

The Harvest is Ripe Sermon Transcript

June 21, 2018; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOhxQrsC5fc>

By Adrian Ebens at Talking Rock Georgia

Adrian: Father, we just thank you so much that we can kneel before you. We thank you that we can come in the precious name of Jesus. We thank you that you send your angels to watch over us and to protect us. To bless us and to bring Your spirit to be with us. We pray it will be in attendance. For those that are still traveling to be here and for those that are joining us online, we pray a special blessing. As we share from the Word of God, as we share together, that we will know that we have spent time with Jesus who draws us closer to You Father. And we thank You in Jesus name, amen.

Over the last few weeks, my wife and I and our son Daniel have covered a lot of United States driving. I was just thinking last night, about all the things that we've seen in the last few weeks. Of course, we got to visit Yosemite and from glacier point, overlooking the valley with all the waterfalls there. Such a beautiful place. We prayed because there was a bit of cloud around and we said, "Lord we really would like to be able to see." We were able to get there and look around. Just as we were finishing looking around, the cloud just all moved in and you couldn't see anything. So the Lord held off the clouds for us so that we could see such a beautiful sight. And it's just so hard to take in the majesty of the mountains, the lakes and the rivers. It was just beautiful. Then we were up in Washington State looking near the Columbia River there. Again, just beautiful. After that, we were driving from Idaho. Particularly this is one of my favourite experiences driving from Idaho up to Missoula on the Clearwater River. Just beautiful, for over 100 miles. It just made me praise our Father in heaven for such majestic, beautiful creation. As we criss-crossed several states to get here, we got to visit Yellowstone National Park. It seems to be a bit of a tradition now, that when we go and visit some of these places, the Lord sends a lot of rain. Because there was water thundering off Yellowstone waterfalls. We got to see some beautiful bears, elk, moose, and

bighorn sheep and bison all in one day. And bear cubs. We saw five of them, didn't we? Just amazing.

Ben: They're a little bit different than the koala bears, aren't they?

Adrian: Yeah. A little bit different. We saw the point from which the Yellowstone comes out, or the big lake up there and the way it comes down and the way it moves. It just cuts through that valley and rips through that rock. It's named Yellowstone as it rips through that valley. Just amazed that its grandeur and what the Lord had done and I worshiped Him for His mighty works. Then as we travelled across the prairie lands, just all green. You travel across Australia, it's all burnt dead and destroyed. Just about with sand for 70%. Where all this prairie land going across South Dakota, down into Nebraska and Iowa. And I'm just thinking, this is a tremendously blessed country. The United States of America. Tremendously blessed to have all of this resource available. Then we have some big rivers in Australia. We crossed the Missouri. We get to the Mississippi and the Ohio and the Tennessee River and I'm just thinking, this is a land that flows with water. It just made me think of how the Lord has blessed United States of America. We could go into all the negative side of what's happening in the United States of America, but I just really wanted to just praise God for this beautiful country. And just worship Him. He just gave me an opportunity to praise Him for His creative works. I was just thinking of the other blessing that has come to the United States of America. That is a message that came in the 1830s but more so in the 1840s. The movement of the new coming of Christ. The movement that came out of that and of course, that was spearheaded in the United States of America. Tremendously blessed. As we know, most people rejected that message. But from that a little group of people came forth and began to study or began to develop into the scriptures an understanding. And of course, at that particular time, the key theme of the message was the hour of His judgment has come. We want to spend some time looking at this theme of the hour of His judgment has come. What does it mean for us? What picture do we have? We can look in Daniel chapter seven, and we see the thrones or the judgment seats were put in place, the ancient days did sit. His hair was white as wool, His eyes as a

flame of fire and the judgment was set and the books were opened. This was the theme that came at a particular time. Then of course, after that we had another message come in 1888 about the righteousness of Christ. We say, “well we already know about the righteousness of Christ”. Christ paid the penalty for our sins. I spent many times trying to understand what was this message? What is so significant about this message? What is the “wow” factor in this message? I must not be getting it. I must not be understanding it. So if you have that when you look at the 1888 message and you're not getting the “wow” factor, it's okay. A lot of people say how wonderful it is. Well, we know it's wonderful because of some statements that have been said about it. But there's been a long period in the wilderness for God's people. Some of us who've been studying the Word of God over the last number of years, we're getting a growing sense, of something good is coming together. Some of the things we've been sharing, some of the materials that we've been looking at, for those who are listening carefully, the trumpet is starting to get a certain sound to it. I'm hoping over these next few days, as we share together— As I've put before the Lord... I'm open to be guided and pray that you would speak through me the words that need to be spoken. And as Jesus said to the men on the road to Emmaus, “if you had not asked, you wouldn't receive.” What comes out is partly connected to how much we want and desire an understanding in the Word of God. Another reason I'm doing this is because there's so many things that I want to share with you. There are so many things that are exciting me. I don't know what things to share. So many beautiful things. But one thing I am for certain is that each morning I'm waking up more and more with that thought “perfect love casts out fear”.

My father is not someone to be afraid of in the negative sense. He's someone to be afraid of in the positive sense that I would fear to hurt Him, fear to dishonour Him, fear to transgress Him because I don't want to break my relationship with Him, but not fear that He's going to destroy me. Not fear that He's going to crush me. Not fear that He'll burn me and do all those things. We heard the angel's message. We've been warning about the mark of the beast. What is the mark of the beast? It's enforced worship on a particular day. You will worship on this particular day or I will kill you. That's the mark of the beast.

It's a particular day outside of the law of God. Whereas for those of us who've been presenting this message for quite some time, we have a little problem. There's a little problem and that is people are saying, "you will worship God on the holy Sabbath or He will kill you". Do you detect the problem? Be killed by one God or the other god. I mean, it's a rock and a hard place, isn't it? In forced worship. The mark of the beast is in forced worship on pain of death. But there is no fear in love. When you truly know the Father, when you truly understand Him. There is no fear in love. You must understand the difference between the mark of the beast and the seal of God is as far apart as you can possibly get. It's a completely different experience for with the Spirit of the Lord is there's liberty. The law of liberty. The law of freedom. These are some of the things that we want to look at.

I wanted to share with you some stories. I asked Gary to entitle this one The Harvest Is Ripe. When we first came to California. Some of you've probably already heard this story but I'm going to tell it again because It just gives me so much joy. We went to stop somewhere for lunch. We saw on the map, there's this nice lake and so we go up to the lake and saw it's a state park. So you have to pay to get in to have lunch. It was going to cost me \$12 just to have lunch. I said to the lady, "We just want to have lunch. We're just going to sit by the lake." "How long are you going to be?" "20 minutes." "Well okay, you can go through and you don't have to pay." Well, it was so nice. Then I ended up on the phone with someone (Ruben). We got talking about some Bible subjects. We got very excited. Then I looked down, and "oh, it's 45 minutes". I only thought I was going to be 20 minutes. I'm more than double the time. I really should go back and pay the money because that's not right. My word was I'd be 20 minutes and I was 45. So I owe the money. So I went back and I said to her, "Look, I said 20 minutes and I'm 45." She said, "I knew you'd be longer." I said, "Yeah but a deal's a deal. So here's the \$12." She could obviously pick up that my accent was from a different country and she said, "Accept it as a gift from the United States." Wasn't it nice? Straight away in my mind I thought, I've got a gift for you! So I went straight to my car and I came back and I said, "Look, I'm an author and I'm in this country. I'm sharing the material that's in this book."

I shared with her about issues of domestic violence in Australia. These statistics, they alarm me tremendously. In order to live with these statistics, in order to remain passive to these types of statistics, you have to harden yourself. You have to harden yourself to the reality of the statistics. Because in Australia every two minutes, there is a reported domestic violence episode in Australia, every two minutes of every day. The police are called, someone is cowering. Someone is in threat. There is language and there is violence and all types of things. For those of us who've lived in suburban areas, have you heard the neighbours? A number of years ago, we were living in an area and it was about 11:30 at night and I heard this mighty crash and a scream. Women and children cowering and crying. I'm over the back fence and as I'm listening to this, I'm tense and I'm praying to God to please help this man to calm down as he's raging around. And I hear another crash, and this tremendous fear and I'm saying "oh Lord!" And this is going on all the time in Australia. Is it any different in America? It's worse? Maybe 16 times worse. Because we only have 25 million, you got over 300 million. I just think of those times just before we left, two doors up from where we lived I heard this young man. He just began to yell. These expletives were coming out of his mouth with such force. I just prayed Lord help this man to calm down. You can just imagine what's going on in the house. The children cowering in the corner and just praying for daddy to calm down. There's nothing pretty about a father that becomes violent. There's nothing redemptive about it. It's just destructive. As I've thought about the incidents over the time of my life, and I remember and I've told some of the stories about how my grandfather would beat my mother. That happened more than once and just the way he treated her has left scars on her life. I've grown and watched my mother over 50 years. To see how she struggled because of the way that her father treated her and the violence that was unleashed on her. The combined fear and anger and that sense of whenever there's injustice, anger rises up. And then the fear of something that's going to happen. I've just watched this and I've observed this in a number of places. It was one of the results of violent situation. And there's one other statistic. I remember I put this up on Facebook and someone just said, "That's ridiculous." But in Australia every week, one woman is killed by her partner or former partner. One woman a week dies. Violent death by her partner or former

partner. When you hear a statistic like that, what do you do with that information? "Let's just not think about it. Let's just harden." It takes your breath away. If you think about "it's just a statistic, right?" It's just a statistic. But think of the pain that has been caused in the community from these types of events. It's every week that these things are going on. Like we have here in the United States, we have a school shooting every week, don't we? And in order to cope with the pain, you just have to switch it off. You just have to ignore the pain in order to survive. This issue is one of the greatest reasons why it's going to be difficult for people to truly believe in the loving character of God. Do you understand why? Because you have to become sensitive again. You have to learn to re-sensitize yourself. Because if God truly is so merciful, loving and gracious and long suffering and He never lets go, then He is carrying all this tremendous pain. This is what I think about a lot. I think about my Lord Jesus. How many children did You see die of starvation today Lord Jesus? How many children did You see raped by abusive men? How many children bashed?... Just even saying the words you feel like saying, "stop, I don't want to hear anymore!" It's overwhelming. But nobody can help Jesus and say stop, or the angels that are looking after or trying to care for those. But because of not walking in our father statutes, not walking in his commandments, He's not able to protect them. His grief is incredible. How can he go on day after day with this kind of grief? The way we survive is to desensitize ourselves. We harden ourselves in order to cope with this kind of suffering. But if we can believe that God is willing to get to a point where He said, "I've had enough. I'm going to stop all this. I'm going to wipe this out. I'm going to take this away because I don't want to deal with this pain anymore." But isn't that how we act? Isn't that how we would be? We're not going to deal with this pain anymore. "My long suffering is going to end and I'm going to bring this to an end. I'm going to stop this now." It makes sense to us, doesn't it?

Anyway, we'll come back to some of that. So I said to this lady that in this book I'm trying to reconcile the New Testament Jesus with the stories of the Old Testament. How can someone in the new testament be so loving and claim that the God of the Old Testament is His Father and that He Has come to fully represent His Father and be so loving and gracious and love His enemies, do

good to those who persecute Him? And He's claiming to represent this Person in the Old Testament that has commanded the death of men, women and children and genocide entire nations. And He's saying, "This is my Father." She said, "I'm not a religious person but I'd like to read that book." The harvest is white. It's ready. So happily did I give her this book. She says, "I'm going to read this because I've got plenty of time to read here at the State Park when I'm waiting for people to come along and charge them \$12. And I'll get back to you because this was a subject of interest." Oh, my heart smiled! I just thought, isn't that amazing? I said to her this. This is a really important point for us to understand. I said: "Whether you are religious person or not we are all in a situation where the Christian churches are teaching a God of violence and threatening people with damnation if they do not submit and obey. We all have a duty to address this issue. This god of violence that has been perpetrated and used by the churches in order to extract support for the message that they are giving. This god of violence is contributing massively to a culture of violence with which we live."

The whole concept of Hollywood in the movies and all of those things. This is only the fruit of the feudal states of the 15 16th century and beyond. And all the wars of Rome and Greece, all of this has come through to us. Of course, the church of Rome has proclaimed this god that will burn people forever. The god of Islam that says that after 1000 years of burning the wicked, that god renews their bodies, turns them over and burns them for another thousand years. I don't think anybody really contemplates the reality of what that means. If you would think about that as some kind of reality, you would go insane trying to comprehend that kind of cruelty. Or, as was stated by Jonathan Edwards: "sinners in the hands of an angry God". I'll come back to that one as well.

When we were up in Spokane, Washington, we picked up our rental vehicle and I'm talking to the young lady there and she said, "What brings you to America?" I said, "Well, actually, I've just written a book and I'm willing to share it." "Oh, what's it about?" I told her what I had said to this other lady. She said, "My friend had a baby out of wedlock and the church told her that she was

going to hell and so therefore, I am an atheist." I said, "You're just the person I want to talk to." We talked and she said, "I'd like to read your book." I said, "I have a copyright here. Would you like it?" She said, "Yes" And so I gave her a copy of the book. The harvest is ripe. People are interested in this subject. I think, maybe, at this stage, particularly women are interested in this subject, living with violent men who resolve their problems with violence and alcohol, and drugs, and all of these things. I've had this episode happen several times the last two hotels that we stayed at, the hotel manager was a real blessing. When Daniel and I walked in and she saw Daniel, she immediately dropped the price of the hotel 25%. Because she has two special needs children. Lovely lady. Then Lorelle conversed with her a bit later just talking about the challenges. She was so gracious, so kind to us. We're thankful for the 25% off because we were staying in Omaha, Nebraska and it just happened to be the college baseball competition was on and so all the hotels over that week put all their prices up about 60%. So I'm glad she brought the price down for us. If it weren't for her, we should have driven on to the next town for a little bit cheaper, but it didn't matter because the Lord sent us there because as we talked and shared, it was same story over again. She said: "I would like to read that book. Are you saying that you can reconcile the loving merciful Jesus in the New Testament with a genocidal tyrannical maniac God of the Old Testament that most of us have understood? You can actually reconcile that?" I said, "Well, this is my attempt. It's working for me. Trying to be honest to the Scripture." I gave her a copy of the book. Again, the next lady at the reception, at the next hotel in the little town of Marion, Illinois. They're just down from the headquarters of 3ABN. We just went through there and same story again.

Wherever I go, asking, just "oh, what brings you to the United States? Well to start off, I'd be interested in that subject. I would like to know." It just made me think the harvest is ripe. People are interested in the subject.

The home church group that I work with in Australia, the week after we left, we drafted up a survey. We went to the doors just asking them some questions about violence, some of these statistics, and the contribution of Christianity to a culture of violence through worshiping a God of violence. When we say

worshipping a God of violence, most Christians believe that God is love. That God only destroys the wicked and that's because they deserve it. "They do deserve it, don't they? I mean, you're disobeying God. I mean, you're not listening. You're being rebellious, you're being defiant. You do deserve it." So most people think that God is certainly loving. But that introduces a whole range of other things and we'll try to get to those things as well.

So we went to the door with a survey. There's an Australian footballer. They have a game they called rugby league or rugby union. It's like playing gridiron without helmets and padding. It's a brute force game. It's a game of force and the god of forces and all of those types of things. This footballer, he's a well-played footballer and he's a Christian. He was asked online because end of last year, Australia voted to allow gay marriage to be enacted in Australia. We did a postal survey. 12 million people participated in the survey out of a population 24 million. 80% of the people participated in the vote. 7 million voted in favour of gay marriage, 5 million voted against it and of course it passed and it went through. And so this man's name is Israel Folau. He's a giant of a man and I would not like to be in his way when he's running in my direction. He was asked, "what happens to gay people? What's God going to do to gay people in the judgment?" He said, "They're going to burn in hell and here's the text." He said, "I'm just being honest. I mean, this is what the Bible says is going to happen. They're going to be in the lake of fire, just quoting the Bible." It's caused a tremendous uproar within our society to the point where we're on the verge in Australia of censoring the teachings of scripture because they are offensive to the New World Order, to the feminist agenda and to all the people on what we call "progressive side". Progressing in what direction? Well, that's interesting. So in this free speech, does this man have a right to express such hatred by saying that gay people are going to go to hell? This is the dilemma that people are having. "He shouldn't have the right to say that." "Yeah but it's his religious belief. It's his religious conviction." "You have no right to censor him." "Yes, but he's being paid. He's being paid lots of money and he is a representative person and he shouldn't say such nasty things." This is an interesting debate that's taking place in Australia.

This issue is not going away because there was a young woman in Australia. She was a young comedian with a promising future as the world sees it. She was walking in a park at night and a 19 year old man, accosted her, raped her and murdered her. Now the nation is in mourning and it's angry, it's getting angry. You can feel the anger and women are saying: "We have a right to feel safe." All the while our coaches are fuelling the unbridled passions of men. Fuelling it in the movies, in the dress standards, in the culture. Fuelling the unbridled passion of man and say: "we have a right to be safe". It's a recipe for disaster, isn't it? You can see the unhinging of the culture that is taking place and people are saying, "What are we going to do with this?" The harvest is ripe. Looking for a revelation of God's character that can speak into this growing hatred. We lay on top of all of this the racial tensions, the religious tensions that are stirring up in such things as Black Lives Matter. Trying to stir up the racial hatred of the past and not so past. We see on the other side, and I'm just looking at some of the social issues that are taking place. We're seeing the rise of men like Jordan Peterson, have you heard of Jordan Peterson? A Canadian psychiatrist. And he is starting to speak to the conservative side from a logical position, about not cowering to this attack on what is called "white privilege". If you are white, and you are male, then you are a dangerous species that must be pushed down and told that you have no right to hold... Everybody else must be in line before you because you are white and you are the ones that have destroyed everything. The white man now is forming the atonement for all the ills of society. This is only going to create more white supremacist movements to arise, more hatred, more violence to erupt within our societies. We're seeing the fuelling and the waves of these things that are going through. With all of these issues going on, we need a revelation, a true revelation of God's character of love. What's amazing to me as I read the scriptures, and I read the things that Jesus says. I'm thinking, "why didn't I see these things before in the Bible?" That's why Jesus said to the church of Laodicea, "You think that you're rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing and don't know that your wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked in your understanding."

Turn in your Bibles to the book of John. Just some simple statements in John 17:1, "these words spoke Jesus and lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son." I used to read that and think, glorify Thy Son? Of course, the word "glory" is from which we get the understanding of character. Reveal the character of Your Son, for what purpose? That Thy Son may glorify Thee. Reveal Your character, show Your character in Me. That I may reveal Your character to the world. Then it says in verse three, "This is life eternal. That they might know Thee the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou has sent." This is an interesting statement, isn't it? Eternal life is to know God. Now, if you listen carefully to this statement, and I just want to insert something here. There's nothing in this statement about sacrificial atonement. It just says to know God, who He is. Now sacrificial atonement is a part of coming to know who God is because of where we are, because of how we think and how we operate. This is part of the process to get there but the actual element of eternal life is to know who God is. To simply know Him is eternal life. The only way we can know Him is? Then he says, "I have glorified Thee on Earth. I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do." I have revealed Your character, I have finished the work which You gave me to do. So what is it about the cross that causes atonement? This is one of the questions we want to investigate over this time period. What is it? As you look upon the cross, as you think about the blood of Jesus, what is it that causes the reconciliation within your heart that you can come to God and be reconciled to Him? There is a song that many Christians sing where it says "In Christ alone." You know that song? One of the lines of that song says "God's wrath was satisfied". Is that atonement? In pagan culture it is atonement, isn't it? You offer the sacrifice and God is appeased. God's wrath is satisfied. This is sung in protestant churches everywhere. God's wrath is satisfied. Appeasement based atonement, where an act is transacted and there is reconciliation that takes place. God, in order to have His wrath satisfied, He has a death penalty and because of this death penalty, that His Son must take the place of men because He's so upset that men would transgress against Him and so His Son must stand in on our behalf and take God's wrath. And that is supposed to turn our hearts towards God and make us love Him. God tortures and kills His own Son in order to make us love Him. Is it any wonder that the world is not interested in this

gospel? It's not interested in this view of God? And yes, people can say, "well you're presenting it in a very jaded way." These are the implications of the gospel that is preached within the Christian churches, within Christianity. That there must be appeasement. All the Aztecs and the Mayans, all those who offered child sacrifice to the gods, it's all part of the same concept of gospel that, the gods are appeased by the death of animals or children, or adults. Whatever it is to bring atonement. Jesus came into the world to show us who the Father is. Notice what He says in verse six, "I have manifested Thy Name." Look up the word in Greek. Name means character or authority. "I've manifested Your character." To who? "unto the men which Thou gavest me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them me; and they have kept Thy word." I've manifested Your character. I've shown them what You are really like.

Come over to John chapter 12. We need to spend a bit of time in this. John 12:44. Jesus cried and said, "He that believeth on Me, believeth not on Me, but on Him that sent Me." He's talking to the people that are listening to Him. He says, "And He that seeth Me, seeth Him that sent me." Just take in those words. Again, He's talking to the audience. Those that are in the local audience that are listening. He's saying to them, you who see Me, sees Him who sent Me. That's a big statement, isn't it? Because people say, "well what about Jesus all through the Old Testament and everything like that..." Jesus is saying, what you are seeing here in Me manifest in the flesh is God manifest in the flesh. Isn't that what the name of Emmanuel means? God with us, God manifest in the flesh. Then He says, "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on Me should not abide in darkness." He came into the world to bring a light. He was the light which lights every man that comes into the world. Verse 47, "If any man hear my words and believe not, I judge him not." What? I judge him not? What's He talking about? We need to come back to that one. "For I came not to judge the world but to save the world." Really? "He that rejecteth Me and receiveth not my words have one that judgeth him, the words that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." Who is going to judge us? The words which He has spoken. What is the word that He has spoken? "He that has seen Me, has seen the Father." That's the word. This

is the work that he came to do. I have finished the work which you gave me to do on the earth. What is it about the crucifixion of Jesus Christ that turns your heart towards Him? It is that we see the complete manifestation of One who loves His enemies to the point of death, Who is willing to yield up His life without retaliation. One Who does not fight back, Who does not strike back, Who says "Father forgive them for they know not what they do".

That is the power of atonement. That is the power of reconciliation. That is what turns the heart towards God. Is this what God is like? It is the actions of Jesus. It is the demonstration of His character upon the cross which causes the atonement. It is not a blood sacrifice that makes appeasement to a deity in heaven that causes atonement. Do we see the difference in understanding this? I find these things fascinating and we'll look more at this whole issue of what is turning the heart.

Come over to John chapter three, we will just look a little bit more. We see the same thing in John chapter three. We know verse 16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Again, believe in Him, believe what about Him? Notice what it says. It tells you, "for God's sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but the world through Him might be saved." Then it says, "He that believeth on Him is not condemned" (or judged- It's what the word in the Greek is.) "Because he has not believed in (the character) the name of the only begotten Son of God". This is what brings judgment: the refusal to believe in the character that Christ manifested while he was here upon the earth. People say, "well Christ came to show mercy. He came to save men. But He has other things that He must do. He must destroy the wicked, He must do all these things." If you say that Christ here is not the full revelation of the Father, you are saying that there is more to Christ character, more than the Father's character than is revealed here, then you do not believe the witness that Christ gave when He came to this world. You are an unbeliever to this new testament truth. Does that make sense? You're not a believer. Believe on His name, His character. What has that revealed?

We look in Matthew chapter 5 verse 38. "You've heard that it has been said an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you that you resist not evil." Just think of the implications of those words. Resist not evil. This is God's character revealed in His Son. Resist not evil. What does this mean? We must qualify this. Here's the question that I was raised with that was part of the mantra, which I suppose is in every house. I'm sure it's very prevalent in the United States as it was in Australia. If a robber or a thief or a murderer came to your house and wanted to steal your goods or rape your wife and kill your children, you're just going to stand there and not resist evil? Aren't you going to do something about it? Isn't it your duty as a husband, as a father to protect your family? With force if necessary to protect your family. If you do not do this, then you are not a man. Right? I was raised on this idea. By continuing to think about this principle, you are saying over and over, "I do not trust my Father in heaven to protect me". That's what you are saying. What did our Saviour say? "Peter, do you not think that I can ask My Father and would He not send Me thousands of angels to protect Me and look after Me?" That's how Jesus dealt with this situation. Put your sword up into its place. What place? In the bottom of the ocean. I don't have a need for these things. Because my Father looks after me. I pray to my Father and I ask Him to look after me. If anything comes to me after I've given myself to Him, I accept it as His will. Take no thought for tomorrow. We forget those texts that Jesus talks about. What if someone would have come in to harm you? "Take no thought for tomorrow, for tomorrow will take care of itself." If you believe in the loving character of your Father. But as it says, "those who kill, will fear to be killed". Isn't that what happened to Cain? If you're constantly thinking about people coming to kill you, is it possible that you may have murder in your heart towards others? Hatred, if you hate your brother, then you are a murderer. If you have hatred in your heart for the government, hatred in your heart for anybody, for the church, hatred in your heart for those apostate leaders. If you have murder in your heart, then you will fear.

What I find very interesting as I think about this subject, do you know the reason why we are going to have a new world order with tyranny and death camps? You know why this is certain to happen? Because we believe it. We

believe Alex Jones. We listen to stuff like this. Because we believe it, it's going to happen. It's inevitable that it's going to happen because we all believe that it's going to happen. As you judge, you will be judged. We believe these things. We fear the tyranny of large government going to kill and destroy, then God will give us our fears. He will allow us to receive the things that we fear because we refuse to trust in Him that He will look after us and protect us and provide us. And so we do all these survival training and learning how to live out in the forest and doing all these things to protect ourselves and learn how to act in combat and how to use weapons and do all these types of things because of what we are afraid of. To continue to add to this culture of violence. All of this is a denial of the words of Christ. It is a resistance to what He has said to us. Notice what he says. Verse 39, "But whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to Him the other also." Have you ever been slapped in the face? I did once when I was a kid. Turn the other cheek also. This doesn't apply to physical slapping only, does it? What if someone's smites you with their words? How do we respond? "...smite thee on the right cheek, turn in the other also." Because of my upbringing, my culture, my environment, when someone strikes me with words, my nature naturally flares up and wants to retaliate. It wants to get even, wants to get back, wants to settle a score. But Jesus says, "This is not My character and it's not the character of My Father."

"And if any man will sue thee at law and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also" Wow, pushes home doesn't it? "And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile go with him twain." This is the condemnation. Because as we hear these things, we know that our characters are not like this. Am I speaking out of turn by speaking for all of us here? It's not natural for us to do this. "Give to him and ask of thee and from him that would borrow turn not away. You've heard that it has been said thou shall love thy neighbour and hate on enemy. But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you. Do good to them that hate you and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." That what? "That you may be children of your Father which is in heaven." Isn't that amazing? This is the character that Christ has demonstrated for us, hasn't He? While He was here on the earth, you will turn all the way through the New Testament on the Gospels. You will not find

anywhere where Christ killed anybody. Christ kept all of His Father's commandments. "I've kept my Father's commandments" which means that the definition regardless of what people say on the sixth commandment, thou shalt not kill. "Executive justice is fine." Well, I'm sorry. But Jesus defines what that term means. What He defined it as as killing no one, no person. That's how He defines this term. "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

This picture of God it is killing my old man. It is confronting me on levels incredibly to think that my Father is just like Jesus when He was here on earth, is doing a work that is absolutely obliterating my old man and making me appear very wicked indeed. This is why this message must be resisted by humanity at all costs. But this message will triumph, it will go forward, but the world will rise up against it and we'll say, "we will not have this message rein over us. We would rather kill these people and put them to death rather than accept the implications of this. That it makes us look wicked, it makes us look harsh. It makes us look evil and we will not accept it. So we will be evil. Stop making us look so evil." To think of our Father to be just like Jesus when He was here on earth. And people say, "You're twisting the Bible." Well I think I can present a case to show that this is not the case. But if I should come to heaven, and the Father says, "I'm sorry Adrian, you presented Me as more loving, more gracious, more kind than I actually am and therefore you must die." Well kill me now. If that's the kind of person you are, I don't want part of that kingdom. I don't want to be part of that.

This is not what Your Son revealed to me. Your Son revealed to me something different. Something that was so loving and so tender, so precious. But as I said before, in believing this about Jesus and inviting me to take up my cross daily and follow Him. He is inviting me to think about all of this suffering that's going on in this planet and not be hardened to it. To continue allow myself to turn the other cheek and not resist and want to help and allow people to walk over me, allow people to do all types of things that my flesh doesn't want to do. This requires me to pray more and to plead more for the Spirit of God. "Blessed

are the poor in spirit." When you understand the character of God, when you understand that God is truly "merciful, long suffering, abounding in goodness and truth", then you know that you are poor in spirit. Then you mourn for your sins and you hunger and you thirst for righteousness. It is the message of the loving character of our Father that will bring about this great thirst for the Spirit of God which we do not currently possess. Am I speaking out of turn? But blessed are those who do hunger. My hunger is growing, my desire is growing that I might be like my Saviour, that when people speak evil of me that I would start to dance and sing for joy and praise God and love those who persecute me. Pray for them, find some way to do good to them. Finally, for the first time in my life (and that's now five decades for me. That's not much for some of you but it's certainly a lot for me) it's starting to all make sense in my mind about the words of the sayings of Jesus. We want to spend more time on this. But this is the point that many people are struggling with. How do you reconcile this New Testament Jesus which everyone says He's so beautiful and so loving?

When we were in Montana, we spoke to a group of people, beautiful people, evangelical people. I wondered, if I begin to present the loving character of my Father, the framework in which they operate, the immortality of the soul, the eternal damnation of the wicked, how long can I go before they realize that the rug has been pulled from underneath them? As I went along, suddenly, the pennies began to drop about what I was saying, about the character of our Father. This gentleman stood up, and bless His soul, he was wanting to protect his congregation, he was a missionary from India. He knows a lot of New Testament, a wonderful man and he began to say, answer the question, "do you believe in eternally burning hell or not? Answer the question, yes or no?" Don't you love those yes or no questions? Suddenly, you're in the dock standing before the judge and you can only answer yes or no. When people ask you, yes or no, they are asking you to deny your right to quote the scripture, to defend your argument. There is no "yes or no" other than "yes because it is written here". As it says in Malachi 4:2, "The wicked shall be ashes under your feet." That's what the scripture says. Anyway, as I presented this picture of our loving Father, this young man came up to me. He'd only been in the church for a few years and he just embraced me and he just said, "You have

presented such a beautiful picture of the character of God and I want to believe it. I want to believe it." I've had many people come to me and say, "Adrian, what you are saying about God is so beautiful, but how can I be sure? How can I be sure because there are things in the Old Testament that says God said take him out and stone him." It's in black and white. God says, "I will destroy them with the earth." God says, "Slaughter men, women and children." It says it in the Bible. "While I want to believe you, it sounds like you are spiritualizing the Bible and taking away from God His sense of justice." As Absalom said, "Oh, that I were made a judge in the land, then I would give the people justice."

Well, that's what we're going to be looking at over the next few days. We're going to unpack some of these things. We're going to look at least at the picture that is emerging for many of us as we are studying together. I just love as we spend this time and then some of you will send me quotes and send me passages that help to confirm yes, this fits here, this goes here. This has been one of the most exciting times of my life. To finally satisfy not only my heart with the belief that my Father truly is loving, but to satisfy my conscience, to satisfy my logic and my reason from scripture and scripture alone, that truly God is love. This is what is really creating an excitement within my soul. Yes, this picture does fit together. Yes, I can make all these things fit.

And as one of our pioneers said, if you can take all of the texts that apply to this and you can fit them all together without contradiction, then you have the truth. Because you can put all of the pieces together. This is the thing, and this is the test that we are involved in. We want to spend time looking at this because the hour of His judgment has come. We're going to look at Daniel. The fact that Daniel had a vision. That word vision is exactly the same word as Mirror. As we look at God sitting upon his throne, judging, going through the record looking for every little thing that he can find about you. This is a mirror to the human soul. This is how we view things and we project this on to God in the vision of the night season.

"Now we see through a glass darkly". But how do we understand when we look at these texts where it says the Father says, "I judge no one"? What? I judge no one? How can this be? The words of Christ. "My Father judges no one but

has committed all judgment under the Son." What does the Son say? I don't judge anyone either but the words that I have spoken shall be his judge. What are the words that He has spoken? The revelation of His Father's character. Self-sacrificing love is the witness that Christ has left for the world. This is the witness that will judge every man and as Paul says in Romans 2:16.

How will God judge the world? You have to reconcile this. We'll come back to this. Romans 2:16. "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ." By the character of Jesus Christ. This is how He judges the secrets of men without judging anyone. The witness, the record has been given by Jesus Christ according to my gospel, the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, who has revealed the Father to us completely and fully. That is the thought that I want to leave with you, that Christ is indeed the full revelation of the Father as described in those first four books of the New Testament. This is who God is. With this knowledge, that opens up so many, many beautiful things. We will spend more time looking at this. But as I'm speaking to people in the community, as I'm reaching out to them and I'm eager to go with the material that we're starting to put together and to take it to people in the world, the harvest is right. People are wanting to know, is there a God that exists without violence? There are many people who are atheists out there, not because they simply want to rebel, but they're atheists because they can't deal with a God that burns people forever and ever and they'd rather not believe in a God at all, than believe in a God that would burn people forever. And so I think many of these people, the prostitutes and the sinners and the atheists, many of them are going to go into the kingdom. The ones that are going to have the hardest time is Christianity. Christianity is going to find it the hardest to come into this because Christianity thinks that it's more holy, more righteous than the rest of the world. But there is none righteous. Not one. We're all the same. That's what Christianity is going to find this the hardest, because if God is not going to punish the wicked, then I don't have anyone to put my atonement onto, my sacrificial atonement. Because if God destroys the wicked, then I can look at other people and point the finger at all of them and say they're more wicked than I am. We need to have wicked people that God destroys so that we don't

have to deal with their own wickedness. Does that make sense? This is some interesting psychology going on there.

Shall we kneel and pray. Father in heaven, I thank you for the opportunity to just open our thoughts tonight to the subject of your wonderful character and the judgment and how we are judging, how we are assessing. We are all involved in the work of judgment at this present time. What do you really like Father? We thank you Lord Jesus for Your revelation, Your witness. Now we are to assess to judge Jesus really what the Father is like? All of us are involved in this work now. I pray that as we study together, as we ponder the scriptures, as we look at these things, that we would see truly that God is love that will cast out all fear. I thank you Father in Jesus name, amen.