

# THE KEY OF DAVID

Tomorrow's News  
Today

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## TRANSCRIPT (10-18)

### VOICEOVER:

*The Key of David* with Gerald Flurry.

### GERALD FLURRY:

Greetings, everyone.

When is Jesus Christ going to return to this Earth? Many people say, well, we cannot know that, but that's not what the Bible says. The Bible says there is a huge *sign* that we can see inside God's own church about when this event is very near. Now, that's going to take quite a lot of study on our part to understand that, but we're talking here about what the Bible calls not only the greatest event in this Earth, but in the universe, that's *ever* occurred in the universe, is about to occur. Now, what's more important than that?

We're talking about *when* Jesus Christ is going to come back to this Earth. It is a sign, God said, that He would give His own church. It would be the sign *inside* that church, and the focus is on *leaders* inside that church who happened to have an impact on the entire church, a tremendous impact, and these leaders turned a whole era away from God. Ninety-five percent of God's people turned away, and they destroyed the very work of God for a temporary time. So this is actually a sign though. It's something really negative, you could say, that is going on inside God's church, but God says He's going to use that as a sign when you can tell that His return is very near.

Now I'll just show you the scriptures. I'm not asking you to believe anything that I say, but I'm going to show you the scriptures that prove that to you, and then it's just a matter of whether you and I can believe what God says in the Bible. But if you see this sign you are going to have to study enough to know *where* God's church is. It's happening *inside* the very church of God, and I'll give you quite a lot of information today, but we have literature that will *prove* all that to you and we'll give that to you, and all of our literature is free.

But this sign is used. Many people see it and don't really know what it is, but it's actually *THE sign* that Christ said He would give His own church that Jesus Christ's return was imminent. Now, surely, nothing could be more important than that for us to understand.

Notice Zechariah 3 and verse 8, a book that is for this end time, and we prove that to you continually, and if you need proof of that, well, just let us know and we'll give you *additional* information. But here's what it says in Zechariah 3 and verse 8, "Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they *are* men

wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.” That’s in capital letters because it refers to Jesus Christ.

But here are some men who *sit*, which can mean *rule, exercise authority*, which is what they do. It’s Joshua, a man and his fellows there are ruling, and that’s the problem here because they’re *his* fellows, they’re not Christ’s fellows, they’re not working for Christ. They follow Joshua. They follow the man, and not the Leader of the church, which is Jesus Christ.

So does the Bible talk about individuals? Well, I should say it does. Some people say, well, you can’t really pick out an individual in the Bible and say that it’s referring to this man, but God does it *repeatedly* and especially in this end time. A man and ministers around him; that’s what it’s talking about.

Notice what it says in the *Soncino Commentary*: “For they are men that are a sign.” A sign of what? A sign of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! They’re a *sign* that it is getting very near.

The *Jamieson, Faucett and Brown Commentary* translates it as “a sign.” And it could also read “a wondrous sign.” A wondrous sign because it’s about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! That is *wondrous* beyond words to describe! I mean, do we really know what we’re talking about here? I hope we do, I hope I do. But what kind of an impact are those followers going to have—that Joshua and his followers—what kind of an impact are they going to have on the church?

And then there’s *another* man that comes along after this Joshua, and he even does *greater* damage. Greater damage inside the church of God, and once again God makes sure that we see it is a sign. Notice that in II Thessalonians 2 and verse 3. “Let no man deceive you by any means.” See, let no man do that! “for *that day*,” that is, the return of Jesus Christ, “*shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;” Or destruction. (4) “Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

So that day, that day you see, it’s talking about really two subjects here. First of all, it’s talking about the Return of Jesus Christ, and then a sign that is going to happen before He returns—a great falling away in God’s own church, a great destruction of truth *inside* God’s own church, and God uses it as a sign.

Fifty percent of God’s people are going to lose their eternal lives, it says in Matthew 25, and the other fifty percent of those who rebelled are going to go into the Great Tribulation, which the Bible calls the greatest suffering ever on this Earth, and they’re going to have to experience that before they will repent.

It’s called by several commentaries “a great falling away.” Let me just read a couple of definitions here. “Christ’s return cannot come unless the apostasy comes first,” from the *Weymouth* translation. “For that cannot take place until the great revolt occurs,” the *Williams* translation. And here’s a quote: “That day cannot come before the final

rebellion,” the New English Bible. The final rebellion. Well, even they understand, well, this is the final rebellion. There won’t be another one inside God’s church ever again because this is the final one, and it happens just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. It’s a sign that anybody can see, but very few understand.

Jesus Christ gave those signs. This is New Testament, it’s Old Testament, but it’s all about the end time. He is about to return to this Earth because that great falling away has already occurred, and those two men have already appeared, and well—one of them is gone.

Can we believe our Bibles? See, even the translators can see that this is the final one, this is the final revolt. There won’t be any more because Jesus Christ is returning to sit on the throne of David and rule this Earth for a thousand years, and then on into eternity after that. The final rebellion, and then we’re going to have the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to this Earth.

Now can you—can *you* believe that? I mean all that’s required here is faith. If we don’t have it, well, God says He’ll give it if we’ll go to Him and ask for it. He’ll give us that faith.

But this is the final rebellion. There won’t be any more. Jesus Christ is going to put a stop to that forever. He’s given man six thousand years to go his own way, and now He’s going to take that seventh thousand years and He’s going to show man how to make this Earth into the most beautiful paradise you could ever even dream of. It’s going to be that much of a wondrous sign.

See, His coming is going to bring wonder and great and splendid results as soon as He arrives on this Earth. That falling away is directly connected to the Second Coming. I mean you have the falling away, and then right on the heels of that is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. And I ask you—how many people, how many ministers do you hear discuss such a subject? Well, a lot of them will say, “Well, you can’t know when Christ is going to come! No man knows the day or the hour.” That’s right! But Christ did say in that same context over in Matthew 24 that you’d better know when it’s at the door, and it’s at the door. It’s at the door! I can guarantee you that by what the Bible says. Let’s let the Bible interpret the Bible.

But you have a man or a son of destruction. He just moved in there and threw God’s truth to the ground. That’s what he did inside God’s church. That’s a part of that sign that he did, this son of destruction. And even is so arrogant and so satanic that he shows *himself* as being God. He’s the ultimate authority! Now that’s a kind of satanic madness to do something like that, but it happens, and it’s inside God’s church, and anybody who knows God surely would have to know that. How could they not know it? I mean these are pretty dramatic prophecies when you think about it, and we need to understand because never, ever did this world need a Savior more than it needs right now. Because if we don’t have a Savior, then who’s going to save us from ourselves and these weapons of mass destruction that keep proliferating all over this Earth.

Do we realize how dangerous this world is? And do we realize why Christ said He'd have to return and stop that, or there would be no human life left alive (Matthew 24, verses 21 and 22)?

The great falling away. You see, it started with Joshua, and then into that son of perdition. One of Joshua's fellows then took over.

But you see, you and I have to know God to know when this happens. You see, we have to know what God is doing and what God is saying and allowing this all to happen to teach us many wonderful lessons if we'll just heed what God says. A *wondrous* sign, indeed. These men of sign have appeared already, so you can be sure that Christ's return is going to be imminent.

Now, there is a book that explains a lot about this sign that I want to get into today as much as I can. It's quite a subject, and you're going to have to see, and I'm going to have to see if I can believe my own Bible, if you can believe your own Bible, and then we'll know exactly what's going to happen. We will know then what is going to happen!

Now Colossians was written about 59-61 A.D., and then about thirty years after that, the Apostle John wrote the book of Revelation, and he actually took those events in Colossians and wrote a mighty prophecy, a major prophecy about those same Laodiceans and what they would do in the end time. In other words those in the first century was only a type of what's going to happen in the last century. If you have a Laodicean attitude in the first century, well, you know it's the same attitude in the last century if it's Laodicean. They're lukewarm about God. They can't really get stirred up about God. They can't really get on fire for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the work of God, to prepare for that. They just can't get stirred, and that's a huge, huge tragedy. What happened in the first century is just a type of what is going to happen in this end time, only a type.

Now what they went through was somewhat of a dress rehearsal for what's going to happen in the end time, but because Colossians is tied into the book of Revelation, that makes Colossians, that book of Colossians a prophetic book, and what a prophetic book it is! I want to get into some of that with you. We need to understand this book.

But these people rebelled against God, they threw God's truth to the ground and temporarily destroyed the work of God, but God raised it back up through a little elect who are willing to war and battle and fight against those Laodicean revolutionaries against God. That's what they were, and ninety-five percent of God's people turned away from God.

Notice Colossians 2 and verse 1, "For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you," Paul was in jail going through all kinds of trials for *them*, not for himself, and yet many of his critics thought he was trying to get from them, but he says, "[W]hat great conflict I have for you and *for* them at Laodicea," see, he was talking about the Laodiceans here, "and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;" see, the Laodiceans were there along with the Colossians.

And then it goes on in verse 17 [Chapter 4] and talks about Archippus, a man. “And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it.”

Now most commentaries will tell you they think this is a Laodicean leader, and here he was given a public warning to beware that he stayed with God’s truth. And again, you see, even in the first century they focused on a man. Here was a man leading the rebellion. You see that so often in the scriptures, and yet how many people get to know the Bible and know God well enough just to believe what it says? If there was a man then, then you can expect a man in this end time, and then another man just exactly the way God says, and I mean that gets so specific that it ought to just about strike us like a ball bat in the head, as far as the impact is concerned! We need to understand.

Here is Archippus. It said in Philemon 2 that he was a fellow soldier with Paul, but here he had turned away from Paul, and rebelled against Paul, and became a traitor. That does happen in God’s church; it certainly does.

Notice what *Unger’s Bible Dictionary* says about this: “The Laodicean condition describes a spiritual lukewarmness and worldliness that will prevail in the professing church of Christ,” they’re not REALLY the church of Christ, as far as Christ living in them and doing His work. They’re not that; they’re lukewarm. But even this dictionary understands that this professing church of Christ, “at the END of the age.” They can see that that first century Laodicean church, that Colossians talks about, is really a prophecy about the END of the age, because the Laodiceans are on the scene again in the last century.

Now they see that it’s a sign. They don’t *know* it’s a sign, but the dictionary sees that this is a sign.

But God tells us it is a sign of the imminent return of His Son to rule this world! What could ever compare with that? What could compare with that?

Well, let’s read Colossians 2 and verse 4. Paul warns against being led away by a man. “And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.” See, *enticing*, really scholarly, educated people with words. They know how to use words; they don’t know how to submit to God, but they know how to use words. These are the end time Laodiceans in prophecy, and it’s talking about a man, being beguiled by a man. Do you know why they are beguiled and why they couldn’t withstand these enticing words?

Well, let me read to you in verses 6 and 7. Here’s where the breakdown was in these people, and why they became a sign, really the greatest sign in this end time to God’s people. Notice verses 6 and 7, “As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him: (7) Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.” Just thankful to God for all of that wonderful truth. Get established in that. You see, this is where the Laodiceans broke down. People came along with enticing words. Oh, they knew how to speak, and they were so scholarly, and they fell for it because they weren’t grounded in this! They

weren't reasoning like God. They were into a lot of human reasoning with enticing words. Oh, we see so much of that today, don't we?

Verse 8, "Beware," *Beware!* "lest any man," a MAN, "spoil you through philosophy," Oh, he's well educated, he knows philosophy, "and vain deceit," he also knows deceit and how to deceive, "after the tradition of men," not God, after the tradition of MEN, "after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." See, this vain philosophy, well-educated, scholarly people, and it's all a sign that Christ is about to return to this Earth. These men come to you with vain deceit, and God wants to know how much we love Him, and if we really love Him enough to get grounded in this Bible and *established* in the faith, this whole body of beliefs in the Bible.

Are you established in that, or do you follow the traditions of men? I'm telling you, we're going to have a lot of difficulty in this end time. We're going to have a lot of trouble with such things as this, and I want to show you why. I want to show you why in verse 8 again.

Let me read this to you. *Vain philosophy* is "after the rudiments of the world." The *New Testament, Today's English Version* translates that expression as "ruling spirits of the universe." It's talking about the demon world.

But I will tell you this—they're no longer out there ruling in the universe because Christ has cast them down already. They're confined to this Earth, and we have to deal with them, and that's why you see such terrifying turmoil in the world.

Now I know that's not a popular thing to believe, but it's in your Bible from beginning to end. There are just hundreds of prophecies, or certainly over a hundred about that, but how many people believe it? Ruling spirits of the Earth now, anyhow.

Most commentaries give a very similar meaning. Here is how *Thayer's Lexicon* defines 'after the rudiments of the world': "To invade of evils coming into existence among men and beginning to exert their power." They're exerting their power. Satan, in other words, attacked the church of God and took over the leadership. See, through—oh, he comes as an angel of light, with a nice education, enticing words, he knows philosophy, he's a scholar, as this world defines scholarship, but not a scholar for God. And all of that, you see—Satan is behind all this falling away and guiding those men, and it all is a SIGN, a sign to God's people that Jesus Christ is about to return to this Earth.

What could compare to that wondrous sign? Even though it's bad news, it's the best news we could ever possibly hear. Just absolutely amazing what God shows us about what's about to happen!

Verse 18, "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility," acting like they're humble, "and worshiping of angels," or demons. You don't worship angels, but in this world people do worship the demons, "intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind," there's a man again, see, leading people into worshipping of the devil, *intruding*. That means to invade, make a hostile incursion into.

Or “Let no man beguile you, as he is intruding into those things which he has *not* seen,” it should read “things he has SEEN.” He was *there*, and then he turned and *betrayed* Jesus Christ! A man betrayed the teachings Christ had given His church! A man did that, and people followed along very foolishly, very foolishly.

And you can see in verse 19 that they didn’t hold onto the Head. They didn’t hold onto the Head, Jesus Christ. They got into philosophy and human reasoning, and didn’t let the mind of Christ live in them. That’s the problem.

And then you can go ahead and read Colossians 3, verses 1 through 4, where it talks about “set your affections on things above.” On things above! See, where you’ll keep your mind on God and on Christ and on that Second Coming! This world is about to see not only the greatest event that’s ever occurred in the Earth, but the whole universe! That’s what it’s about, and God says His wife has made herself ready! We need to be *ready* for that!

Would you honestly say, if you look at your life, and if I look at my life, could you say “I am ready”? I hope all of us are!

Until next week, this is Gerald Flurry. Goodbye, friends.

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