



Amir Tsarfati

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKwbpB2YhP0>

Rapture, Israel & the Tribulation



AMIR: Shalom and good evening from CONNECT in Galilee in the Jezreel Valley in Israel. I'm Amir Tsarfati and welcome to another *Q&A* session with Pastor Barry Stagner, moderated also by Pastor Mike Golay, who is

actually in Argentina, not even in Minnesota. So, Shalom, gentlemen and Pastor Mike.

MIKE: Shalom, Shalom.

AMIR: Pastor Mike, tell us, what is it that you're doing there right now?

MIKE: Yeah, there is a Bible school for young adults, and we were invited to come here and present curriculum on Israel, Bible prophecy, and the end-times for the entire week with these students. And also local pastors have wanted to join and do some meetings and understand what we believe, and integrate these things into the teachings of their church. We are apparently a very sought-after ministry here in the area, and they invited us, and here we are, to equip them in Tucumán, Argentina.

AMIR: Tucumán, exactly, and not too far from the border with Chile. And the thing that I wanted to ask you is that besides pastors, you're also going to teach young adults, and that's why we actually brought with us Jason Koemans, our director of GenZion. Am I right?

MIKE: That's correct, that's correct. Yeah, Jason is here. He's actually just a few rooms down and after this *Q&A*, We're going to head over and We're going to start our first teaching. We do

two teachings per day, and sometimes we'll do evening meetings with the local pastors and leaders. So, it's primarily young adults.

AMIR: Okay, perfect, great. Pastor Barry, why don't you start with a prayer, and maybe you can include Mike and Jason's ministry there in that community.

BARRY: Absolutely. Lord, we are so thankful for Your hand upon us, and that You light our path and direct our steps. We do pray for Your anointing over these meetings, with young people and pastors in Argentina. Be with Mike as he teaches, and Jason as well. And we ask for much fruit from this effort, God. We thank You for the doors that You're opening. We ask for Your anointing and blessing on this time today, and that those in search of wisdom from above would hear from Your Word. So we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

AMIR: Amen, amen. Thank you. So, Pastor Mike, the floor is yours.

MIKE: Yeah, just before we begin, I want to say a heartfelt thanks. And I say this on behalf of Behold Israel. Trips like this, or any trips for that matter, anywhere that myself, Amir, or Barry, or Jason, or anybody within our structure of speaking, it's because of generous people like you. And I know there's many donors watching this, and you know who you are. This is just one example. And so we want to say thank you that enables this ministry to continue like this, not to mention this very broadcast itself. So this very broadcast is through CONNECT, it's totally donation-based. And we have a heartfelt thank you. We do not take it for granted. And we want to just say we recognize that you are all making sacrifices so that we can get this content out.

Now, are you ready? Let's go to Marsha's question. I'm going to throw this straight at you, Pastor Barry. Are you ready? "The wages of sin is death. Because sin is so grievous, 'something' has to die (either an animal sacrifice or the Son of God Himself)," which is, of course, the case.

“...Why couldn’t sin be remedied any other way?” I think this is the first time We’ve had that question ever. What is the reason that it had to be the Son of God?

BARRY: Well, Mike, you know, this is a pretty hefty question to be sure. And I don’t recall this ever coming up either. But I think what we have to rest on is the fact that this is what God determined. This is His chosen method, as Leviticus says in 17:11, that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin. Adam was told in the garden not to eat of the fruit. He said, “For the day that you eat of it, you will surely die.” And we know that what is implied there, even though it’s not directly stated, is that there was an animal that was sacrificed to cover them with animal skins to hide their nakedness now that they had become aware of both good and evil. One of the other things about this question is for God to just forgive sin without any sacrifice would make Him unfair or unjust, if you will, in the sense that He just let people get away with it. And the sacrifices that were offered for all those years prior to the coming of the Son of God into the world, for the purpose of dying for the sins of the world, were just kind of a band-aid, so to speak, until the better blood could be offered by Jesus Himself that was sufficient to cover the sins of the whole world.

This is God’s act and action. He is the one that instituted the fact that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. So the fact that He decided and He determined that blood had to be offered as the only sufficient covering for sin, that’s all on Him. And I don’t think we can really say, well... And I, like J. Vernon McGee, used to say, “God does things the way He wants to, and you might think you have a better way, but this is His universe, and you don’t have a universe.” So this is how God decided He was going to deal with

the fall of man. And it was actually predetermined before the worlds began. So that's all a God thing.

AMIR: Yeah.

MIKE: Yeah, Amir, are there any thoughts on that, any perspective on sacrifices?

AMIR: I don't know if it's a Jewish perspective necessarily, but I'm wondering why is it that we are asking about the solution for sin to be easier than asking about sin itself? And the sin is the problem. Exactly. Sin is the problem. And it is so severe that God takes it seriously and that God also is having His own Son shedding His blood for us. It's not like God is asking us to do something and then provide a different solution that is less or lesser. Actually, He provided something far better, far greater, far stronger, and that lasts forever. And so I think that if we didn't have this solution for a problem, which is the issue—not the solution, the problem is the issue—if we don't have this type of solution, then we would still be in our sins; because we know for a fact that nothing, even the blood that was shed with the animals that were sacrificed was not enough. We had to do it every year. In other words, if it wasn't enough, that means we would all be still in the problem. So anything lesser than that would even be less enough than the not enough of the blood that was there before the Messiah. So, I just think that there are standards of God, and He knows who we are, and He provided a solution. That's what we need to celebrate, and we need to acknowledge the problem is with us, within us; it's the sin, and it's not what is it that can pay for it because the most important thing had been paid and not even by us. So we have to remember that one.

BARRY: Yeah, Mike, also I think that as long as the birth-to-death ratio remains one-to-one, the Word of God has proven to be true. The wages of sin is still death, so the gift of God, of eternal

life, through Jesus is still the only means by which we can avoid the worst of the two deaths that people experience, and that is the second death.

MIKE: Yeah... yeah, wow. You know, Marsha, just in my observation after listening to Amir and Barry is that remember, Jesus also prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, "If this cup may pass, even so, let Your will be done." To Amir's point, the severity of sin is what really drives the necessity of the sacrifice, and it gets us all, at least it is getting me right now and I'm inviting everyone to feel these feelings of that a true sacrifice is not just a sacrifice of a person, but of your own son. And for all of us that have kids, to do that, as it says in Romans, for your worst enemy is unthinkable, and it shows you just how much He loves us. I think that's the foot pound that I'd like to contribute to the discussion before we head to Danny's question next.

And this one I'm going to throw at you Amir. Danny is... we kind of touched on the feasts before, but he kind of comes with a little bit of a different angle on this one. "Since Jesus fulfilled all the spring Jewish Feasts,..." Maybe you were watching last week, Danny, I don't know, "...do you think He needs to fulfill the fall ones as well, and could the Rapture be a part of it? Is the Feast of Trumpets a good candidate for the Rapture?" *Yom HaTru'ah*, I think he's referring to, maybe. Amir, can you be really clear on this one this week?

AMIR: I can. First of all, I will have to admit and confess that in my first years of teaching, I was captured in that theory that the Rapture is the Feast of Trumpets, simply because the last trumpet and all of that. However, God was very clear, speaking to me in a very clear way, that the feasts are to be fulfilled with Israel, and for the most part in Israel. And they are to be fulfilled in the same, listen to this, in the same timeframe that they are to be celebrated. Okay, what do I mean? If you go back 2,000 years ago, the first four were fulfilled one after the other within the timeframe

they were celebrated that same very year. And the same thing will happen upon His return, physically, and all three will be fulfilled in Israel, with Israel, in the right chronological order. Which means He will arrive on trumpets, the people will repent on Yom Kippur, and they will enter into the millennial kingdom on Feast of Tabernacles.

In other words, I don't believe the Rapture has any attachment to any of the feasts and I'll tell you why. Think about it. If you say that the Rapture has to happen on the Feast of Trumpets, let's say you don't know the year, but you know that it has to be on the Feast of Trumpets, you already excluded 364 other days from every year, basically. In other words, you are saying He cannot take us in any other day. And that, my friend, is unbiblical because no one knows the day and the hour. The imminency of the Rapture is what we have to consider all the time. I mean, Paul, when he spoke in 1 Thessalonians 4 about the Rapture, he could have easily attached it to a specific holiday; he never did. And we know that if he thought it can happen at his time, how much more we can know that it can happen in any given day today and no one knows the day, no one knows the hour. So if you don't know the day and you don't know the hour, it can happen at any given time. Okay? And the problem is, He even says that He will come when He is least expected. If you think about it, if everybody is expecting Him to come on the Feast of Trumpets, then that even counters that very thing that we know that has to be the condition at that time. So I believe that the Rapture of the church has nothing to do, and it's not attached to any of the feasts. The feasts are connected to the first coming and the second coming. They are not connected to the Rapture itself. And again, Mike, I used to think that way, the same way Danny is asking.

MIKE: So what moved you from that and what does it actually represent?

AMIR: The more... I tell you, the more I taught, the more I realized I'm basically contradicting myself. Because if it was so important for the first four to be fulfilling their chronological order,

why would I break that for the second batch? And also, why would I then exclude most of the year from a possibility for the Rapture to happen? Because then I am attacking my own teaching on the imminency of the Rapture that it can happen at any given time. And then I'm also contradicting my own teaching on "No one knows the day and the hour, and He will come when He's least expected." And again, remember, why would He fulfill a feast of Israel for something that has nothing to do necessarily with the people of Israel? Think about it, the second coming, remember, He is coming back to the Mount of Olives. He is going to reign from Jerusalem, and Israel will be once again a nation from where the teaching of God's Word will come out. Every Gentile will want to hold the corner of the Jewish men's garment. Everyone will come to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles every year. It's a different reality. So I can clearly see why all of those holidays were attached to the ministry of Jesus in Israel in His physical presence on earth. Whether it's the first one with the first four, or the second one with the last three. So that's my thing, and again, I confessed that I was there once because it sounded very, you know, makes sense. Trumpet, trumpet, yeah, it sounds good. Trumpet, trumpet.

But then, by the way, you can go to YouTube and look at my teaching on "The Last Trumpet," where I'm actually breaking the different points of why not every trumpet in the Bible has necessarily to do with that specific last trumpet in both 1 Corinthians 15 and in 1 Thessalonians 4. And I don't believe that the trumpet of 1 Thessalonians necessarily has to do with the Feast of Trumpets. And I also don't believe that it has to do with the trumpet judgments of the Tribulation. You see, when you start taking the word "trumpet" and attach it, because it's the same word, start attaching it to anything that sounds like trumpet, it's not only that you might be wrong about the

Rapture when it comes to the feast, but you also might be wrong about the Rapture when it comes to the judgments. So we have to be very careful, and we have to ask ourselves, “What is this? What is this? What is that?” And again, I detailed all of that in that message. So, “The Last Trumpet,” go to YouTube, Amir Tsarfati, “The Last Trumpet” is right there. I think it’ll help you a lot.

MIKE: Wow, yeah, thanks for treating that. I mean, clearly, I’m hearing you say there are many kinds of trumpets, and there’s a sequence of events that happen rapidly. And why not be consistent, and why not keep the focus on Israel where it was originally intended? And you repented from that, well, maybe not repent, but you changed your mind, which I guess is repentance from that view.

AMIR: But I can see where it came from, that’s why I said that. I can see where it came from. It’s a common thing. Go ahead, Pastor Barry.

BARRY: Yeah, Mike, I think if we just look at this simply, as Amir pointed out, we’d have to ask the question, why would the Rapture of the church, that’s exclusive to the church only, why would it fall on a Jewish feast day? It just doesn’t make any sense. So, I think if we just understand what Amir pointed out, everything has to be in Israel, about Israel, and the Messiah’s going to come back and fulfill the remaining three feasts upon His return and beyond. So the church is the church, Israel is Israel, and it doesn’t really float to say that the Rapture is going to happen on a Jewish feast day.

AMIR: Yeah.

MIKE: Yeah, well, yeah, then if I know when it’s happening, even if it’s once a year, I can prepare for that one day. If I miss it, okay, I have another year. [Laughter]

BARRY: You got to wait a whole another year.

MIKE: It's kind laughable. All right, so Pastor Barry, Pat is asking this question. Hey, and by the way, everybody, great job mentioning your first name and your question in a succinct and concise manner. I didn't even have to say that, and We've established that culture here, so way to go keep it up. Pat is saying this. What does it mean? It's a tough one. We have you, the tough ones here, Pastor Barry. "What does it mean that we will judge angels (1 Corinthians 6:3)? Why do they need to be judged? Is this referring to just the fallen angels?" What do we know? What don't we know about this whole statement?

AMIR: By the way, Barry knows a lot about this, just so you know. [Everyone laughing]

BARRY: Well, I think the question answers itself. We are going to judge the angels. I mean, there's nothing really to interpret from that. And obviously, We've got angels that are fallen angels or demonic beings that are held in prison because they left their domain. And the other things we do know about the realm of fallen angels. And so just like fallen mankind, unrepentant mankind, unregenerate mankind, they're going to be judged and the same is true of the angelic realm. So, you've got the rank and file presented by Paul of the angelic realm, powers and principalities, the other components we have introduced to us through Daniel and other prophets regarding the angels. And you've got ones that hinder the answers to prayer, like in Daniel chapter 10. And then you've got ones like Michael, the archangel, who came and fought against the kings of Persia, princes of Persia. So, there is a component of judgment, I believe, that's necessary for the whole of eternity to be what it's going to be.

I think we remember that the New Jerusalem is going to be a place in which righteousness dwells. And there will never have stepped foot in there, like we see in Job with Satan presenting himself to God, he'll have never entered the New Jerusalem. No fallen angel will have ever had

access to the New Jerusalem. It's going to be a place of ultimate purity, ultimate holiness. And, Revelation makes a pretty chilling statement that someday the unjust are going to be unjust still, meaning permanently, and the righteous are going to be righteous still, meaning permanently. And so there's got to be that division of the fallen rank and file of angels, as well as fallen humanity from the righteous, and the angels that didn't, the third of the angels that didn't, two-thirds rather, that didn't go after Satan when he fell. So, I think the text means exactly what it says, that we will judge angels. You have to remember 1 John 3:2 also, Mike, says that when we see Jesus, we will be like Him, for we will see Him as He is. So we will have the capacity for this particular task. Right now, Hebrews makes it clear, We're as far as the creative realm, We're a little lower than the angels at this point in time. But after the Rapture and the end of all things as we know it, when we see Jesus, We're going to be like Him. So we'll be capable of judging the angelic realm.

MIKE: So when the angels became demons and rebelled, that was a permanent decision, completely irrevocable. In other words, today demons that were once angels and rebelled are totally not able to repent, but only are subject to judgment. Is that what We're hearing here?

BARRY: Well, we don't see anything about repentance being accessible or available to the angelic realm. There's nothing that shows that the blood of Christ is sufficient to cover their fall. I mean, you'd have to throw Lucifer in with that grouping, if that were possible. And we know that he is going to be locked up forever and eternally separated from God in the realm of the righteous. So I don't think we can make a case for angels repenting or forgiveness being offered to them. Jesus' blood was sufficient to cover the sins of the whole world. And I don't think that extends beyond the human realm.

MIKE: Not fallen angels.

AMIR: I always compare when humans accept the mark of the beast, they are actually coming to the level of what the angels did when they followed Satan. That's it. They're now his. And then that's when they determine upon themselves an irredeemable status. So I guess if you want to understand why it's impossible, ask yourself, what group of people cannot be saved? And as far as I know, the only group that cannot be saved is the group that throughout the Tribulation received the mark of the beast. That's exactly what the demons did, what the fallen angels did, basically and they became his army, basically. And that's it. And so, quite chilling, isn't it? Think about that.

MIKE: It is. It's very interesting too, especially in the latter days when the activity of these demonic spirits are going to be off the charts. And we already see that. Yeah, Pastor Barry.

BARRY: Yeah, I just looked up the word "judge" there in the passage in 1 Corinthians 6:3. And the Greek word is *krino*, and it means to render final judgment. So that's what this is talking about, the *final judgment* of the fallen angelic realm and we will be participants in that to what level. I don't think the Bible makes it very clear. But that's really what the judging is all about, to render the final judgment, the execution of permanent separation from God because of their previous acts. So I think that kind of gives us our answer.

MIKE: Wow. Here yet again, the responsibility and what God gives us is not just salvation. It's rulership with Him, it's judging fallen angels, and the blessings just keep... they just keep expanding as one reads Scripture, one understands the future role that we'll all play. It's certainly an amazing thing.

AMIR: But just a reminder, we will become judges only when we become like Him. We should not judge people now. And it seems like sometimes I see people that are getting saved and

automatically judge everybody right now. And it's like, hey, come on, hold your horses. You need to have a new body; you need to be in glorified state, yes. And you need to be like Him, and that's when we can actually judge and reign and rule with Him. But not before that. And let's not try to do that now because this is not our job.

BARRY: It's the same Greek word that Jesus is for judging. "Judge not lest you be judged." It's the same word, *krino*. We don't render final judgment on anybody that's not our place.

AMIR: Yeah.

MIKE: Okay, next question from Virginia to you, Amir. "I have only heard little snippets about the increase of Aliyah. Is there an increase in the diaspora returning? And has Israel been accommodating the numbers?" It's often a question. I mean, Israel is a small country size of New Jersey and a lot of it is desert. Is there space for immigration, Amir? Like, what do you see? Are there new neighborhoods? What's the price of real estate? How is it going? These are some of the questions we don't talk about much. What is the status of Aliyah, and returning?

AMIR: So, I'll give you two answers; one that is the real and the other one is for the antisemites. Which one do you want me to start? [All: Laughter] Let's put it this way...

MIKE: Let's do the real so we don't miss it.

AMIR: Okay, so the real one is there's a lot of land, especially in the southern part, but also in Galilee. Galilee, unfortunately, only inhabitants, 17% of the Galilean people are Jewish people. It's mostly Arab towns and villages. And there are so much more places and need for Jewish people to live here. That's the first thing. In the Negev, in the southern part from Beersheba and in that area, also there's a lot of land, all the way down towards the Arabah, towards the city of Eilat. That

was a vision of David Ben-Gurion, our first prime minister, that the Jewish people will go and basically cause the desert to bloom. In the final years of his life, when he retired from being prime minister, he moved and lived there in the Negev, in the desert, basically. And so, yes, there is room. There is enough.

If I was to give an answer to the antisemites, I would say, "Yes, we have the greater-Israel plan to take over many more countries and inhabit it with the Jewish people." Because, you see, it's not the truth, but that's all they hear from whatever happens. [Gesture: Pointing to head] I mean, they're so stuck on that "Greater Israel." Greater Israel is not something that the Jewish people nowadays are dealing with. It's something that we know that eventually God will do when Israel will once again be a nation above all. We know because we have the description of the division of the land in the latter days. So I don't have to worry about that one.

But yes, there is an amazing increase of new immigrants. And the difference this time is that it's not from poor countries of people seeking for a better life. Such people who would come from the former Soviet Union, or people that are coming from areas in Ethiopia, or other places where obviously it was areas with a lot of stress, financial stress as well as persecution. But now We're talking about people that are moving to Israel because they understand, especially after October 7th, that there is no safe place for Jews anywhere or a safer place anywhere than Israel. We see an amazing increase in immigration of Aliyah from North America. I mean, just yesterday, there was a whole TV report on new immigrants from America that just came to Israel. Many of them are Orthodox Jews that lived in America all their life and they understand that everything has changed. By the way, Mamdani's election made it clear to a lot of Jews in New York that that's no longer their place.

You see, everybody thinks that antisemitism is a bad thing and I do too. But God can even use this for something good. And the election of Mamdani and what this city is turning into right now is actually something that backfires on Mamdani's belief that this land doesn't belong to the Jews, but to the Arabs. Because what he's doing in New York causes this land here to be even fuller with Jewish people. So all of those things that they're doing to the Jewish people outside... For example, the Bondi Beach in Sydney, that terrorist attack, why would anyone who's against what Israel is doing, why would he go and attack Jews in Australia? I mean, I can understand; you want to attack IDF or Israelis that serve in the IDF come and attack us here. But why would you attack Jewish people that have nothing to do with what's going on in Gaza in Sydney? Well, guess what? That terror attack caused tons of Jewish people in Australia to open their file for immigration to Israel. So think about it. This guy is angry that the Jews are in this land here. And what he did to the Australian Jews caused them now to move over here. So you see, it backfires on them. It reminds me of how...

MIKE: Backfires, makes Israel stronger.

AMIR: Absolutely. Yes, and that's the word, that's God. Only God can do it. Think about that, Mike. The BDS movement, they want boycott, divest, and sanction Israeli products from "Judea and Samaria." But guess what? All of those factories in Judea and Samaria, 90% of the workers are actually Palestinians who live in the area. So what is it that they did? They boycotted those products that are manufactured in Judea and Samaria, 90% of the factory was laid off. Palestinians lost their jobs and the factory moved to other places in Israel where Jewish people are now working. So think about that. They wanted to "bless" the Palestinians and "punish" the Jews. They ended up, [they] blessed the Jews and punished the Palestinians in their stupidity.

And that's the point that I'm trying to say. It doesn't matter how many times and how often and in what manner they will try to come against us. God will always make sure that His plan for His people in this land will come to pass. Whether you come against it or whether you're facilitating it, God will make sure it happens. And so, I'm not worried. There are a lot of new immigrants. Israel is getting stronger. For the first time in many years, even the Ultra-Orthodox are now being drafted now, in small numbers, but slowly, slowly, the numbers are growing even into the IDF. And they will then come into the workforce and contribute then and more taxes and more revenue. The economy is growing. You see, this war, this war even broke the status quo about Ultra-Orthodox Jews only studying and not serving in the military. Because their invasion and all what's going on in the last three years proved that we need soldiers and proved that if there is someone who is an Ultra-Orthodox and he's not studying, he needs to be drafted. That's the conscription law that is now...

MIKE: ... Up till now they've tried to avoid service in the IDF? Help all the viewers understand the background of that.

AMIR: Mike, this morning, this morning, this morning, 500 Ultra-Orthodox joined the IDF only this morning. 500...

MIKE: That's a big deal. For those of you watching, that's a big deal.

AMIR: It's a huge thing. Now it may not be enough, but it's already a beginning of a new era. And remember, the Ultra-Orthodox are actually the people that are having the most kids, more kids than any family. And think about that. We even win in the demographic battle. For years we were told the Jewish low fertility rate, and Arab high birth rate will eventually cause Arabs to be the majority. Well, guess what? The Jewish families in Israel have more babies than Arabs. And a

lot of it is because of the Ultra-Orthodox Jews that they see the blessing in big families in six, seven, and eight kids each. And at least, let's put it this way. What if three out of the eight joined the military and then comes enter into the workforce? The average of a secular family in Israel is three kids. It's like all the kids. You understand? You come to the point where almost every family is now having three kids serving and three kids that... My point is this. *Everything* they actually do to try and fight our existence, actually strengthens our existence and strengthens our resolve. And I love seeing that because I know one thing: The flower fades the grass withers, but the Word of God stands forever. And if the Word of God says that we will live here, and we will return back to the land, and the land will flourish once again, Ezekiel 36. And we will return from diaspora after we have gone through horrific tragedies as Ezekiel 37 alludes, that graveyard that we came out of. All of that is to tell you that the enemies might have one thing, but God's Word eventually is the one that will come to pass. I love it. There are a lot of new immigrants. They're coming from unexpected places, and I thank God for that.

MIKE: Yeah, and the Greater Israel, like the prophecy that you refer to, that's God's doing. Right now We're seeing just a sliver of the fulfillment of land mass, and it's going to expand. And that's what Tucker tried to catch Mike Huckabee on. It didn't work. But the Greater Israel, based on the prophecy, it's only going to be more land. Now We've got skilled people, We've got immigrants, We've got the outpacing of religious people, outpacing the birth rate. Basically, what I'm hearing you say is the devil can try any tactic he wants, but God already has this chess game in checkmate in the end.

BARRY: Yeah, it's Joseph and his brothers' conversation, "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good," and that's exactly what's happening. Awesome to see.

MIKE: Amazing. Okay, you're ready for this one, Pastor Barry? Okay, so this one We've touched on in the past, but again, this is something we have to come back to because this is one of those concerns that a lot of people have. "Will the Holy Spirit be on earth during the Tribulation, or will He withdraw and be at the wedding feast in heaven with the bride of Christ?" Okay, Pastor Barry, the Holy Spirit, His location, and His person in work during the Tribulation, can you unpack that in a nice, clear, concise way for Christie and for the rest of us that want to truly understand all this confusion that goes into this whole thing? So I'm going to turn that over to you.

BARRY: Yeah, Mike, that's a great question, and you're right, it does come up quite often. We have to remember, quite simply, that the Holy Spirit is the third member of the triune Godhead, which means He shares attributes with the Father and the Son. And one of the things we know about God is that not only is He omniscient, and He knows all, but He's also omnipresent. He is everywhere simultaneously. And therefore, that has to be true of the Holy Spirit. Now, we know that there's going to be a shift because the temple of the Holy Spirit is going to be removed. The physicality, so to speak, is going to be removed when the church is taken out of the way. But the Holy Spirit is obviously still going to be on the earth, because we know people are going to be drawn to the Father through the Son during the Tribulation. And even a numberless multitude is going to be saved.

So the Holy Spirit is going to be doing what He's always done. And we have to remember that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is exclusive to the church. So I think if we look at what's going to happen during the Tribulation period, things are going to return to the way that they were before the church age. There, God's Spirit is still going to move. He's still going to come upon people. He's going to come upon the two witnesses, the 144,000, they're going to be empowered

by God to preach the gospel. And then finally, there's going to be an angel in Revelation 14 that flies in the high point of the sky preaching the everlasting gospel. The Holy Spirit is going to touch hearts, and people are going to be saved during the Tribulation period. So no, He's not going to be removed from the earth. He will still be present and active, as always, just in kind of a pre-church manner. So, yes, the Holy Spirit will be here, and He will be drawing people to the Father through the Son.

MIKE: So what does it mean, the Thessalonians "Restrainer"? What does that mean? Who is that? Amir, can you add some light on that?

AMIR: Well, obviously, what we teach is that when the Rapture actually takes place, it already is, in a sense, part of, if you really think about the judgment simply because the blessing that comes with what the church is being, the salt of the earth is now being removed. It's no longer there. And part of being the salt of the earth, and part of being that element in the world that is obviously bringing blessing is the fact that we are restraining, I think, the supernatural manifestation of Satan and his minions. And I think that if you really think about it, the moment we are out of here, being the salt of the earth, being the restraining power, being that blessing that the church is to be while still on earth, I believe that's when Satan will go full throttle. And then you really start seeing things that we cannot see today, that we won't see as long as We're here, and deception in levels that are unknown to us. You see, everything we see today, we see glimpses. We see introduction, we see the beginning of things, and we don't see the full manifestation of them. And that's why we need to understand birth pangs, as we always teach, are always characterized by frequency and intensity. And what we see now is the beginning, but then comes the birth itself and the Tribulation that will start, and we will be out of here. And We're not going to be here for the full manifestation

of that horrific time of trial that the Bible in 1 Thessalonians chapter 1 says that we will be taken out of and not through that time.

And so, yeah, Mike, I do believe that one of the tasks of the church is to be the restrainer, is to be the blessing and the salt of the earth, is to somehow slow down the decay. I mean, that's what salt was used in the ancient world as well. I mean, Roman soldiers would die and their friends would pack them in salt so they could preserve the body until it got to burial. And once We're out, the decay will be so fast. I mean, think about it, Mike, within seven years, there will be two events where one time, a third, and another time, a half of the population of planet Earth will be gone, will be destroyed. Look, I mean, I saw pictures and footage... I just saw footage of the horrific floods in Nepal. There's almost 1,000 people that they found their bodies and 3,000 that are still missing. And I saw how within a tenth of a second, lives were cut, cities vanished, villages gone, ravished. It's unbelievable. And why am I saying that? I'm saying that because this is 1,000 people dead, 3,000 people missing. Mike, We're going to be speaking in the hundreds of millions. We're going to be speaking almost in the billions, if you really think about the population of the world today, that is gone just like that. And so all of that, all of the things that the book of Revelation is talking about, the locusts that are coming, the unbelievable... the level of blindness of people, all of ... I mean, the bowls of the judgement alone, think about them. But all of that to say that in light of what we read and study in the book of Revelation, even *more so* we can see the restraining power of the church having the Holy Spirit in it. And that's why, without a shadow of a doubt, I believe that in 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2, the restrainer that has to be taken out of the way is the church, absolutely. I believe so. And I can see that because from the moment We're out, things take... I mean, it's so fast that, I mean, I don't envy anyone that is staying behind. Because if you find it hard to hear bad news nowadays, if that's too much for you, if you're overwhelmed with a

missile here and a rocket there, and a flash flood here and an earthquake there, can you imagine what the news will be every second of the day in such a short span of seven years where most of the world will be gone? Think about that. It's unthinkable, unfathomable. So, yes, definitely, definitely I see the restraining power that we possess. And once We're out, yes, I believe that things will be in an intensity and frequency, escalating in ways that I don't wish upon anyone to see and to go through.

MIKE: Yeah, Pastor Barry, I guess... I mean, this is one of the reasons why people think we are kooks, that We're kind of in this kind of misguided cult-like thinking when we throw out figures like this. And I appreciate the balance that you guys bring to that whole equation and treating it thoroughly.

We're coming to probably, maybe our last question, and I'd love to hear both of you on this. Okay, so we know that we just talked about massive amounts of people dying, leading up to the second coming and the salvation of the Jews but what can we do about it now? So, I'm going to throw a Teresa's question up there. I think this is a great question that we need to talk about. And this, it starts with Amir, but I also want to hear what Barry says too, because most Jews come to faith through the witness of Gentiles. I don't know if you all knew that. "Amir, what is the best way to witness to a Jew? Are you able to witness to your fellow Jews,..."

AMIR: Yeah.

MIKE: "... or is it hard for you like it was for Jesus to witness to His own people?" And then, Barry, how do you witness to Jews? And what are your strategies? Let's equip our people right now for Jewish evangelism.

AMIR: Yeah. Well, first of all, I would say, Mike, I can tell you how not to witness to a Jew.

MIKE: Oh, okay.

AMIR: Don't believe conspiracy theories and then echo them. And also, try not to convince him through the New Testament, a book that he has no clue about and doesn't believe that it's a book that he needs to read or believe in. So try to go to the book you know he's trusting. You know he reads, or at least he has at home and challenge him to go and see what that book has written. I'm talking about the Tanakh, the Old Testament. I'm talking about that. I mean, and that was what really what convinced me. You see, I came to faith in Yeshua without reading a single verse in the New Testament. Can you imagine? All I needed to know...

MIKE: So when you say Tanakh, Amir, tell the listener, what is the Tanakh?

AMIR: The Torah, the entire Old Testament, the Torah, the Psalms and the Prophets. And all the books that are within those writings as well. The Tanakh, Nevi'im, Ktuvim. It's the Torah, the Torah, the five books of Moses, Nevi'im, all the prophets, and the Ktuvim, the rest of the writings. And by the way, Daniel and Esther, they're all falling in that as well. But my point, Mike, is this, when you come to a Jew and say, "John 3:16 says this..." it won't go well because to begin with, he doesn't believe in John 3:16 or in reading the Gospel of John. But if you come to him and you quote from Genesis, and you quote from Numbers, and you quote from Leviticus, and you quote from Psalms, and you quote from the Prophets, and you quote from Proverbs, there is really not much that he can do. Now he can always say, "Well, I have to ask my rabbi." Or, "Well, I think I heard something else." But at least you challenged him with things that he can read and relate with.

Now another thing you need to know is that you cannot come to him with the attitude of, "You guys are the reason, you guys are the problem, you guys are the Christ-killers." Because you have to understand, for the most part, modern antisemitism of the last almost 2,000 years, if you

call it modern, is coming from Christian sources or “sources” identified with some Christian roots. You understand? What we see today with the rise of Islam and jihadist movement that are so anti-Israel is mostly since Israel was born as a state over the last 90 years, maybe 100, that’s it. But the last 2,000 years, it wasn’t the Muslims, it was mostly the Christians that came against the Jewish people. And so in the minds of the Jews, Christians killed way more Jews than Arabs would ever do. In the minds of the Jews, Hitler followed teachings and writings of Martin Luther who is considered and revered as a church father. So you have to understand, when you come to speak to a Jew about the Messiah, quoting church fathers won’t help you, quoting what the Pope says won’t help you, and bringing to them accusations about Christ-killers and all of that, won’t serve the purpose simply because they’ve heard it already and they were butchered with those things.

MIKE: It could push them away.

AMIR: Listen, they’re already away. You don’t have to push them more.

MIKE: It will push them further away.

AMIR: If you want to bring them to you because they are away, you need to tell them about the nature of God, about the love of God for the people of Israel, about His unbreakable covenant with Israel. And when you start teaching them about God, you also teach them about God’s love and God’s plan for salvation, and what Isaiah said, and what Jeremiah said, and what Micah said, and what the book of Psalms is all about. And when you bring to them their Messiah and their God in their writings, in their Bible, and you do it with humility, love, respect, and open arms, it’s way different.

Pastor Barry, in almost every conference, he’s coming to... It’s a very emotional part where I almost have tears in my eyes whenever he says that he’s talking about his experience at Yad

Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, and how God prompted him one day while he was sitting with his wife, with Teri. He saw two Orthodox Jews walking through the Children's Memorial. And Pastor Barry was prompted to go and ask and tell one of them, "I'm a Christian, and I love the Jewish people, I believe..." Pastor Barry may even say it better, but what I'm saying is that when the Jews heard that, they had tears, and they said, "We've never heard that." Pastor Barry, can you say exactly what you said?

MIKE: Yeah, let's hear it.

AMIR: Yeah, because that will really put together everything for the people to understand the type of attitude I think is the best.

BARRY: Yeah, Amir, I think what you said is so vitally important for Christians to understand, and that is the thinking of the Jews regarding the church. The church is, as a whole, the persecutors of the Jews in their minds. And when we break that ice and tell them, as I walked up to this young couple, I told them, "I'm a Christian pastor from the United States, and I just want you to know that I believe that the Jews are God's chosen people, yet even today." And the young girl, especially a young woman, started to cry immediately, and her friend there wasn't quite as adept in speaking English as she was. But he saw her cry, and he started to cry as the two talked briefly together. It was just a definite icebreaker. And that's what I was thinking as you were sharing, that the church needs to employ when we encounter the Jews here in our own country, just to let them know that we are supporters, we love Israel, we love the Jewish people. And that is very, very disarming.

And it was one of those things, I think, Amir, as you pointed out, that is something I'll never forget, because the Holy Spirit was so strong on me to go do that. And I think we need to pray for that type of boldness and that opportunity for the Spirit to be upon us, as someone used

the term “the unction,” the prodding, the pleading of the Holy Spirit, to include the Jewish people in our gospel efforts. And, the whole Bible is about Jesus. The feast days, as We’ve talked about, they’re about Jesus. And so we can deal with them. And as we open the door through love, we can talk about the fact that the psalmist says that they guarded all His bones and none were broken. And, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?” We’ll have a lot more willing audience when we start with the fact that we love the Jewish people, and we believe that God still has a plan for them, and does not cast them off, and the church and Christians are actually for them and not against them. It’s the kindness, the goodness of God that leads people to repentance. And We’ve got to open that door for their thinking through sharing the love of God that He has for them and us. And it’s a lot more effective than, as you said, the Christ-killers and all the other things that have been said about them. As far as that goes, and I’ll just close with this, I heard Charles Stanley say something one time that really shook me. It just took me a minute for it to land, but it landed and remains. And, he said, “People say the Jews killed Jesus. People say the Romans killed Jesus. But the fact of the matter is, the Father killed Jesus. He gave His only Son.” He didn’t give Him just to go out into the world and feed thousands with a meager food supplier, or heal everybody in a given city. He sent Him into the world for the purpose of dying for the sins of the world. I thought that’s a rather extreme way to put it, but it’s true. God sent His Son into the world for the purpose, as Jesus even said, “Why would I not embrace this for this very reason I have come?” And, when you start talking about the love factor, and you alluded earlier, Amir, to Romans 5:8, that God demonstrates His own love toward us, and that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for the ungodly. That’s an indisputable level of love that no one can deny. So, love will open a lot of doors.

I was thinking of the proverb that says, “A brother offended is harder to embrace than a walled-in city.” So, if you start with offense, you’re never going to get through.

AMIR: Yeah, Mike, thank you, Pastor Barry. What a great time of Q&A we had. I hope that everybody will take heed of these answers, because these were very good questions and super important topics.

Yeah, I want to remind you that in eight days, *The Elijah Mandate* is finally out. And I want to encourage you, if you haven’t done so, pre-order it, it’ll help so many unbelievers or new believers to basically grab ahold of it if it gets to those shelves of the brick-and-mortar stores. So, the higher the number of the pre-orders, the more chances those books will be available for everyone, not only in Christian bookstores. I also want to remind you Pastor Barry wrote an amazing book that is called *The Time of the Signs*. And it would be amazing if you grab ahold of it, because it covers so much of the things that are related to the times and the seasons in which we live today. We, Pastor Barry and I, a few years ago, compiled 70 of the most frequently asked questions. And we answered them in *Bible Prophecy, The Essentials*. And it’s out there, and We’re already compiling new ones for another edition in the future.

And again, if you want to help support the ministry of Behold Israel, we need it, and we welcome it. And we have so many things that we want to do, so many things that we have to do, so many things we need to do in these last days. So you can look at this QR code; it’ll direct you to wherever you can do that. God loves cheerful givers.

Hey, Pastor Mike, God bless you for the time in Argentina, you and Jason. Go and get them. It’s nice to see the message. Yeah, the message is coming all the way to that part of the world as well. Pastor Barry, thank you for joining us. And I want to thank everyone for watching. Please,

comment, like, follow, and share this video on our YouTube channels. Let's get the algorithm to boost the visibility of this video by doing simple things such as just comment, tell us where you're from, like it, follow us, and also share it. It takes 20 seconds, but it makes all the difference in the world. Again, we thank you. We love you. God bless you and Shalom from Israel, South America, and Southern California. Shalom.

* Scripture is taken from the New King James Version unless noted otherwise.

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