



2019 Q3 The Least of These: Lesson 11 Living the Advent Hope

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

What does the title of the lesson bring to mind?

Do we really have hope of the Advent? Is your hope in our lifetime, or do you think of your children or grandchildren's lifetime?

What do you think of this quote?

The days in which we live are solemn and important. **The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God.** The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. **The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating.** They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and **the final movements will be rapid ones.**--Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 11.

Do we read that the final events could be accomplished quickly so the Lord could come in our lifetime?

Does it give you hope or fear?

- Why do calamities come?
- Is it because God uses His power to send it, or that God is slowly withdrawing His protective presence?
- Why is God withdrawing His protective presence?
- Where is the dwelling place of the Spirit? Hearts and minds of people, but this quote says God's Spirit is gradually being withdrawn—what would that indicate?
- What would be the reason the Spirit is withdrawn? Hearts and minds are gradually hardening and closing to the Spirit of God.
- Who then gets more freedom to influence the forces of nature and the people hardened against God? Satan and evil angels.
- So where do the calamities come from? From Satanic agencies!
- What are the judgments of God? That people have rejected Him hardened their hearts and beyond healing—so God withdraws and sets more and more people free and more and more earth free to their ruler Satan.



Are you comfortable believing God's end-time judgments upon the earth are not the dispensing of divine power to cause pain, suffering, plagues, or disasters but the withdraw of His power because people insist on rejecting God and being free of His presence and influence?

Consider these two quotes:

"How great is the long - suffering of God toward the wicked! The idolatrous Philistines and backsliding Israel had alike enjoyed the gifts of His providence. Ten thousand unnoticed mercies were silently falling in the pathway of ungrateful, rebellious men. Every blessing spoke to them of the Giver, but they were indifferent to His love. The forbearance of God was very great toward the children of men; **but when they stubbornly persisted in their impenitence, He removed from them His protecting hand. They refused to listen to the voice of God in His created works, and in the warnings, counsels, and reproofs of His word, and thus He was forced to speak to them through judgments.**" - PP 587.4

"I was shown that the **judgments of God would not come directly out from the Lord** upon them, but in this way;

They place themselves beyond His protection. He warns, corrects, reproves, and points out the only path of safety; then if those who have been the objects of His special care will follow their own course, independent of the Spirit of God, after repeated warnings, **if they choose their own way, then He does not commission His angels to prevent Satan's decided attacks upon them.**

It is Satan's power that is at work at sea and on land, bringing calamity and distress, and sweeping off multitudes to make sure of his prey, and storm and tempest both by sea and land will be, for Satan has come down in great wrath. He is at work. He knows his time is short and, he is not restrained; we shall see more terrible manifestations of his great power than we have ever dreamed of." Manuscript Release vol. 14, p. 3

Read second paragraph, "But Jesus also..." While there are no time prophecies left unfilled that would point to times or dates, is there anything that the Bible predicts does need to happen before the Lord comes?

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Mt 24:14 NIV84

The gospel of what kingdom? Consider this quote, sent as a message to the SDA church at the 1888 General Conference from EGW:

Said my Guide, "**There is much light yet to shine forth from the law of God and the gospel of righteousness. This message, understood in its true character, and proclaimed in the Spirit, will lighten the earth with its glory.** The great decisive question is to be brought before all nations, tongues, and peoples. **The closing work of the third angel's message will**



be attended with a power that will send the rays of the Sun of Righteousness into all the highways and byways of life, and decisions will be made for God." --Ms 15, 1888, p. 5. (To "Dear Brethren Assembled at General Conference," Nov. 1, 1888.) Released July, 1958. {2MR 58.2}

What is the light that was yet to shine about God's law and the gospel of righteousness? Could it be the truth about God as Creator and His law is design law and the rejection of Rome's imperial law model?

The truth about God's law being design law leads then to the truth about the gospel of righteousness—the good news that Jesus came and achieved the remedy to sin so we might *become* righteousness—sinless—restored back to God's design for life with His law restored in us. As Scripture says, "he who knew no sin became sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God." 2Cor 5:21.

This is quite different from the Roman legal view of imposed law that we get legally declared righteous even though we are not. The message of actual righteousness by faith, coming from the truth about God and His design law was brought in 1888 but the church leadership rejected it and went with imposed Roman law with a legal view instead.

Today there is still much light to shine forth about God's law and the gospel of righteousness and this message will lighten the world.

Consider this quote:

It is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. **Men are losing their knowledge of His character.** It has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. **At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known.** Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth... {COL 415.3}

The last rays of merciful light, the last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love. The children of God are to manifest His glory. In their own life and character they are to reveal what the grace of God has done for them. {COL 415.5}

The light of the Sun of Righteousness is to shine forth in good works--in words of truth and deeds of holiness. {COL 416.1}

Do you hear the first angel's message—the hour of his judgment has come—the hour in human history when people are to make a right judgment about God. We are to stop viewing God as a dictator, the source of pain and suffering and death and start seeing Him as our loving Creator who only wants to heal us from this terminal sin condition?



Our duty to obey this law is to be the burden of this last message of mercy to the world. God's law is not a new thing. It is not holiness created, but holiness made known. It is a code of principles expressing mercy, goodness, and love. It presents to fallen humanity the character of God, and states plainly the whole duty of man (MS 88, 1897). {1BC 1104.9}

What law lens do you hear this quote through? Imposed/imperial human law—we must keep a bunch of rules, or do you hear design law—we must be healed to live in harmony with God's design for life?

Do you hear the first angel again—be in awe of God and give Him glory, by revealing His character and methods in your life—because you have had the law of God written in your heart and mind?

What of Revelation 18:

After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. With a mighty voice he shouted:

“Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!
She has become a home for demons
and a haunt for every evil spirit,
a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.
For all the nations have drunk
the maddening wine of her adulteries.
The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,
and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries.”

Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

“Come out of her, my people,
so that you will not share in her sins,
so that you will not receive any of her plagues; (vs 1-4 NIV84)

What do you hear?

Do you hear, that after the initial presentation of the 3 angel's messages of Revelation 14, which we believe began in the 19th century, that the message of the second angel—the fall of Babylon, the truth revealing its corruption and a call to leave that system will go forth again?

And what is the root corruption of Babylon? That God's law functions like human law, imposed rules and the gods of Babylon require payment to render blessings—i.e. paganism.

So, Revelation 18:1-4 from *The Remedy*:

After this, I saw another messenger coming down from heaven — symbolizing the Godly origin of his message. He had the great authority and power of truth, and the earth was



illuminated by his splendor.²With a voice reverberating throughout the earth, he shouted: "Babylon the Great is a fallen system of religious tradition, fable, and falsehood distorting the truth about God! Every demonic distortion about God, every evil attitude toward God, and all filthy and destructive heart-motives find their home with her,³for she intoxicates the world with her pagan views of God, maddening them with her adulterous idea that God coerces and must inflict punishment if not properly appeased. Earth's leaders corrupt themselves with her by practicing her methods, and people not anchored in God's kingdom of love, and those who wander from philosophy to philosophy, fill their minds with her smorgasbord of lies."⁴Then I heard another voice calling from heaven, saying: "Come out of her, my people! Leave that confusing mess of evil thinking so that you will not share in her spiritual sickness and rebellion, and so that you will not receive the suffering she has chosen;

What is the gospel of the kingdom?

"The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation,²¹ nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:20,21 NIV84)

Jesus said the kingdom of God is within you—what does that mean? It means the law, methods, protocols of God are the foundation of our character, motives, heart and mind.

I ask you, Is this kingdom of God within you? God's people are to be minutemen, always ready, always composed in Jesus Christ. The time is come now when one moment we may be on solid earth, the next the earth may be heaving beneath our feet. Earthquakes will take place when least expected. {20MR 114.1}

Christianity has a much broader meaning than many have hitherto given it. It is not a creed. It is the word of Him who liveth and abideth forever. It is a living, animating principle that takes possession of mind, heart, motives, and the entire man. Christianity-- Oh, that all might experience its operations! It is a vital, personal experience that elevates, purifies, ennobles the whole man. Every man is responsible to God, who has made provision for all to receive this blessings. {20MR 114.2}

What is the final message? It is simply the truth about God which has always been true, the eternal good news that God is love and His law is the design law of love built into reality, the protocols that life and health are based upon. And that Jesus is God's agency to restore God's law back into the species human—the systems of the world are fallen, fallen into the imperial law model with its legal penal systems that distort the truth about God. We are to give God glory by revealing His character in our lives, His living law written on our hearts so that we reflect Him and the light of His glory will go throughout the world.

SUNDAY

Read first paragraph, "Throughout the Bible's story..." What do you hear?



In the world people segregate into different groups, sects, creeds, religions, nationalities, divisions along racial lines, social, economic, and many other, and people then abuse their fellow human beings. This is the history of the human race filled with sin—with selfishness.

Selfishness always divides—it never unites; love heals and brings unity.

If we view things from a heavenly view—what are the only two divisions in the world that actually matter? –The righteous and unrighteous—those who have been renewed in heart to be like Jesus and those who have not. Perhaps we could divide the category of the unrighteous into those who haven't yet had opportunity to know the truth and be renewed in Jesus and those who have but then rejected it and hardened themselves in selfishness, but it is still a division of righteous and unrighteous.

What causes division in our world?

What do you think of this quote?

Then as the children of God are one in Christ, how does Jesus look upon caste, upon society distinctions, upon the division of man from his fellow man, because of color, race, position, wealth, birth, or attainments? The secret of unity is found in the equality of believers in Christ. The reason for all division, discord, and difference is found in separation from Christ. Christ is the center to which all should be attracted; for the nearer we approach the center, the closer we shall come together in feeling, in sympathy, in love, growing into the character and image of Jesus. With God there is no respect of persons. {1SM 259.2}

From God's perspective does He see multiple races or one human race? Does He offer salvation to some but not others, or is salvation offered to all human beings?

What happens to a person if they refuse the healing of heart and mind (salvation) Jesus offers?

Does God have to take an action to cause the rejecters of His mercy to be damaged, to suffer and ultimately to die?

Do we see evil in the world, abuse, exploitation, and injustice—wrongdoing?

Yes, why? What is the cause?

Is the cause of abuse and injustice in society due to lack of education? If we just had better schools then injustice would cease?

- Poor medical care?
- Poverty?
- Racism?
- Sexism?



What is the cause of injustice in the world? Fear and selfishness dominating the human heart—the lack of love and truth.

Can any human government fix the problem of injustice in the world?

Why or why not?

Does this mean human governments should not exist or that governments should not work to impose laws and policies designed to oppose abuse and exploitation—i.e. to promote justice?

What happens when the church and Christians believe that their mission is to fix the abuses in society by legislation?

Read second paragraph, “But these rescues were usually short-lived...”

Can God rescue people from sin and injustice by using might and power—by punishing people who do wrong?

When God rescued people with might and power in history: Flood, slaves from Egypt, Jericho, Mt. Carmel, 185,000 Assyrians...what was the result? Did the use of such power result in righteousness in those He rescued?

No, God cannot get the victory from sin by use of might and power, thus the Scripture says, “Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit says the Lord.” Zech 4:6

God cannot get love, trust, devotion, loyalty and a heart restored to righteousness by might and power, only by truth, love and freedom.

God has a plan to bring sin and hardened sinners to an end—how can God bring this about? If might and power cannot eliminate rebellion, eliminate distrust, instill love and loyalty into the heart—how can God eliminate sin and sinners without inciting more fear and rebellion?

What law lens do you understand the problem and solution through? If human law, imposed rules, then there is no answer—only perpetual warfare—which is Satan’s goal.

But if we worship the Creator and understand His laws as the laws upon which reality are built, then we realize that God setting people free to reap what they choose is how He accomplishes His goal. God brings events to a point that everyone sees for themselves that the wicked hate love, hate truth and don’t want to live in God’s presence and they voluntarily surrender their lives begging the mountains to fall on them—they reap the suffering of unremedied sin; then all realize God did everything for each person and only those who refused God die in the end, which is what they freely choose.



Read third paragraph, “The Psalms...” I have found that the Psalms have many distortions written in by the translators who have gone to the Hebrew with the assumption that God’s law works like human law and God’s justice is punishing sin. With this assumption they translate in many ideas that are legitimate possible translations, but not the only possible translation. When one understands God’s law as design law then often times another view is realized.

Let’s read Psalms 94 from *The Remedy*

1 O Lord, the God who exterminates evil!
O God, eradicate fear and selfishness—let your love and truth shine forth.
2 Rise up, O Creator who governs the earth;
let the proud reap what they have sown.
3 How long, O Lord, will your mercy shield the wicked?
How long will they celebrate in their terminal state?
4 They are constant torrent of self-importance;
the selfish overflow with boasting.
5 They walk all over your people, O Lord;
they oppress those who have your character of love.
6 They kill the powerless, widows and immigrants
and murder the orphans—those without family.
7 They tell themselves, “The Lord does not see;
the God whom Jacob worshipped doesn’t even know.”
8 But know this, you who deny reality and live in ignorance;
you foolish people, when will you wise up?
9 God created our ears—don’t you realize he hears everything?
God created our eyes—don’t you realize he sees everything?
10 The Lord disciplines the nations, so get this straight:
he will reveal the truth to correct the people and teach them how reality works!
11 The Lord knows how the worldly-wise think;
he knows that their selfish ideas are misleading, destructive and futile.
12 Happy and healthy is the person whom you disciple, O Lord—
the person you teach to live in harmony with your design law for life;
13 you provide them healing and deliverance from the day of trouble,
but the wicked dig the pit of their own eternal destruction.
14 The Lord will not abandon his people—those who partake of the remedy;
he will never forsake his inheritance—those who possess his character of love.
15 Justice returns to design law—the law upon which life is built to operate;
and all the healed—those who are pure in heart—live in harmony with it.
16 Who will help me fight against selfishness?
Who will stand with me against those who promote evil?
17 If the Lord had not given me his remedy,
I would have quickly succumbed to the silence of death.
18 When I said, “I am slipping into selfishness,”
your perfect love, O Lord, healed me.



- 19 When doubts and fears trouble my mind,
 abiding in your truth and love brings peace to my soul.
20 Selfish leaders who practice evil are not allied with you;
 they pass imposed laws to cause suffering and injustice.
21 They plot together against the pure of heart
 and condemn the innocent to death.
22 But the Lord protects me;
 in union with my God is where I find safety.
23 The Lord will allow the wicked to reap what they have sown;
 their rejection of the remedy and persistent wickedness destroys them,
 and the Lord will sadly let them go.

The last paragraph states, “In a sense, injustice is more difficult to endure among those who believe in a just God who desire justice for all His people.”

What law lens do you hear this through? Do you hear justice like human law, inflicting punishment or justice like design law, healing and delivering those dying in sin?

The following is an excerpt from my book *The God-Shaped Heart*:

Keith Johnson is an online friend, who has worked for years in prison ministry teaching inmates about God’s design law, helping them to move past imposed law constructs of right, wrong and justice. He developed four questions to help them understand more clearly what justice is from God’s viewpoint. Take a moment and answer each question for yourself.

1. What if I told you that your youngest child was murdered? Would you want mercy or justice *for* the perpetrator?
2. What if I told you that the murderer was your oldest child? Would you want mercy or justice *for* the perpetrator?
3. What if I told you that you are guilty of the murder of the only begotten Son of God? Would you want mercy or justice *as* the perpetrator?
4. What if I told you that you had a daughter, your only daughter, the apple of your eye, who has never given you a moment’s grief, but tonight, as her father, you happen to have your tux hanging in the closet, because tomorrow you are scheduled to walk your daughter down the aisle and give her away to someone whom you approve? If you’re the mother, you have your new dress hanging next to her wedding gown that you have been planning and preparing for since the first time she held her in her arms. But tonight, your daughter is at a bachelorette party with her peers and they talk her into having “one-for-the-road,” the first ever in her life. Two, three, four, five, six, seven (drinks) later, while on her way home, she wipes out a school bus full of little children on their way to camp. Everybody aboard the bus dies in a fiery inferno, but you daughter survives. Do



you want mercy or justice for your daughter (?) and...what do those who are related to the victims who were on the bus want? ¹

Human justice is based on human law—imposed rules, and is motivated by selfishness and seeks vengeance under the name justice. The selfish heart has an ingrained sense of justice, but which in reality is nothing more than vengeance, and which is easily exposed because such ‘justice’ is sought only so long as it doesn’t apply to them or theirs.

MONDAY

Read first two paragraphs, “Religion has often...” First, is our hope in the second coming, a world without sin, a world without disease and death a misplaced hope? Is it escapism from living in this world?

What are your thoughts about the second point—that some telling the poor and oppressed to accept their sad lot because it will all be made right when Jesus comes?

This second idea is a distortion of truth—it is true that Jesus will restore the world and all who trust Him—but this truth is used to create a false narrative that one should just accept pain, suffering, abuse, exploitation, poverty etc. Not so.

Christians—those who are like Christ—are to be agents of love, truth, and compassion in the world—to reach out in their communities to be a benefit to those around them, all while practicing God’s principles in their lives—which means we at times restrain ourselves from intervening, when in our judgment, the intervention would cause more harm—prodigal son for example was left to come to his senses.

But, the idea that Christ suffered for our salvation is also perverted by some to teach that because Christ suffered, we should rejoice in abuse, mistreatment and in fact we need to be abused in order to be like Jesus. This distorted idea gets used to abuse people.

It is true, that in the process of conversion there is a suffering of heart, mind, soul as selfishness is confronted and we die to self. This is the type of suffering the Bible says we are to rejoice in, the suffering that comes from overcoming sin in our own lives.

But this does not necessarily require physical suffering, or poverty, and certainly doesn’t require being abused by others. It is true, the righteous may find themselves abused and mistreated because of their faith in God—but the abuse is not God’s doing nor needed for their spiritual growth, but because Satan and evil people want to discourage and destroy them.

¹ Keith Johnson has a Master’s in Correctional & Alternative Education and has worked for 34 years in federal, state, private, county prisons and juvenile detention centers.



This distortion of the Cross is rooted in the lie about God's law and the need for God to punish Jesus, and thus the idea gets perpetuated that being mistreated, abused, punished, even when innocent, is virtuous and, therefore, for the innocent to protest mistreatment is unChristlike.

This is all fraudulent, but it has led to some very distorted theologies in opposition to this falsehood: feminist theologies or womanist theologies in which people teach that the Christ's death was not necessary for our salvation—that only His good example of sinless life was necessary. So, they reject the crucifixion of Christ as having any benefit in our salvation.

Understand—that they are rejecting a lie—they are rejecting the lie that legal infliction of pain by God was virtuous, righteous, holy, good, or beneficial. They are right to reject this lie because God did not lay a hand on Jesus. God did not use power to torture or punish Jesus.

But, these people who reject the penal lie have substituted their own false narrative that the death of Christ wasn't necessary for salvation.

This is a common strategy of Satan to pit false ideas against each other and have groups argue the false ideas—so many of the Protestant Catholic arguments are like this—both groups promoting a false idea—because they both are in some way rooted in imposed law.

Just because it wasn't necessary to appease God or pay a legal penalty, doesn't mean Jesus' death wasn't necessary for our salvation—it was. The key is design law—what was actually wrong that needed fixing.

Adam and Even changed their very nature from love to selfishness. Life is built to operate upon the law of love. No human after Adam sinned could develop a perfect sinless character of love. Christ came to do that for us and as a human did exactly that. Satan opposed Jesus, first by flattery and trickery, then by inducements and finally by torture—both emotional and physical—to get Jesus to choose to act selfishly and thus corrupt His sinless human character.

Jesus, was tempted in every way like us, but instead of succumbing to the temptations, Jesus chose to love perfectly thus at the cross He destroyed death (the infection of fear and selfishness) and brought life and immortality to light. He developed a perfect sinless humanity.

It was not possible for this perfect sinless human character to be developed and procured without the death of Christ. To take away the cross we take away the remedy to sin.

TUESDAY

This takes us right into Tuesday's lesson about the resurrection—why did Jesus rise again?

What is the basis of life? The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. Ps 19:7 NIV84



The law of love is the law of life—the law upon which life is built, thus when Jesus perfectly restored it into His humanity the inevitable outcome was He would rise again.

Did you ever notice that Jesus predicted over and over again to His disciples that He would die and rise on the third day?

Yet in the book *The Desire of Ages* EGW wrote:

Satan with his fierce temptations wrung the heart of Jesus. The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb. p. 753

How could He predict He would rise again if He couldn't see through the portals of the tomb?

Can you predict what will happen if I drop this pen? How, do you have prophetic vision of the future? Or do you know the law—the law of gravity? Jesus knew His mission, what He was to accomplish, the law upon which life was based and knew what would happen when He succeeded, but He did not have the veil of time pulled aside and had need seen a vision of the future.

WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph, “While suffering..” What do you hear? What do you think they are describing? Are they describing a judicial process? Why is this unjust?

What is Biblical justice? What defines justice—the law, and what is God's law?

What justice would you prefer if your child was murdered—a trial to punish the murderer or resurrecting and restoring your child to you?

From my book *The God-Shaped Heart*

Kent Whitaker and the Power of Love

Fortunately, I have never had to face such a terrible situation, but on December 10, 2003 Kent Whitaker did. I had the privilege of meeting Kent and I heard firsthand about his unimaginable ordeal.

On that fateful day in December, Kent, his wife and two sons, Kevin and Bart went out to dinner to celebrate Bart's upcoming graduation from college. After a wonderful family dinner they returned home. As the family approached the house, Bart ran back to the car to get his cell phone. When the rest of the family entered the house a masked gunman jumped out and shot and killed Kevin and Kent's wife. He also shot Kent in the chest, but fortunately he survived. As devastating as the murders of his wife and son were, the worse part for Kent was yet to come—the police, upon investigation, discovered that Kent's surviving son, Bart, had been the one who arranged to have his family murdered so he could inherit the family money. I cannot



imagine the depth of pain, heartache and despair with which Kent was faced. Bart was arrested and tried for murder with the prosecutor seeking the death penalty.

If you were Kent what justice would you want for Bart? What law lens do you view this tragedy through? Do you see only through imposed human law and seek punishment for Bart, or do you see through God's design law and realize Bart is sick of heart and mind and in need of healing and restoration? If, you realize your son is sick of heart and mind, what do you want for your son—to be executed for his crimes, or to be transformed in his character?

Kent understood his son was sin-sick and needed healing and therefore he forgave his son and publicly asked the prosecutor not to seek the death penalty. But the prosecutor, an agent of the human imposed law system, did what he thought was just and sought to punish—he sought the death penalty. Bart was found guilty and sentenced to death.

Kent stood by his convicted son, pouring his forgiveness and love upon him, visiting him in prison and seeking his eternal healing. Bart eventually said, "If you can still love me and forgive me for all I have done, then I believe God can also." And, though still on death row, Bart gave his life to Christ.

In 40-minute interview in 2012 with a KPRC Local 2 reporter, Bart confessed: "I've made some really bad mistakes in my life. I was a very messed up young man. There are some people who are never going to get past that."

"I think about what I could have done every day. But those types of thoughts are really torture back here. I have to limit myself to the good I can do in the here and now, or otherwise I will break."

"If there's any way my mother and brother are watching me, I want them to be proud of the way I'm living now," said Whitaker. "That is foremost in my mind every minute of every day."²

Kent said that while he has lost his wife and younger son on this earth and will also lose Bart, he has peace knowing that through all of this Bart will now be with them in heaven and their family will be together for eternity. Such grace, such forgiveness, such love is only possible when we realize the truth about God and experience his love in our lives—when we come back to focus on design law and reject the fallen human imposed law construct. This is the goal. This is the God-shaped heart. This is the new covenant—having God's law of love written on the heart.

What is justice in this story? Is it just for God to heal Bart and give him eternal life? How was it just? Could God give Bart eternal life through a legal declaration, an adjustment of a record in heaven, or

² http://www.click2houston.com/news/bart-whitaker-talks-about-killing-family-death-row-complaints_20151124160736126



did it require that God actually do something in the heart, mind, character of Bart? And what did God do in Bart's heart? He healed him, purging selfishness and restoring His methods of truth, love, freedom—His law in Bart's heart and mind. Was it just for God to do this?

Satan says it is not just, that every sin must meet its punishment. Satan is the author, the originator of the imposed law lie about God and continues to present His lie that God's law functions like human law.

But we live at the time in human history in which greater light, greater truth about God's law and the gospel of righteousness is to lighten the world. We are to call people out of Babylon—that fallen system of penal/legal religion and back to worship Him who made the heavens earth and fountains of water—back to Creator worship—and this requires we return to design law understanding of God's government.

Read last paragraph, "The hope of judgment..."

Yes, what is the core nature of God—is God like Caesar and imperial dictator who is the source of inflicted pain and suffering, or is God our Creator of love who constantly gives for the health and welfare of His universe?

What about the Judgment? The reason this has been misunderstood so terribly is because, first God's law has been misunderstood to be like human law, but second: there are actually three judgments, not one so people merge all the evidences into one morphed event. But clarity comes when we see through God's design law and also separate the different judgments:

First Judgment:

- Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water." Revelation 14:6,7 NIV84
- God must be true, even though every human being is a liar. As the scripture says, "You must be shown to be right when you speak; you must win your case when you are being tried." Romans 3:4 GNB

Second Judgment:

- Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years. "So I will come near to you for judgment..." Malachi 3:1-5
- And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. Dan 8:14



- The coming of Christ as our high priest to the most holy place, for the cleansing of the sanctuary, brought to view in Daniel 8:14; the coming of the Son of man to the Ancient of days, as presented in Daniel 7:13; and the coming of the Lord to His temple, foretold by Malachi, are descriptions of the same event; and this is also represented by the coming of the bridegroom to the marriage, described by Christ in the parable of the ten virgins, of Matthew 25. {FLB 207.4}
- Jesus's work in the Heavenly Sanctuary to determine (judge):
 - Who has trusted Him and given Him access to their hearts
 - What residual elements of sin remain to be removed in order to perfect them for the resurrection and second coming

Third Judgment:

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it...And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. Revelation 20:11,12

THURSDAY

No More Tears or Pain

Are you looking forward to no more tears and pain? How is this achieved? Is it achieved by memory erasure?

Do you see justice in this restoration?

FRIDAY

Read first paragraph, "When the voice of God..." What happens in the character of those people?

Read second paragraph, "The great controversy is ended..." what happens if we sever this tie?



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PODCAST: Come and Reason with Dr. Tim Jennings weekly Podcast is now broadcasting, please follow us.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! January 17-19, 2020, in Allen Texas (30 miles north of DFW airport) we will have a Come and Reason Ministries: The Power of Love Training and Equipping Course. If you would like to be prepared to more effectively share this message then come to this course. More details will be forthcoming shortly.

The Remedy Psalms is complete and online and will soon be updated to the free app.

September 13,14, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Gentlebrook Intermediary Care Facility, Hartville, OH.

September 21, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Crossroads Community Church in Georgetown Delaware.

October 9-12, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville. Come and Reason Ministries will have a booth in the exhibit hall sharing our material with the attendees.

November 15-17, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at the Norwegian SDA Health Worker's Retreat in Oslo, Norway.

November 24, 2019: Dr. Jennings will be speaking in Aachen Germany.

January 17-19, 2020: The Power of Love Training and Equipping Course. If you would like to be prepared to more effectively share this message then come to this course. More details will be forthcoming shortly. Allen Texas (30 miles north of DFW airport). See events.comeandreason.com for more details and to sign up.