

Everything Will Turn Out All Right

Last Great Day

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My father grew up on a ranch in the Black Range of central New Mexico and his dad, my granddad whose name was Cole, was a pioneer rancher in that area. It was a tough time. It was a tough life. It required tough men. My dad told me on more than one occasion at the dinner table, if he or his brother (there were four kids in the cabin on that ranch) got out of line, my granddad, his father, would backhand him across the room. He would go teapot over kettle over against the wall, because if he opened his mouth in a wrong way, that's what happened. I can remember growing up, when my brother or I were hurt (we were three and six or seven years old), we would skin our knee or fall down and cut ourselves or something like that. The first thing out of my dad's mouth was a sharp bellow and he would say, what are you bellyaching for? He meant it. That's the way he grew up. Mom would open her arms and we would come and she would pat us on the back and say, as we say to our kids, there, there everything's going to turn out all right. We say it to each other. Two people are talking in church and somebody is having a trial and maybe there are some tears and the other person pats them on the back and says, it's going to work out okay. Don't worry about it.

Today we are celebrating that day, that time when all of that will be fulfilled, when everything will turn out all right. Today is the culmination of God's plan for mankind, when you think about it. From the creation of humans that were designed to dress and keep the earth, to the building of Israel, which was designed to be a model nation, to the coming of Jesus Christ and his sacrifice for all sin for all time, to the coming of the holy spirit to the firstfruits to the church, to the calling of the firstfruits and then six thousand years of mankind having his own disastrous way on this earth, that we see today is getting worse and worse and worse and it's coming to a head with this presidential election and just how people treat one another and what they say to one another. Then we will have the second coming of Christ and the binding of Satan.

Now, this day is it. This is the culmination of it. We casually will say something to the effect of this is a big deal. I remember a speaker a few years ago gave a sermonette on this day and he pointed out that this is the biggest deal that's ever happened. I think sometimes we don't appreciate how big a deal this day is. It's even bigger than creation itself, when you think about it. When God created the universe, it was physical stuff. Now, this is something totally different. There's a new dimension here. When you look at it, this is far greater than even creation itself. The resurrection to life of every human who has ever lived, to somehow have the power to bring these people back to life in a physical body and then have them live again with the same memories and mind and brain and body that they had. Can you think of what that miracle is and the power that it takes to do that? Then they will have the opportunity this day to have made their lives turn out all right. The title of the sermon is:

Everything Will Turn Out All Right

This day symbolizes it.

This was the lynchpin of my conversion, because I always wondered what happened to all of the people that ever lived. I can remember a Protestant minister saying that their missionary had a flat tire going to this place in Africa and they never made it. This village was wiped out by some rebels or something and they were lost forever. That just never made any sense to me. How could God do that?

1. How many people are affected on this day?

On this greatest of all days in that sense, the biggest deal that's ever happened since creation itself, the first thing that we want to look at just briefly is to see how many people are affected this day. It is an estimate, obviously, because we don't know what happened before the flood. We don't know how many people were on the earth before the flood. Estimates vary widely. Just bear with me here. Before we're through, if we're off by five or ten billion, it's no big deal when you see the real numbers. The fact is that after the flood it took thousands of years for the world population to reach one billion. It took until 1810 after the flood to reach one billion. It only took one hundred and twenty years to reach two billion. That was in 1930. Then it only took thirty-one years after that to reach three billion and that was in 1961. Since that time very eleven to fourteen years we add another billion. We passed seven billion in 2012 and it continues to grow. The big question for us here today is if there are seven billion on the earth today, what is that as a percent of the total who have ever lived? Is it half? Is it three quarters? All of the estimates, all of the numbers that I've crunched over quite some period of time indicate that the seven billion today is only six to seven percent of all of the people that have ever lived. We think the earth is crowded today. Just wait. The estimated number of people who have ever lived is approximately one hundred and six billion, give or take a few billion. We're estimating here. We are going to see in a minute that it could be a lot more. It's hard to grasp one hundred and six billion. It's 106 with a bunch of zeros behind it.

Let me give you two examples. When I was in the military, we would have to fall into formation in the morning. They would blast us out of the barracks with reveille and we would fall into formation. Those on the left side of the company would get behind the guy in front of them and hold their arm out and barely touch his back. That was the proper spacing. The guys on their right would keep the spacing even with them. They are about an arm's length apart. How long would the line be, if you took one hundred and six billion people and put them an arm's length apart? If we stretched one hundred and six billion people toward Australia, would we run out of people? Let's say, maybe it would go around the earth once or maybe twice. Not even close. If you just got all of those people in a line an arm's length apart, they would go around the world over one thousand six hundred times. That is a lot of people. Put it another way. Let's just say we named each one and took two seconds to name each one, one second for the first name and one second for the last name. If we did that, how long would it take us?

Let's say we started at the time of Adam. How long would it take, maybe until the flood, maybe until Christ came or maybe until World War II? If they had started naming the people at the time of Adam, we would still have seven hundred and fifty years to go before it's finished. That is a lot of people. If we took that number of people and put them on today's land mass, mountains, rain forests, deserts, it doesn't make any difference, there would be over eighteen hundred people per square mile, at the top of the Himalayas, Death Valley. You can see why God is going to have to lower the mountains and raise the ocean floor to accommodate all of these people.

That is not counting all of the miscarriages that have occurred down through history. In the United States today some fifteen to twenty percent of pregnancies end in a miscarriage. It's higher for the rest of the world and it was even higher in ages past when they didn't have the medical care and the hospitals and all of that that we have today. That could increase this one hundred and six billion by another fifteen or twenty percent easily. Then the thing that I just grieve about is the abortions. In this allegedly civilized country that we live in there are well over a million babies aborted every year. That's three thousand five hundred a day. Before these services are over two hundred and ninety babies will have been killed in this country. The world average over the last decade is somewhere between forty and fifty million babies a year that are killed through abortion. You realize that in one year the world kills more babies than the deaths of all six years of World War II. In the last fifty years there have been two and a half billion babies killed. That is far more than all of the deaths in all of the wars for the last six thousand years. I can see God's anger at that. I can see when Christ returns with that rod of iron. People are going to pay for that.

Let's just say one hundred and ten billion just for sake of a number. Let's think about how these people ended their life. I would venture a guess that the vast minority died peacefully in their bed with their family around them. It doesn't happen that often. Many, many, many died a violent death. Many died in incredible pain. Many died wasting away from hunger, wasting away from some kind of debilitating disease. For many their last second was just abject fear, whether it was war, whether it was their place being overrun by people that were out to get them and then many died angry. They died angry because they were dying and they were resentful and bitter because they had to die. Many of them were angry at God because they had to die. I know a couple of people in the church who were dying and they ended their days in the church angry with God, because God dared allow them to die before they could go to the place of safety. The vast majority of this one hundred and ten billion had their last memory of fear, anger or pain. Yet, despite all of this for this one hundred and ten billion people, guess what? Everything is going to turn out all right. The joy for us is that we will be privileged to help make that so. We will be there taking tragedy and turning it into a beautiful reunion of people.

2. Let's look at an overview as to how everything is going to turn out all right.

The second point is to take a Biblical review of what's going to happen this day for this one hundred and ten billion or more people, for those who never had a chance, never were called. They are going to rise from their graves this day.

We are required to preach meat in due season. Let's go to Isaiah 26:17-19. This is past the Millennium and this day is a marvelous day.

Isaiah 26:17. *Like as a woman with child, that draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, and crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O Lord. (KJV)*

This applies when these words were written, but it also applies to God's church today, because we're in pangs, too. It applies to the world also, because the world is suffering and is just beginning to really suffer. Let me read verse 18 out of the Tanakh translation.

18) We were with child, we writhed. It is as though we had given birth to the wind; we have won no victory on earth; the inhabitants of the world have not come to life. (TNK)

Now go back to the King James translation. We have the solution.

19) Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body [Isaiah's body] shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. (KJV)

That is this very day. Now let's go to Ezekiel 37:1-11. Every time I read this passage in the back of my mind there is the song of Dry Bones going on. I just can't help it. The chorale over the years has sung it and the children's chorale has sung it. The little kids sometimes would get sticks and clap them together to imitate dry bones. I can't help it.

Ezekiel 37:1. *The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, (KJV)*

Let's understand that this is a spiritual vision.

2) And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. (KJV)

These bones were very old. They had been there for quite some time.

3) And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? ... (KJV)

The Tanakh says, “can these bones live again?” Therefore, these are bones of dead humans that have been there for some period of time. We don’t know how big this valley was. Our Yakima Valley stretches a hundred miles. You can put a lot of bones in a valley a hundred miles long. We don’t know how deep those were either. You can just imagine the sight.

3b) ... And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.

4) Again he said unto me, Prophecy... (KJV)

The Hebrew word “prophecy” simply means *speak by inspiration*. Ezekiel was speaking by God’s inspiration. He said, go on and prophesy what I am going to inspire you to say.

4b) ... upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5) Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

6) And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, ... (KJV)

Ezekiel is seeing God rebuilding these bones, building bodies right in front of his eyes.

6b) ... and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord. (KJV)

This is the purpose for which they live. Finally, mankind will begin to know that God is God and there are no other gods.

7) So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

8) And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above [over]: but there was no breath in them [corpses].

(KJV)

We are seeing here God not just snapping His fingers and having a human there. We’re seeing the bones come up and get reattached. We’re seeing all of the ligaments and the tendons and sinews then come and be attached and then the muscles being rebuilt and then the skin coming over all of that. We don’t know how long that took for each body, but Ezekiel was watching it and it was not with the snap of a finger.

9) Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds [all directions], O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. (KJV)

The New Living Translation says, “breathe on these dead bodies.”

10) So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, ... (KJV)

This is a greater miracle than creation itself, to take a hundred and ten billion people and rebuild every single body. I doubt that He is going to resurrect them at a hundred years old. He's going to bring them back at some age, probably in their prime, maybe thirty or forty. I don't know. It's just speculation. The fact is that God can identify every human being that ever lived. He knows what their bodies were like when they lived. He can reconstruct not just the brain, but the mind, the spirit in man of that exact person, a hundred and ten billion of them, down to the toenails. That is just far greater than creating planets and constellations and all of that.

10b) ... and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

11) Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: ... (KJV)

Here we have a valley full of bones. We are told that all of these bones belong to the house of Israel. The logical question is, what about the rest of the world? Is this just for Israel or is it for the rest of the world? One principle of Bible study is that you must put all of the scriptures together on a given subject before you can come to a proper conclusion. We are going to examine the question: What about the rest of the world? Let's go to Romans 11:13. Paul is speaking to the church at Rome, but he is speaking to us today by his very word. The church at Rome was a mixture. There were Gentiles there.

Romans 11:13. *For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, ... (KJV)*

He is singling them out. Paul establishes a principle in verse 16.

16) For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches.

17) And if some of the branches be broken off [Jews], and thou [Gentiles], being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree [salvation]; (KJV)

Let me read what the New Living Translation says in verse 17, because it puts it all together.

17) But some of these branches from Abraham's tree—some of the Jews—have been broken off. And you Gentiles, who were branches from a wild olive tree, were grafted in. So now you also receive the blessings God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in God's rich nourishment of His special olive tree. (NLT)

Remember what Paul said to the Galatians 3:28.

Galatians 3:28. *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. (KJV)*

So, when you put these scriptures together with what we are reading, these bones ultimately refer to all mankind. Let's see more evidence in Matthew 12:41-42. Christ makes a promise. Christ also prophesies. Here he is talking about these bones in this valley. This is leading us to a proper conclusion.

Matthew 12:41. *The men of Nineveh shall rise ... (KJV)*

The Greek word for "rise" means *to stand up*.

41b) ... in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. (KJV)

He is referring to himself. The men of Nineveh were all pagan and they're all dead. Christ is saying that the men of Nineveh are going to rise up. They are going to be in the judgment of this generation that was alive when Christ walked the earth. In verse 42 it says:

42) The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here. (KJV)

The queen of the south was not an Israelite. The queen of the south was dead. So, we see here two examples, very clear, from Jesus Christ that pagans, non-Israelites are going to rise. Not only are they going to rise, they are going to judge the generation of the people who were alive when Christ walked the earth. How could they judge or condemn that generation properly if they don't have God's holy spirit. It is obvious when you put all of the scriptures together that these bones are the bones of all humanity, all people who have ever lived. Let's go back now to Ezekiel 37:11-14.

Ezekiel 37:11. *Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: ... (KJV)*

This is, as we have just looked into, by extension all of mankind. Go on in verse 11 out of the New King James version.

11b) ... They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' (NKJV)

This means they died without knowing God. How would we feel today if we were cut off from God? We wouldn't know a thing. We wouldn't have any protection. We wouldn't have any help. We wouldn't have any sanity. We couldn't exist without God. These

are saying we have no hope. We're cut off. We are lost. They died without truly knowing God. Go on in verse 12 out of the King James Version.

12) Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, ... (KJV)

From our perspective today we know that all people who have ever lived are God's people. If He can resurrect all of those individually by name, by hair and toenails and the shape of the nose and all of that, they are His people.

12b) ... I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13) And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, (KJV)

The process starts with Israel, but will encompass all of mankind. We don't know the details. Does it start with one valley in Jerusalem and go around the world? Does it happen all at once all over the world? We don't know. How long does it take? We don't know. It's just a promise that's going to happen on this day. Verse 14 shows the beauty of it.

14) And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it says the Lord. (KJV)

This has been in God's word for millennia. People scoff at God's word and they say, "Oh, it's just ancient writings. It's just stories from people that wandered the desert back thousands of years ago." God is saying, "You're going to know. I've told you. I'm going to perform it and it's going to happen." We are privileged to know that. We don't have to guess. We don't have to wring our hands and say oh, I hope it's going to happen. No, we know it's going to happen. Not just bringing them back to life, but ultimately putting His spirit in them. Now let's go to the scripture that gives us more detail in Isaiah 65:20-25. We read this every year at this time. What a wonderful time this describes. Here is a promise. Here is a description of this very time.

Isaiah 65:20. *There shall be no more thence an infant of days, ... (KJV)*

That means there is going to come a time when there will be no new births.

20b) ... nor an old man that hath not filled his days: ... (KJV)

This means that everyone is going to have a chance to live long enough for God to know whether they want to follow Him, want His way, want His spirit in them, want to be obedient, want to love Him, want to love their neighbor as themselves. There will be a time when God will determine that for these people.

20 continued) ... for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. (KJV)

We see here that a hundred years is a long time to be patient with a sinner. It's a long time to be patient with somebody with a bad attitude, but they're going to get their chance. It's a clear indication that this period will last a hundred years both for young and old. People will have a hundred years to make everything turn out all right in their lives.

21) And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. (KJV)

No hurricanes, no frost prematurely, no earthquakes, volcanoes, nothing like that will take place.

22) They shall not build, and another inhabit; ... (KJV)

This means no conquering armies coming over and taking what you have built.

22b) ... they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. (KJV)

As was pointed out earlier, a tree lives many, many years. There is time for people to show God whether they love Him or whether they don't, whether they accept His way or whether they will not.

23) They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; ... (KJV)

Can you imagine invading armies? People lived maybe for years and they've built a nice farm. They have their pastures and their flocks and their herds and their crops and all of that and in a matter of days an army comes through and destroys everything they've worked their whole life to build up. God is promising here that is not going to happen.

23b) ... for they are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them. (KJV)

They will live together as families in groups, brothers, sisters, cousins, uncles, aunts.

24) And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. (KJV)

This means God says, I am going to be nearby. I am going to be right there. Only God can do that all over the world all at once.

25) The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord. (KJV)

The animals will be changed. God is watching human beings grow and develop. He is watching their character. He is watching their mind. It's not going to be disrupted by World War II. It's not going to be disrupted by Genghis Khan. They will have their time. This event that we have just described here is the most amazing event in the history of the world. We are here to think about it, to try to get our arms around it, which we really can't, and pray for the day when it comes.

3. Everything will turn out all right for our family, our friends, our acquaintances, our sphere of influence, our sphere of people we know.

There is a big if in that, of course, as we know. Think of the loved ones who maybe have been estranged from us. It could be because of our religious beliefs. They just won't have anything to do with us. You see, this day solves that. Think about loved ones who died prematurely. Many of you have had loved ones, children, die prematurely or your parents died early in your life. This day will make that all right. Some loved ones died horrible deaths. Moms and dads sent their kids off to war. It could be Iraq. It could be Afghanistan. It could be Korea, Viet Nam, World War II in Europe or the Pacific and on and on it goes. They waved goodbye to their eighteen year old son and never saw him again. There were loved ones who died horrible deaths in combat, just violent deaths, loved ones who have gone astray. Brethren here have loved ones who have gotten into drugs, gotten into alcohol. They try to reach out to them and they just don't respond. Some loved ones have mental illness. You have tried everything in the book to reach them and they just won't respond. Nothing works.

The thing that is comforting for me is this day is going to make it all right for all the people I've offended in my life. I have offended many before conversion and after conversion. In my fifty years of conversion I look back and see all of my sins, all of my mistakes, all of the bad examples I have set, especially to my mom and dad. They both died before I really knew what conversion was all about. They got the brunt of the early years of my conversion when I thought I knew it all and I was telling them that there was no immortal soul and that you shouldn't keep Christmas and all of that. They got all of the brunt of that, but they didn't get the latter part where you really understand what love is all about and we should have all of the fruits of God's spirit. I have a lot of talking to do with my mom and dad and a lot of apologizing to do. For those that I have offended before and after conversion I've got a lot of apologizing to do. What I look forward to doing is to come up and say to them I was so wrong. I am so sorry, but I've learned a better way and I want to share it with you. I can't wait to do that. Let me show you a better way than what you have experienced in your previous life. This is the way, walk in it from Isaiah 30:21. Put your arm around them when they are going to the right or going to the left. You put your arm around them and say, "Hey, I've done this, been there and I've suffered for it. I don't want you to make the same mistake. If you go down this path, let me tell you how it works, because I've done it." Then you sit down

and you talk to them. You don't have a whip and a chair. You don't have jack boots on strutting around in front of people. You are there to help them, educate them, console them and show them the better way. People we've known in this life will come up and we will have the opportunity to fix things in our lives. I have screwed up so many things in my life. I want a chance to go back and fix them, for all of those that I have come in contact with in my life and for you, too. So, this is a time of making everything right for our family and for those we have come in contact with in our life.

4. Everything can turn out all right for those who are evil, warped and perverted.

The fourth point we want to talk about is that today represents a time when everything can turn out all right for those who are evil, those who are warped and those who are perverted. When we think in our minds of the evils that are committed in this world; ISIS for example is selling young girls into slavery, beheading people, burning people alive. We think of child molesters in this society that we live in. You just want to get out the sword and start swinging. You want to double up your fist and start pounding on people. That's the human reaction. We have to ask ourselves, will God kick to the curb a child molester? If they are resurrected on this day and they are a child molester and their last memories were of watching child pornography. What about people who have murdered? What about the mass murderers like Stalin and Hitler? Between the two of them they've murdered millions of people. Will God just say, you don't get a chance? You are just too evil. It's not going to happen. Idi Amin, Nero, Genghis Khan, people like that are going to come up in the resurrection. What about those who have tortured others? King Henry VIII famously quoted to another monarch, "my torturers are better than your torturers." That was a profession in those days, highly regarded. These people are going to come up that spent maybe their adult life every day torturing other human beings. You see, this is all of those who have practiced evil. I'm not talking about people that slip up. We all slip up. We all are weak. We all make mistakes. I'm talking about people who grew up practicing evil for their whole life. They will have an opportunity they've never had before. Is that going to take some patience, understanding, time working with people? You bet. God doesn't make exceptions to this. Everyone will have their opportunity, even those who are evil and warped and perverted. In 1 Timothy 2:4 Paul is telling this young minister about God.

1 Timothy 2:4. Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. (KJV)

That is God and Christ's desire. It does not say that all will be saved, but it is God's desire to have all human beings have an opportunity to be in His kingdom, to be His children forever. You look at the history of some of these serial killers and some of these perverted people. If we grew up in that environment, most of the time we'd be just like them, because of the sins of the fathers to the third and fourth generation. We, of all people are going to need to take that into consideration. Let's go to 2 Peter 3:9 and see God's attitude toward all humanity. These people that are just warped, grew up in a warped environment and maybe they didn't have a chance. Maybe because of

genetics and heredity they started out with two strikes against them and then took the third strike.

2 Peter 3:9. *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (KJV)*

This even includes those that we talked about on the first day, who oppose Christ at his return; those people that are shaking their fist at Christ. They had previously received the rod of iron of Christ and they were slain by angels and slain maybe by firstfruits. We don't know. It was a violent death. They are going to be resurrected, you see. We are told in Revelation 9:20 that they did not repent of their idolatry. They did not repent of their murders and their fornications and their thefts and their sorceries.

Revelation 9:20. *And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: (KJV)*

Now they come up and the last thing they remember is God's rod of iron and now they have a chance to be re-educated and to look back on history and see the futility of their kind of behavior. We are going to be the ones that are going to do that. Many of these people are going to need a degree of healing before they can go forward; those for example who are mentally ill. Many of us have had experience with people who are mentally ill, maybe in your family. People who have all manner of psychological disorders, schizophrenia, PTSD and those who have blown their minds with drugs and alcohol and those with totally perverted minds, sex addicts, pedophiles and so on and so on and so on, and those who are demon possessed. You take all of those and before they could even start, their mind has to be healed up to a certain point. Otherwise, it just won't work for them. Why is this initial healing necessary? To be baptized and to receive God's holy spirit, first we have to see our sins and then we have to repent of our sins. If you can't see your sins, how can you repent of your sins? If you don't admit you have a problem, how can you solve a problem? God will heal them up to a point where they can receive the truth and understand the truth and understand His word and then they begin to see themselves and then they begin to repent and this process starts. It takes a healed mind first, because they have gone so far down the road. Will God heal them at the instant of their resurrection? It seems logical, but I don't know. We will find out. The prophet Ezekiel talks about this healing in Ezekiel 36:26. It's the chapter before we are talking about this day.

Ezekiel 36:26. *A new heart also will I give you ... (KJV)*

It's interesting. The Hebrew word for "heart" is Strong's 3829 and it means *the mind* and *the will* and even *the intellect*. It says, likewise *the center of anything*. That means our core, who we are. I will give you a new core, a new heart, a new intellect, a new mind. The Complete Word Study Dictionary of the Old Testament by Baker says, "it

usually refers to the seat of one's inner nature." That has to be changed for those people who are so warped.

26b) ... and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. (KJV)

We know that to be the holy spirit. We read it in chapter 37:14.

For those who have sick minds and perverted minds God will heal their minds on this day in order that they can see themselves and look on their past. Can you imagine the tears of repentance, the tears of bitterness of how they allowed themselves to do these things and to be this way? They will be able to repent of their evil minds so they can ultimately receive God's Holy Spirit. We will be there shepherding them along on this process so they can begin to see. All of these people who have done all of these terrible things, not being called, not being blessed the way we have been blessed, will have their opportunity. If they change, if they take hold of this opportunity, they will be God's children forever. If they do not, that leads us to the fifth and the last point.

5. For a few, things will not turn out all right today.

For those who have repented and received God's holy spirit and then knowingly rejected God after that, because they want to continue to live their sinful, evil life, even though they have been baptized and at some point they turn around and go back, then Hebrews 10:26-27 applies to them. It can apply to us today for the firstfruits, people who are called and then down the road reject God and want to go back and live their old way. This applies to them, too. Some of those on this day when they are resurrected, allegedly repent, are baptized and then turn against God.

Hebrews 10:26. For if we sin wilfully ... (KJV)

That is they know the consequences, not because of weakness, fully knowing what they are doing.

*26b) ... after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,
27) But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. (KJV)*

We know from other scriptures that's the lake of fire. That's what they have to look forward to.

There will be some at this time who are resurrected. They are given a mind that can comprehend God's way. They just say they don't want it. I like it the way it was. I want to continue my perversion. I want to continue my violence. I want to continue my molestation. I'm sure somebody's will say, I would rather watch child pornography than gaze upon God. Can you imagine that? I'm sure that's going to happen. Some would

rather die than give up their perverted lifestyle. They would rather not exist than follow God, obey God and have God's spirit in them. They will reject it. We've seen it sometimes. It's happened down through history. There's no reason to believe it's not going to happen in this time. I think we all would venture a guess that it's going to be relatively few. Look at 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. Unlike what other religions say, God is not just going to accept people as they are. That doesn't work. God is not going to accept somebody that's against Christ. God's not going to accept somebody that doesn't look like Christ, or act like Christ, or behave like Christ or think like Christ.

1 Corinthians 6:9. *Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: ... (KJV)*

This applies to us.

9b) ... neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (KJV)

God is saying, despite what's going on in the modern world today where people just embrace homosexuality and alternate lifestyles, that isn't going to happen. You are not going to be in my kingdom if that's what you want. My guess is in this time some people will say that's what I want. I don't want your way.

10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (KJV)

You add Revelation 21:8 into that where it talks about all liars will not inherit the Kingdom of God. I can remember back in the '60s when I was a deacon a minister was talking about the kingdom with me. He said, "Rick remember one thing. Not everybody is going to be in the Kingdom of God." That should be a scary thought for us. It's our choice. It's going to be their choice on this day.

The other thing that people ask is what if my dad that I loved dearly in this time rejects God? I'm going to have to live for an eternity with that loss and that memory. God is so merciful that He has a plan for that too. Hopefully we won't have loved ones who don't make it, but it's up to them. It's up to each individual. Let's go to Isaiah 26:14. I am going to read this out of the Revised Standard Version, where it's clearer.

Isaiah 26:14. *They are dead, they will not live; ... (RSV)*

Once they have had their chance, lake of fire, all over with.

14b) ... they are shades, they will not arise; ... (RSV)

It is like a window shade. The shade is not going to be pulled up again.

14 continued) ... to that end thou hast visited them with destruction and wiped out all remembrance of them. (RSV)

Let's say you have a husband, wife, mother, daughter, son, whatever and they don't make it. We are eternal spirit beings looking down at them. They are physical and they just for whatever reason don't make it. God in His mercy will throw a switch and we will never remember them again. It will be as though they never existed. We don't have to spend an eternity grieving over a lost loved one. That shows God's ultimate mercy. Everything is taken care of. Everything is planned for. All contingencies are worked out.

Let's try to wrap this as we conclude here. I do quite a few funerals. People come there who don't know the truth. They are so grieving, because in their minds they believe that they will never see again this person lying in the casket. Can you imagine the grief? I don't see how people do it. You lose your parents and think I'll never see them again, ever. They're gone. It's done. It's finished. When I die it'll be all blackness and just never anything again, nothing. What a way to live. You see, God has an answer to that. God will bring our loved ones back to life. One of the greatest blessings of being called is to know the truth. Everything will ultimately turn out just fine. Let's go to Isaiah 25:6-8.

Isaiah 25:6. *And in this mountain shall the Lord of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees [well aged], of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.*

7) And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, ... (KJV)

On this day they will be resurrected and they will come to understand God's truth.

7b) ... and the veil that is spread over all nations.

8) He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it. (KJV)

It's a promise. It will happen. What a wonderful promise. Let's go to the end of the book in Revelation 21:3-4. Finally, God and men are united. They are together.

Revelation 21:3. *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. (KJV)

Everything we see today and we suffer today is going to be all gone. During that time when all of those billions are resurrected, I just look forward to it and kind of have an

image. It's like when you walk into church today and all of the little kids come running up to you and they give you hugs. They are so excited and they tell you whatever it is that's interesting to them at the moment in that time. They are just happy and talking about it. That's the way those people are going to be toward us. I just can't wait for that to happen. We're going to be their spiritual older siblings and we're going to help them walk the path.

As we go home from the feast let's think of this. Before this day is fulfilled we have a chance to be there. We're not there yet. Remember, our job here and now is to change from the old person to the new person. In Ephesians 4 and Colossians 3 it's very clear. We have to become like Christ, because if we are going to be at the marriage supper Christ isn't going to marry somebody he doesn't like. He is not going to marry somebody who doesn't look like him and act like him and have the same values that he does. So, our job is very simple. We must love God with all of our being. Matthew 22, Mark 12 and Luke 10 all say the same thing. When God says it three times, there is emphasis there. It is so simple what we have to do. Love God with all our being. Love our neighbor as ourselves. This is in the same in these three scriptural references plus others.

How can we hate certain people today? How can we have prejudice and bigotry in our heart and then turn around and love them on the Last Great Day? How does that work? It doesn't work. It doesn't compute. God says I'm not going to have you helping these people, if you hate people today and if you have prejudice today and if you are a bigot in your life. How can you teach and train them on this Last Great Day if this is in your heart? God's not going to have it. It's not going to work. We have to love God with all of our heart, love our neighbor as ourselves and we have to get control of our minds. That's the hard part. There's a famous saying that says, "don't believe everything you think." In Isaiah 26:3 God promises:

Isaiah 26:3. *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. (KJV)*

If we get control of our mind, then we get control of our tongue and then we get control of our actions. Our life and our mind must be God centered. The bottom line is that before this day is fulfilled we must prove to God that we're becoming like His son. All of the character traits that we want are the character traits of Jesus Christ.

Salvation is not a matter of the seat we sit in. It is a matter of becoming God's children and being like Jesus Christ. Yet, at the same time all of us acknowledge fighting Satan, fighting our human nature is hard. It is difficult every day, every hour and every minute. Some say, I just can't do it. People in the past have said this. They are right. They can't do. You can't do it. I can't do it. Guess who can do it? God Almighty can do it. Only God can do it. Here's the big lesson. If God has the power to resurrect a hundred and ten billion individual human beings on this day, could He have the power to help me overcome my problems, my shortcomings, my faults, my sins? Is that power accessible

to us? You bet it's accessible to us. All we have to do is tap into that power. Matthew 19:26 says:

Matthew 19:26. *But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. (KJV)*

That means changing us from the old person to the new person. Our duty is to exercise God's holy spirit in us, to tap into that power and to become like Jesus Christ and then we will be there on this day.

As we go back to our homes let's determine to practice being the kind of person that Christ was when he walked on this earth and then we will be there on this grandest of all days. Think about the concept of this day. If we are God centered, if we get control of our minds. love our neighbor as ourselves and most of all love God with all our being, then everything is going to turn out all right for us, for our family, for our brethren and for all mankind. Let's dedicate ourselves to being there on this day.