‘He comes by water; He comes by blood’ and then they set about to break his bones. The Spirit bears witness with *exanastasis* life — ‘not a bone is broken’. So they continue. This is what He is saying to you. The Spirit is truth. ‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.’ The apostle Paul said, ‘If the dead are not raised [He is also saying that if we do not live by *exanastasis* life as we go preaching], we are of all men most miserable.’ We keep saying that God raises the dead and that the dead will be raised and if the dead are not raised (and furthermore if there is no *exanastasis* in our lives), then we make Him a liar because we say He is doing it and He is not doing it.

Now John is reversing it and saying, ‘Anyone who says he is not doing this, he is a liar.’ John is really on the front foot. Paul is a bit always on the back foot. John is a bit more on the front foot. You can get an idea. After all, he was a son of thunder. He was one of the Boanerges, so he is pretty forthright. He says, ‘Anyone that does not take this witness of *exanastasis*, he is a liar.’ Do you believe it in *your* life? Or are you ruled by anxiety? Are you ruled by self-verification? Are you ruled by having to be exonerated and having to be right? Can you not lay it all down? What you believe the truth to be is *not* the truth. It is only what the Spirit says is true and He brings the word of God to you and that is the truth. Do not get arguing out of your own mind. Your mind has to be transformed. That is the expression of your soul when it cleaves to the dust. *Your* truth, *your* reality, *your* right - that does not belong to the sign of Jonah. And it ties everyone else up around you - your own family, your own parents or your children, your father - all of them. You become a prison house to them because of your self-righteousness. That is a filthy rag that God is wanting to deliver us all from. Is there a ‘yes’ to that here today? Now let us keep reading. You have my speaking notes to

read yourselves so now I am just reading my own notes here.

Let us go again here. It is the Spirit because the Spirit is truth. Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father but by Me.' He can be that because of the *exanastasis* capacity of the Spirit to Him, enabling Him to be a true Witness before Pontius Pilate. He could be the Witness because of the power of *exanastasis*. You can be a witness because of the power of *exanastasis*. He was not the Witness because of His own intrinsic sonship. He had emptied Himself to become sin for us. He was being strengthened by Eternal Spirit. Amazing, isn't it? So, you also can bear a good witness in your generation. John said further to this dialogue in chapter 5 verse 8, 'This is He who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.'

In verses 8 and 9 of the same chapter, John then said that there are three elements (amplifying water, blood and Spirit) to the witness of God on earth. This is very much sounding like the sign of Jonah. Death, burial and resurrection - three elements. 'And you saw those elements of water, blood and Spirit as He journeyed with us.' Now there are three elements to the witness of God on earth. He said, 'There are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and these Three agree in One.' It is a united message. As surely as you are dying, just as surely you are living. As surely as you believe and you hope and you are raised, it is one. They agree in one. When you are confessing the sorrow of dying, you should be rejoicing because you are living. Resurrection life is sustaining you. When you are rejoicing in the great deliverance of God, remember you are going to die again later today or tomorrow morning. And between these two points, you should be resting in hope - resting in hope. Water, blood and Spirit

instead of a self-righteous anxiety that builds up until you cannot sleep and mind chatter - all this God is trying to deliver you from. He wants you to become the sign, as Jonah did, of Christ's death, burial and resurrection. If you want to head for Tarshish, go to the Mediterranean, wait for a big storm, and you can get chucked over and we will ask for the fish to come and give you a three-day, three-night [experience]. You do not need that because Christ has already done it. All you do is get connected to it. Get connected to it. He is with you in the great fish - the three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. And He is there with *exanastasis*. How did that man breathe in there? Well, he had air in there. Surely it was *exanastasis*. They have done all kinds of things to try to make sure he could breathe there - science and everything. Let us just say it is *exanastasis*. It is a miracle. 'There are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water and the blood; these three agree in one. If you receive the witness of men, [now he is even saying even our witness to you (we bear witness to all this)] the witness of God is greater. For this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son.' 'This is the witness of God.' Just say it again. 'If you believe in the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God, which He has testified of His Son.' What was that witness that He testified? It is that He witnessed to Christ's death, burial and resurrection. Christ's death, burial and resurrection was accomplished by the elements of water, blood and Spirit. You saw that all happening there - that was God's witness - a crucifying journey.

Now let us see the fullness of this. The witness of water, blood and Spirit then (you see it at each wounding event), was then fully demonstrated on the cross after Christ had finished His offering work. Christ from the cross proclaimed that His work was finished and then committed His Spirit into the arms of the Father. Read that in John chapter 19:30 and Luke 23:46. 'Into your hands...' He cried

with a loud voice and committed His Spirit into the arms of the Father. Soon after this, a soldier pierced His heart with a spear. From Christ's heart flowed blood and water and then the Holy Spirit fell upon the multitude who saw what had been done to Christ. You have water, blood and Spirit. A soldier pierces, and what do we see? They saw water, blood and then a Spirit of grace and supplication flowing from His heart. From Christ's heart flowed blood and water, then the Holy Spirit fell upon the multitude who saw what had been done to Christ. 'They looked upon Him whom they had pierced', as the prophet said, and began to mourn. Here is the Spirit of grace and supplication being poured out upon them, as the prophet said.

This is what is going to happen in our day as the sign of the prophet Jonah is proclaimed. It is going to cause a mourning. This sign is going to appear in a massive way from the heavenly places as we get into that fifth and sixth seal as the whole of this seventh world order is completely overturned and destroyed. Then the saints take rulership over the world for that seven-year period after the destruction of Gog and Magog. 'They looked upon Him whom they had pierced and began to mourn' as the Spirit brought grace and the capacity to pray and repent to them. We are talking about the capacity to pray and repent. That is by the Spirit. That is how we pray individually and every Friday morning - by the capacity of Eternal Spirit, by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brought conviction to their hearts, preparing them for the word that would be proclaimed to them on the day of Pentecost.

So in this great judgement and destruction, we are seeing that under the four horsemen and signs in the heaven and the rolling back of the heavens as a scroll, there will be conviction falling upon men, they begin to mourn, but then that is preparing them for the word of the messenger whom He is

sending to them so that they can be brought into the kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit was preparing them for the word that would be proclaimed on the day of Pentecost. They beat their breasts in sorrow and went mourning to their houses.

Luke 23 verse 48 says that they had seen the sign of the Son of Man, not in heaven, but on earth. On earth. One thief availed himself of that and the other thief did not. That is the sign of the Son of Man. The apostle John went on further to say that to all those who believe in the Son, He then gives this witness as a sign to them. This sign is the means by which they will inherit eternal life. And that is the sign to you by which you will inherit eternal life. You do not need other signs. He is not in the field. He is not there. False christs - you do not need it by absolution from someone; you do not need it by some sacrament; you need it in yourself.

The baptism has to be in you. This sign is the means by which they will inherit eternal life. John said, 'He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself' - the sign of the prophet Jonah. 'He who does not believe God has made Him a liar because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. And this is the testimony [this is the *only* testimony], that God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son.' Water, blood and Spirit is the testimony that He has given to us eternal life. Amen.