

24-0818a Transcript

24-0818a - *Angels in Heaven Rejoicing*, Tom Freed

Bible Readers: Mike Mathis and Kevin Woosley

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Angels in Heaven Rejoicing

Transcript (0:04 - 33:09)

Scripture Readings

1st Reader: Mike Mathis

(0:04) The first scripture reading this morning is taken from Luke the 15th chapter verses 8 through 10. (0:13) Luke 15 8 through 10. Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, (0:23) does not lie to them, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it.

(0:29) And when she found it, when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together saying, (0:42) Rejoice with me, I have found the peace which I lost. Likewise, I say to you, (0:53) there is joy in the presence of the angels of God, of the one sinner who repents. (1:01) That completes the reading.

2nd Reader: Kevin Woosley

Good morning Church. The second scripture reading is out of the book of Matthew (1:14) chapter 7 verses 13 and 14. Enter by the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way (1:25) that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

Because narrow is the gate and (1:33) difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Transcript

Preacher: Tom Freed

Good morning. (1:43) Good to see everybody.

My turn to preach again. As we said, again, they're just taking turns (1:51) since we don't have a dedicated preacher. So we got like five guys, they're kind of like a (1:56) five-course meal.

Everybody gets a different flavor from everybody. Good also to see Hunter (2:02) here. He's from Alabama.

He's working with the downed power lines and everything. He actually (2:08) made it to Bible study, so takes a lot of dedication, especially when you're away. (2:15) He didn't make an excuse not to come.

So my sermon title is Angels in Heaven Rejoicing. (2:25) So I was inspired to do this sermon because we had a couple of Christians (2:30) who had returned to the church recently, and it was a joyful and emotional experience for all of us. (2:37) We had Martina and Devon who both came back to the church after going their own way for a while.

(2:45) It's good to have them back home. Devon couldn't make it. He was sick, but he said he's on the phone, so (2:54) he's listening in.

And Devon was raised, you know, he was in the church for years. (3:00) We all know him well. Martina was raised in the church, was attending somewhere else, but we (3:05) welcome her just like family, just like with every Christian.

They're like family. So we're glad (3:13) she's here now. And we've been hit hard over the last couple years at the west side.

(3:20) For any of you attending, I mean, we've lost a lot of people for various reasons, so it's good to have, (3:28) you know, some reasons to celebrate. So God has made it easy to become a Christian, (3:35) but the hard part is living the Christian life. Jesus did all the hard lifting when he went to (3:41) the cross for us and died for our sins.

All we need to do is trust and obey and follow his commands (3:47) to be saved. So we all know at the Church of Christ, the plan of salvation, and we should know (3:57) it, if you first need to hear the word of God, believe, repent, confess, and be baptized, (4:04) and then you're added to the church, Acts 2 40 through 41. With many other words, he warned (4:10) them and he pleaded with them, save yourselves from this corrupt generation.

Those who have (4:16) accepted the message were baptized, and about 3,000 were added to their number that day. (4:23) So this is the easy part, unless you don't like getting wet. (4:28) But the good thing is we have heated water here, so if you ever had baptized somebody, it's nice, (4:34) but it's not freezing.

But the most difficult part of the Christian journey happens (4:41) after you're added to the church. The easy part is, you know, well, it's not easy always to believe (4:50) or repent, but like I said, you know, Jesus has done the hard work. He went to the cross.

He (4:57) suffered for us. All we have to do is obey him. But even after our sins are washed away and we (5:04) become a Christian, we still have a difficult task in front of us, and that's remaining faithful to (5:11) the end.

Revelation 2 10, do not be afraid of what you're about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will (5:20) put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for 10 days. Be faithful (5:27) even to the point of death, and I'll give you a crown of life.

Well, it's not enough to just be (5:35) baptized and have your sins washed away. We need to be faithful till the end, even if we're (5:41) threatened with death. We have it easy, you know, in this country for now, but it's getting worse.

(5:48) I mean, eventually you might be threatened with death, but the early Christians had it rough, (5:54) and a lot of them did die for the Lord. But not all of us are going to be as lucky as a thief on (6:01) the cross and be able to repent the last minute before your death. Luke 23 40 to 43, but the other (6:11) criminal rebuked him.

Don't you fear God? He said, since you're under the same sentence, (6:19) we are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing (6:26) wrong. Then he said, Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus said to him, (6:32) I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise. Wouldn't that be nice that, (6:39) you know, you live your whole life in the last minute. You see Jesus next to you, and you can (6:45) be saved.

We don't have that luxury. You're not going to have that chance to see Jesus face to (6:52) face, because when he comes again, it's going to be in judgment. Revelation 12 22 12, behold, (7:00) I am coming soon.

My reward is with me, and I will give you to everyone according to what he (7:05) has done. Some of us could die shortly after we've been saved, or we might even be able to (7:13) repent on our deathbed. But for most of us, the Christian's journey is going to be long (7:18) and difficult.

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leads (7:26) into destruction. And many enter through it.

But small is the gate, and narrow is the road that (7:31) leads to life. And only few find it. Matthew 7 13-14.

Like ACDC's song goes, the highway to hell. (7:42) It is a highway, and many, many go down it. Even people that think they're Christians, a lot of (7:48) them.

But the road is narrow. The right path is narrow, and it is difficult. The road that leads (7:57) to life is simple and plain, but it's not easy to take, and it's filled with difficulty and troubles.

(8:04) So since the devil can't stop you from becoming a Christian, he does his best to frustrate you (8:10) and lead you off the right path. It must be walked with carefulness and watchfulness. (8:20) If we let our guard down at any point, the devil may pounce on us and devour us.

(8:24) 1 Peter 5 8. Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil is a roaring lion walking about, (8:33) shaking whom he may devour. So just like when you watch lions hunt for prey, (8:42) you know, they hide in the bushes.

They wait to try to find somebody weak, somebody who's (8:46) straying from the pack, and they attack them. So all the devil needs to do is sense a bit of (8:52) weakness, or sense you've gone a little bit from the Christian, the Christian pack, and he will (9:00) use vicious tactics to assault you. You know, just like a prisoner with a life sentence.

(9:07) Maybe a few prisoners with a life sentence will be good people and try to help others, (9:11) but a lot of them will try to bring you down with them. They don't care. They know they have a life.

(9:18) They know they have nothing to live for. That's like what it is with the devil. We saw that (9:25) with what he did to Adam and Eve, and also Jesus.

He lies, he twists God's word, (9:32) and then he even offers you the world if all else fails. Jesus even calls him to preach (9:38) the ruler of this world. John 14 30.

I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this (9:47) world is coming, and he has nothing in me. So we know that God is ultimately in control, but he (9:53) gave the devil a certain amount of power in this world. Enough power to offer Jesus everything (9:59) when he tempted him in the desert.

Matthew 4 8 through 9. Again, the devil took him up to (10:08) an exceedingly high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. (10:12) And he said to him, all these things I will give to you if you fall down and worship me. (10:18) So he had the power to offer Jesus the whole world, even though we know Jesus is God.

(10:26) But for whatever reason, God has given him a certain amount of power in this world, (10:31) not complete power and control, but he does have a lot of influence, (10:35) and he can offer a lot. You can see in this world that he does have a lot of control. (10:42) It seems like the evil people rule.

You can see with this government, (10:46) with a lot of things happening in the world, there's a group of evil people (10:51) that basically worship money and the devil that have a lot of control and power. (10:59) Jesus was strong enough to resist the temptation, but what about when Satan tempts us? (11:05) Most people will sell their soul for next to nothing. (11:08) You know, some people would sell their soul for a pack of cigarettes.

(11:13) I know, I would hope as Christians, you know, we would have a lot more care with our soul. (11:22) But how many of us stray for a worthless sin and risk losing our soul over nothing? (11:30) So even if we're offered the whole world, just like he offered Jesus, (11:35) it wouldn't be worth us spending eternity in hell to have it. (11:39) Matthew 16, 26, for what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? (11:48) Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? (11:51) So even if you had everything in the world, you ruled the world, it still wouldn't be worth it.

(11:57) Like I said, how much of us, just like Esau, he sold his birthright for a bowl of soup. (12:03) How many of us do the same thing when we get into sin? (12:06) We sell it for something worthless and meaningless. (12:11) The slippery slope of sin can sometimes harden our heart enough to lead the church altogether.

(12:18) Sin will take you farther than you want to go, (12:20) keep you longer than you want to stay, and cost you more than you want to pay. (12:26) It unleashes consequences that will rob us of peace, (12:30) diminish our integrity, and cause us pain that's never worth it. (12:36) I think we can all agree with that.

(12:37) When we sin, no matter how much fun it is and how much joy we get out of it, (12:42) we always, at least I do, regret it later. (12:46) And you're always left wanting more. (12:48) You're always stuck doing that sin longer than you want to.

(12:52) You think, oh, I'll have one drink. (12:54) I'll go out, you know, I'll go out and do this one little thing. (12:59) Or I'll go on the internet and look at a few dirty pictures or whatever it might be.

(13:04) And then hours later, however many drinks later, (13:09) you know, you're stuck way longer than you ever intended. (13:12) So it's easy to get caught up in sin. (13:14) And once you get started, it's hard to quit.

(13:18) So even though we're all on the same narrow road as a Christian, (13:22) we all have our own unique journey through life. (13:26) We all have our own experiences and things that happen. (13:30) Everyone has different problems and struggles to deal with through their Christian walk.

(13:35) No two people are the same. (13:38) Some of us will struggle with sin more than others. (13:41) And some of us will struggle with straying off the path more easily than somebody else.

(13:48) We all have our things, you know, that we're weak towards. (13:51) Some of us might not struggle that much with sin. (13:54) But, you know, I know I struggle a lot with sin.

(13:58) I never necessarily wanted to leave the church. (14:00) But I have maybe not lived a life where I might have disqualified myself at times. (14:09) But others may struggle with going and staying on the right path.

(14:14) So the main thing is we can't judge anybody (14:17) and how they live their life and the choices they make. (14:20) That's God's job. (14:22) The best thing we can do is help each other.

(14:25) We see somebody struggling that's lost their way. (14:28) Galatians 6.1. (14:31) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, (14:35) you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. (14:41) Considering yourself, lest you also be tempted.

(14:45) Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. (14:50) So it is hard for some of us. (14:51) It is tough, especially nowadays.

(14:55) You know, we live in a world where we're constantly bombarded by sin. (14:59) Every time we turn around, you look on the TV, the internet. (15:02) Anywhere you go, we're constantly attacked.

(15:05) You're not even safe in your own home. (15:08) So it is difficult. (15:09) There is a lot of things attacking us.

(15:13) And we can see in this church, the last thing the devil wants (15:16) is a church of Christ around. (15:18) If you're a Christian, he's going to go extra hard at you. (15:23) So it hurts when we see a brother and sister in Christ struggling with sin.

(15:27) It's even worse as they leave the church. (15:30) So we have lost a lot of people at the Westside over the years for various reasons. (15:35) And we were hit especially hard during COVID.

(15:39) So some can only do phone service. (15:41) Others have gone to different congregations. (15:44) We've had a few pass away.

(15:46) And others have left the church altogether. (15:51) So it hurts when we lose a brother or sister for any reason. (15:54) Because we're all part of the body and each of us has a different function.

(16:01) So when we lose one person, you know, it hurts the body. (16:05) That person, they have special gifts and talents. (16:10) God put us all here for a reason.

(16:12) And we all form the one body of Christ with Jesus as a head. (16:20) So when we do lose somebody, it means a lot. (16:24) And we suffer when they're gone.

(16:29) So it really does hurt to see somebody so endangered and know they're out in the world.

(16:34) First Corinthians 12, 26. (16:37) And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it.

(16:42) Or if one is honored, all the members rejoice with it. (16:46) So all members rejoice when a good thing happens to the body. (16:51) And we've had plenty of good reasons to rejoice lately.

(16:55) Like I said, we've had two members return to the church recently. (17:00) Repenting and coming back where they belong. (17:04) So Martina and Devon had both left the church for a period of time for their own reasons.

(17:09) But something in them has convicted them enough to return. (17:14) And we're grateful for their return. (17:18) Some people leave the church and never come back.

(17:22) So like I said, it means a lot that they've realized they need to rejoin us. (17:31) So it's a good thing to remain in the church and stay faithful. (17:34) But even more joy is when somebody who has been struggling and left the church has come back.

(17:40) Nothing feels better than having lost something valuable and finding it later. (17:45) I'm sure many of you have had that experience (17:49) where you lost something and you searched for it. (17:51) And later you found it and rejoiced.

(17:57) But just like the story of the prodigal son, (18:00) Luke 15, 11 through 13. (18:04) Then he said, a certain man had two sons and the younger of them said to his father, (18:09) Father, give me a portion of the good that falls to me. (18:12) So he divided them his livelihood.

(18:14) And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, (18:18) journeyed to a far country and wasted his possessions as prodigal living. (18:24) So we do that sometimes with the Lord. (18:27) Even though he treats us well and gives us great things, we still might not be satisfied.

(18:33) We want an inheritance now. (18:35) We want to live a good life on this earth. (18:38) Who cares about waiting 20, 30, 40 years for heaven? (18:42) We want those good things now.

(18:47) It's like that J.G. Wentworth commercial. (18:49) It's my money and I need it now. (18:53) I don't know if any of you remember that.

(18:54) But a lot of us want our inheritance now. (18:58) We don't want to wait. (19:01) But when you get your money up front, you lose out in the long run.

(19:06) You know, getting your money right away, getting that inheritance right away. (19:11) They take the rest of the money from you. (19:14) They charge you a huge tax.

(19:17) And like many people who already have money problems, (19:20) you're going to waste it all just like the prodigal son. (19:24) Luke 15, 14 through 16. (19:28) But when he spent all there was a great famine in the land (19:33) and he began to be in a lot.

(19:35) And then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country. (19:41) And they sent him into the field to feed the swine. (19:44) And he would have gladly have filled his stomach with a pod that the swine ate.

(19:48) And no one gave him anything. (19:51) Sounds like just how the world treats you. (19:55) Just like the prodigal son, sinning can be fun at first, but it only lasts for a season.

(20:01) Choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God (20:05) than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. (20:08) Hebrews 11, 25. (20:11) That's 100% true.

(20:12) Sin can be fun. (20:13) It can be pleasurable. (20:16) You know, especially to the flesh.

(20:19) But it doesn't last that long. (20:22) Be not deceived. (20:23) God is not mocked.

(20:25) For whatsoever a man soweth, that he shall also reap. (20:28) Galatians 6, 7. (20:31) When you sow to sin, you're sowing to something meaningless. (20:35) And you'll reap the storm of consequences.

(20:38) Hosea 8, 7. (20:41) They sow to the wind and reap the whirlwind. (20:45) The stalk has no head. (20:46) It will produce no flower.

(20:49) Were it to yield grain, foreigners would swallow it up. (20:54) Well, this verse is talking about Israel's idolatry (20:57) and how they would reap severe judgment from the Lord for their sins. (21:03) When you sow to something meaningless, you reap the consequences.

(21:09) Like I said, it can be enjoyable sinning and having fun. (21:16) Especially when you know it's wrong. (21:17) For whatever reason, sinning is even more enjoyable (21:20) when you know you shouldn't be doing it.

(21:24) But it's painful when you have to deal with the consequences. (21:29) The Newton's third law is for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. (21:34) Everything you do in this life has an opposite reaction.

(21:38) If you do good, the reaction is you're going to have good things. (21:42) Things are going to go well. (21:44) If you sin and disobey God, the opposite reaction is you're going to suffer.

(21:50) You're going to pay for it. (21:52) He left his family that cared for him and loved him (21:54) to join a country that treated him like a nobody. (21:58) As a Christian, you are somebody.

(22:02) You know, you're one of God's few chosen people. (22:04) When you leave in the world, you're nobody. (22:07) You're like everybody else.

(22:08) There's nothing special out there. (22:12) Just like when a Christian leaves the church, (22:15) you're leaving a loving, caring family for the world that could care less about you. (22:20) You know, maybe you might have family or a real close friend that might care, (22:24) but otherwise, the people in the world don't care about you.

(22:29) They're not going to help you when you need them most. (22:32) He would have gladly eaten the pods that the swine ate, but no one gave him anything. (22:38) He wanted the wrong thing all along, and it was no better.

(22:42) Now, he just wanted to fill his belly. (22:45) But the pods would give him no real satisfaction. (22:49) Just like when we turn to sin for pleasure, we will never be truly satisfied.

(22:55) Satisfied, we'll always be wanting more. (22:59) Proverbs 27:20, death and destruction are never satisfied, (23:04) and neither are the eyes of man. (23:08) Completely true.

(23:10) You know, we'll never be satisfied with sin. (23:12) We'll always just be wanting more, no matter how great it is, (23:16) no matter how much sinning you do. (23:19) You're still going to crave more.

(23:20) You'll never be satisfied. (23:22) You can only truly be satisfied as a Christian. (23:26) When we go back to our sinful ways, we end up in the pig pen, (23:29) eating pods that are meant for the swine.

(23:32) Second Peter 2, 21 through 22. (23:37) For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, (23:41) than after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (23:46) It has happened unto them according to the true proverb, (23:50) the dog turning to his own vomit again, (23:53) and the solid had washed to wallowing in the mire.

(23:58) That paints a pretty vivid picture of what happens when we return to sin. (24:02) Just like a dog eating his own vomit. (24:06) You know, we should be disgusted.

(24:09) You know, it's like a pig when you clean it, (24:12) and they just go rolling around in the mud again. (24:15) Just like when we have been saved and returned to the world, (24:19) we turn our pure robes into filthy rags again. (24:23) Just like a muddy spring or polluted well, (24:26) is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.

(24:29) Proverbs 25, 26. (24:33) So luckily enough, he suffered and finally came to his senses. (24:39) Luke 15, 17 through 20.

(24:43) When he came to his senses, he said, (24:44) How many of my father's hired men have food to spare? (24:48) And here I am starving to death. (24:51) I will set out and go back to my father and say to him, (24:56) Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. (24:58) I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

(25:01) Make me like one of your hired men. (25:03) So he got up and went to his father. (25:06) But while he was still a long way off, (25:08) his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him.

(25:11) He ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. (25:15) When he struggled and had difficulty, (25:19) he remembered how good he had it at home. (25:21) And he went to his father.

(25:23) Just like when we struggle in life and lose our way, (25:27) we turn again to our heavenly father to help us. (25:30) Psalm 91, 14 through 15. (25:34) Because he set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him.

(25:38) I will set him on high because he has known my name. (25:42) He shall call upon me and I will answer him. (25:46) I will be with him in trouble.

(25:47) I will deliver him and honor him. (25:50) How many of us turn to God when we struggle? (25:55) You know, when we try to go our own way and it doesn't work out. (25:58) I've done that a few times.

(26:00) Sometimes God doesn't answer our prayers like we want. (26:03) Sometimes we don't get what we ask for, (26:05) even if we pray for 10, 20 or 30 years. (26:09) But when we go our own way, it only ends up in disaster.

(26:14) And just like his father welcomed him with open arms, (26:17) God will welcome us back and embrace us when we return. (26:21) Isaiah 41, 10. (26:24) Fear not, for I am with you.

(26:26) Be not dismayed, for I am your God. (26:29) I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. (26:32) I will uphold you with my righteous hand.

(26:37) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just. (26:40) And will forgive us our sins and purify us of all unrighteousness. (26:44) 1 John 1, 9. (26:47) So we go back to him no matter how many times we've sinned.

(26:50) Jesus said 70 times 7, he will forgive us. (26:54) That means unlimited. (26:56) So no matter what we've done, Jesus will accept us back.

(27:02) As long as we repent with a good heart. (27:08) Luke 15, 21-24. (27:11) And the son said to him, Father, I've sinned against having in your sight.

(27:16) And I'm no longer worthy to be called your son. (27:20) But the father said to his servants, bring out the vest robe and put it on him. (27:25) And put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

(27:27) And bring the fatted calf here and kill it. (27:30) And let us eat and be married. (27:32) For this my son was dead and is alive again.

(27:35) He was lost and is found. (27:37) And it began to be married. (27:40) So he gave him the best clothes.

(27:43) And a ring that was a symbol of restored sonship and honor. (27:48) They celebrated and killed the fatted calf that was for festive occasions. (27:54) Just like his father rejoiced when his son returned.

(27:58) There is rejoicing in heaven when somebody returns to the church. (28:04) Luke 15, 3-7. (28:06) Then Jesus told them this parable.

(28:09) Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. (28:15) Does he not leave the 99 in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? (28:20) When he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. (28:24) Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, (28:28) Rejoice with me.

(28:29) I have found my lost sheep. (28:31) And I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven (28:34) over one sinner that repents (28:37) than over 99 righteous persons who do not need to repent. (28:43) So we can see that there's more joy getting something back that they've lost.

(28:48) You know, the angels in heaven rejoice. (28:51) And they're rejoicing when we hear Martina and Divine come back. (28:55) And we as well rejoice.

(28:58) So Jesus is a good shepherd and will take care of his sheep (29:01) and drop everything to find the lost one. (29:05) Just like sheep, we are easily led astray and weak and vulnerable to prey, namely the devil. (29:15) We are only safe in the good shepherd's arms.

(29:18) Isaiah 40, 11. (29:21) He tends his flock like a shepherd. (29:23) He gathered the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart.

(29:27) He gently leads those that have young. (29:31) No one can snatch us out of his hand. (29:34) John 10, 27-28.

(29:38) My sheep listen to my voice. (29:40) I know them and they follow me. (29:42) I give them eternal life and they shall never perish.

(29:45) No one can snatch them out of my hand. (29:48) We're safe in Jesus' hands. (29:51) The devil can't get to us when we're with him.

(29:54) Jesus is a good shepherd because he laid his life down for us. (29:58) John 10, 11. (30:00) I am the good shepherd.

(30:01) The shepherd lays his life down for the sheep. (30:06) It's because he laid his life down that we have an opportunity for eternal life. (30:11) John 3, 16.

(30:12) For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, (30:16) that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (30:21) So God gave Jesus to us and Jesus willingly went to the cross so that we could live. (30:27) Where else can we go when we know the truth? (30:30) John 6, 68-69.

(30:34) Simon Peter answered him, Lord to whom shall we go? (30:38) You have the words of eternal life. (30:41) We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God. (30:46) Just like Peter said, there is nowhere else to go.

(30:52) We shouldn't go back to the world when we know, when we have the truth. (30:57) Jesus does have the words of life. (30:59) He is God and salvation is found in his name only.

(31:04) Not Muhammad, not Buddha, not Confucius, only in Jesus. (31:10) Acts 4, 12. (31:12) Salvation is found in no one else.

(31:15) For there is no other name under heaven given to men by which they must be saved. (31:22) Not all religions are the same like the world want you to believe. (31:25) There is only one way to heaven.

(31:27) John 14, 6. (31:29) Jesus answered, I am the way, the truth, and the life. (31:34) No one comes to the Father except through me. (31:38) We only can have salvation through Jesus.

(31:42) Don't believe the lies the world tells you. (31:45) Not every religion is the same. (31:48) If you're not a Christian walking the narrow path, you're in danger of eternal destruction.

(31:55) Matthew 25, 46. (31:58) Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but they're righteous to eternal life. (32:04) Why in the world would you want to spend eternity in hell? (32:08) This world has nothing to offer you.

(32:11) Just meaningless things like those pods that are meant for the swine. (32:16) They will never satisfy. (32:18) They're not meant for human consumption and hell is not meant for humans.

(32:23) They're meant for the devil and his angels. (32:26) Salvation is a free gift from God and you'd be foolish not to accept it. (32:32) Romans 6, 23.

(32:35) For the way to the sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (32:43) So just like with Devon and Martina, we would gladly welcome back anyone who has strayed. (32:51) Well, if you're not a Christian and would like to become one today, (32:54) we have everything prepared.

(32:56) You can hear the water going behind us. (32:59) We can even baptize you here. (33:00) So if you need anything, any prayers, or even want to tell us good news, (33:08) now's the time to come forward.